

**Bid to host the 2016
World Schools Debating Championship
in Stuttgart, Germany**
www.wsdcgermany2016.com



**WORLD SCHOOLS DEBATING
CHAMPIONSHIP 2016**
STUTT GART · GERMANY



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WSDC2016
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Introduction

Dear WSDC Community

We are happy to present our bid to host the World Schools Debating Championship 2016 in Stuttgart, Germany. In this bid document we would like to introduce you to the beautifully located city in the southwest of Germany, our staff, organizational matters, as well as our general vision of the event. You can also find information related to the bid online on www.wsdcggermany2016.com and connect with us on Facebook (**'WSDC Germany 2016 Bid'**) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/wsdcggermany2016>).

Ever since we first had the idea three years ago to bring the tournament back to Germany for the second time after 2004, we have continuously searched for means of how to make your stay in Stuttgart as pleasurable as possible. This includes logistical solutions to transport, accommodation and pricing on the one hand, and culture as well as leisure time activities on the other.

The *Debating Society Germany e.V.* is the umbrella organization for schools debating in Germany and will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2016. During these two decades we have established solid and continuous debating activities, particularly in the southwest, but in other cities and regions in Germany as well, such as Saxony, Hessen, Hamburg and Berlin. Our event management is well staffed and well-experienced. The city of Stuttgart, as well as the federal state of Baden-Württemberg have immediately expressed their excitement and offered to have a share in making the tournament become a success.

If you have further questions about our bid, we are looking forward to taking them at the bid presentation to be held at WSDC 2014 in Bangkok, or feel free to talk to those members of our bid committee who will be present as well. Beyond the tournament, we will gladly answer your questions through convenor@wsdcgermany2016.com.

Thank you for considering our bid! We'd be deeply honoured to be welcoming the global debating community as our guests in Stuttgart in 2016.

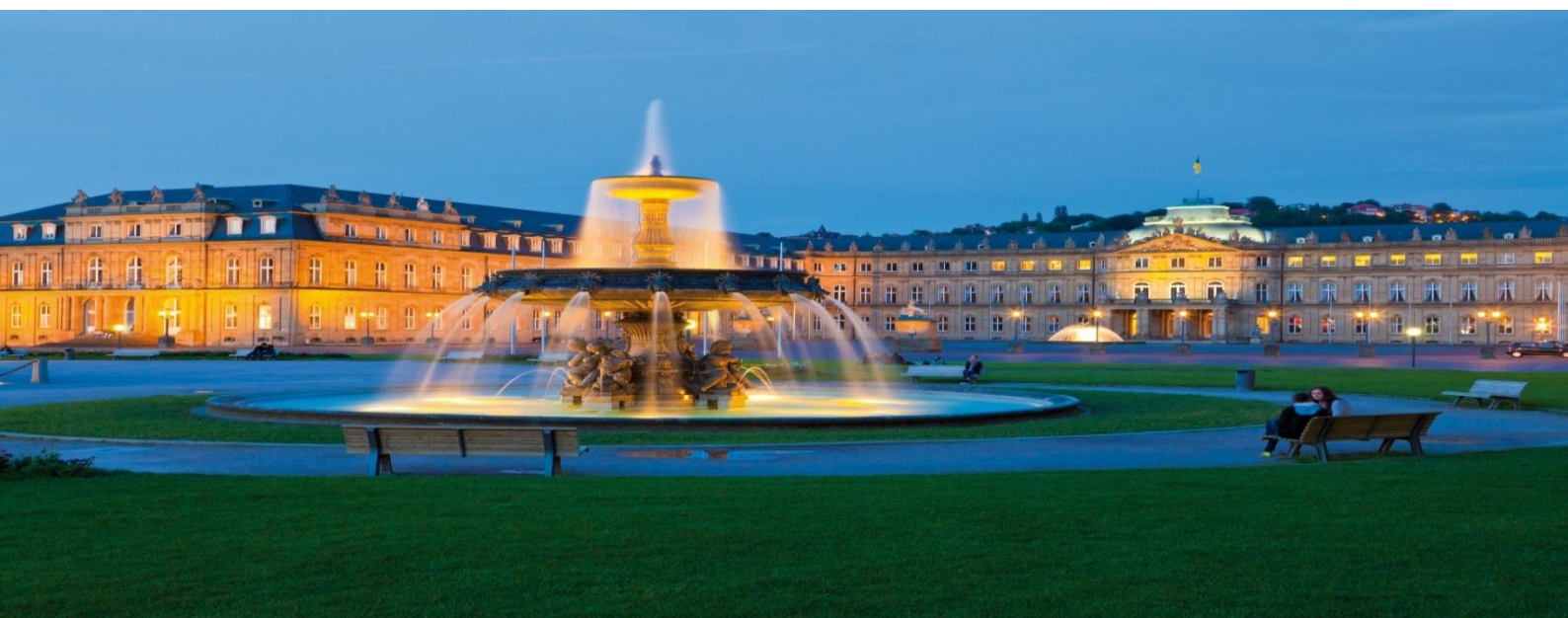
Best regards,



Christopher Sanchez
On behalf of the WSDC Stuttgart 2016 Bid Committee

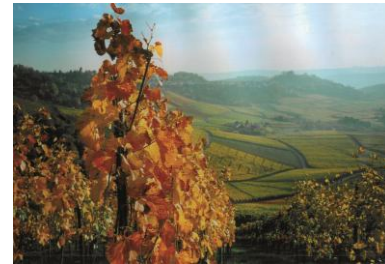


Jana Gilke



Why Stuttgart?

- **Birthplace of Schools Debating in Germany (1996).** With a high number of active debating schools available, we can count on great community-based support.
- **Great support by the city and state of Badonia-Württemberg.**
- **Offers a wide range of activities.** There are many interesting sights and great cultural offers, such as the TV tower (the first major one of its kind), Porsche and Mercedes Museum , State Gallery, a well renowned Opera, a huge selection of traditional and modern architecture.
- **One of the safest and most innovative cities in Germany.** Stuttgart is the second safest city of its size in Germany, with only Munich topping the list. The city prides itself on its great hospitality and willingness for innovation.
- **Exemplary infrastructure.** Stuttgart's transit system offers connections to almost every niche of the city on regional trains, U-trains or busses. Most debate venues can be reached within less than 45 minutes. Participants will receive transit passes for the duration of the event for all means of public transport.
- **Downtown area with everything in walking distance.**
- **A green city.** Stuttgart has a unique landscape for major urban area standards, spreading through various valleys and hillsides, offering amazing views from numerous viewpoints around the city. This ensures a pleasurable stay for all visitors, particularly during summer.
- **Significant industrial cluster in Germany.** With roughly 600,000 inhabitants and 2.5 million in the Stuttgart Region, the capital of the southwestern German state of Badonia-Württemberg is mostly known for its industrial contributions as one of the leading automobile producing clusters in Germany and the world. Both Daimler, manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz, and Porsche, along with other 150,000 companies, have their headquarters and a significant part of their production here.
- **Convenient to get to.** Stuttgart airport has connections to almost every major hub in Europe including globally reachable hubs like London-Heathrow, Paris CDG, Amsterdam, Zurich, Vienna, Copenhagen, Istanbul, as well as direct flights to almost every European nation. It's only a two-hour train ride away from both Frankfurt and Munich airport. Moreover, Stuttgart is incredibly well connected to the European railway network, allowing for comparably low travel cost if you arrive by train.



Why Debating Society Germany e.V.?

Experienced organisation committee. Our WSDC 2016 team combines many years of experience in hosting national and international WSDC style tournaments. Stuttgart has been home to our annual international debating competition 'EurOpen' since 1995, culminating in 40 teams from 15 nations in 2013. All key members of the bid committee will have organized at least two EurOpen tournaments (most of us even more) by 2016. Six members of our proposed organisation committee were involved in **WSDC 2004 in Stuttgart**, either as a member of the OrgComm or as a volunteer.



Strong debating infrastructure... There are over 40 schools that regularly participate in our activities. In the course of the last twenty years they have recognized debating as a vital core activity that enables students to perform well on many levels and many schools in the Stuttgart region have therefore immediately offered to support us by hosting WSDC 2016. Most venues can be reached within less than one hour from the hotel



...and great local support. We can count on support by teachers, parents and students, as well as public institutions in the Stuttgart region. The schools will still be open, which enables them to provide an audience as of Round 1.



Strong judging pool. With over forty schools actively debating, each of them providing at least one judge in German league rounds in the southwest, and more returning debaters assisting us as university student judges, the judging pool will be sufficiently large and experienced.

20th anniversary! The year 2016 marks the 20th anniversary of the national umbrella organization Debating Society Germany e.V. For this occasion, we invite the world to celebrate with us!

Food! The cuisine of Swabia is heralded as one of the most delicious in Germany and is universally favoured by locals and visitors alike. There are plenty of restaurants in Stuttgart, the Swabian capital, who serve numerous variants of 'Spätzle, Schupfnudeln, Maultaschen and Rostbraten'. Enjoy!



Co-Convenor:

Christopher Sanchez

Christopher first got in contact with schools debating during his teacher training years, when his colleague took him to watch the German Schools Debating Championship final in 2006. Little did he know that he would then sign up with the school that had won the trophy the previous year and proved to have institutionalized debating as a core activity. Resisting support was futile. In 2008, he subsequently co-hosted the World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championship at his employing school Max-Born-Gymnasium in Backnang and has risen through the ranks of the national umbrella organisation Debating Society Germany e.V., co-chairing it since 2009. At WSDC itself, he's judged three semifinals, one grand final (Cape Town 2012), acted as returning officer in Dundee 2011, helped set motions for WSDC 2013 in Turkey and was appointed CAP member at WSDC Thailand 2014. Not being able to impersonate a youth of 19 (despite his impressive attempts), convening the event in 2016 in Stuttgart will be one of the last possible roles to fulfill at WSDC as a person too old to debate himself. Challenge accepted!



Co-Convenor:

Jana Gilke

Debating has been part of **Jana's** world for 12 years, which is half of her life. Her first WSDC was the one in Stuttgart 2004, where she participated as a volunteer. She was a debater at WSDC in Seoul and Washington D.C. She attended four WSDC tournaments as the coach of team Germany (2009-2011 and 2013). As for 2014 she thought it's time to fulfill a new role, so she will be judging in Thailand. She is currently a member of the WSDC 2014 Executive Committee. Jana's enthusiasm for organising tournaments developed when she was still in school. She was a member of the organising committee hosting the World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championship 2008 in Backnang and Winnenden. Within the last six years, she took on several jobs within the German debating circuit, took teams to countless international tournaments and has been co-chairing the Debating Society Germany e.V. since May 2013. Jana was also part of the organising committee for WUDC Berlin 2013, where she served as deputy chief of staff for almost one year and was responsible for 200 volunteers during the tournament.



Chief Adjudicator: Branislav Fečko-Čegin

Brano attended his first World Schools Debating Championship in 2008 as a judge where he broke to the Grand Final. Since then, he has adjudicated the Grand Final at three of the four WSDC tournaments which he attended as a judge and served as a member of the Chief Adjudicator's Panel in 2009 and 2013. In 2011 he coached the Slovak team. Currently, he is a member of the WSDC 2014 Executive Committee.

Besides WSDC, Brano has been part of the debating community for almost fifteen years as a judge, trainer, debater and coach. After winning the Slovak national final in 2002, he remained active within the Slovak debating association as a judge, a member of motions committee, member of the methodology committee and a convenor of various debate events as well as overseeing the tab for Bratislava Schools Debating Competition since 2011.

He was Vice-Chair of the Charles University Debating Club and the convenor of the Allen & Overy Prague Debate Tournament in 2008. He attended the IDEA Youth Forum as a member of the organising committee in 2007 in the Czech Republic, and as a trainer in 2009 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, breaking into the Grand final in the latter one. He has also been on the CAP for Bratislava Schools Debating Competitions 2011-2014, Eurasian Schools Debating Championship 2013, ARGO Open 2013 as well as Prague Debate Spring 2014. He will be reprising his role for ARGO Open 2014 as well as being Co-Chief Adjudicator of the upcoming EurOpen 2014 in Stuttgart.

If the bid is successful, Brano will serve as a Chief Adjudicator. The appointment of a second CA is planned at a later date.



Logistics and Transport: Franziska Mohr & Marie Schreier

Franziska studies Translation Sciences for English and Italian at the University of Heidelberg. Debating entered her world eight years ago when she was in sixth grade. She was an active member of her school's debating club at Gymnasium in der Taus, Backnang, went to several international tournaments abroad and even coached the Junior Team for a while. Franzi is a true multitasking talent and comes up with solutions to any possible situation very quickly, which is why she makes a perfect logistics and transport officer. She has been doing several jobs for *Debating Society Germany e.V.* before, from taking photos to judging to tabbing. Some of you may have gotten to know her during Stuttgart *EurOpen 2013* when she was present everywhere, taking care of both runners and tabbing.



Marie, 27, is a PhD student in Early Modern History at Eberhard Karls-Universität Tübingen. She's been active in German debating since 2001, where she first participated in the debate club of her local school, Max Born-Gymnasium Backnang, and later as a member of DSG. She has been to WSDC three times, once as a volunteer (Stuttgart 2004), once as a debater (Calgary, Canada, 2005) and once as the national coach of team Germany (Cape Town, South Africa, 2013). Other than that, she's been adjudicating and helping with the organisation of local national and international tournaments such as EurOpen and German Schools Debating Championships since 2006.



Treasurers: Tanja Ferraro-Wolf & David Gillhausen

Tanja was a debater when debating actually started in Germany in 1996. Ever since then, she has assisted the Debating Society Germany e.V. as the club's treasurer. Currently working in the field of online publishing, and also not living anywhere near Stuttgart, did not keep her from spending significant time dealing with bills, taxes and legal issues until this day. We are very grateful for her contribution and experience.



A 25-year-old student, **David** is currently doing his Masters Degree in Public Economy at the German University for Public Administration in Speyer. He started debating at University while doing his Bachelor's degree in Politics and Public Administration and joined the WSDC 2016 organisation team in early 2014. His love for excel spreadsheets is only one of many reasons that make him the perfect guy for our finance team.



WSDC Stuttgart 2016 Bid Committee

Venue Managers: Birgit Trefz & Klaus-Peter Heil

Both Birgit and Klaus-Peter were involved in organising WSDC when it was first hosted in Stuttgart in 2004, and we are very happy to benefit from their experience. **Birgit** currently works as both a teacher trainer and a teacher of English and History at the Max-Born-Gymnasium in Backnang, where she introduced and coached a successful debate club during the first days of debating in Germany's southwest until the year 2007. She has attended WSDC as a judge in Lima, Calgary and Washington D.C. Because of her high workload she hasn't been able to devote much time to debating recently, but once she heard about WSDC coming back to Stuttgart in 2016, she immediately decided to get involved again!



Klaus-Peter has been teaching English, Geography and Bilingual Studies at his school, the Parler Gymnasium, for more than three decades. Moreover, he has been a debate coach for 15 years now. He thoroughly enjoys teaching young people how to build up cases, develop and present arguments and speak convincingly. Klaus-Peter has been to WSDC four times. It has always been a great pleasure for him to be on panels with colleagues who share his enthusiasm for debating.



Sponsoring: Susanne Pongratz



Registration: Khang On



Accommodation: Thuy Giang Trinh

Volunteer: Julia Epp

Julia started debating as an exchange student in the U.S. in 2006 and continued with it all during high school. It's even one of the reasons she started studying politics. Volunteering and being involved in the Debating Society is therefore important to her. When hearing about the WSDC 2016 bid, she immediately offered to be part of the organisation team.



Visa issues: Christopher Sloan

Christopher came to schools debating in the German school system at the advanced age of 53, having spent most of his free time up to then as the director of a school drama group. Together with his colleague Klaus-Peter Heil he ran the debating club of his school - Parler Gymnasium - until his retirement from teaching in 2009. By that time both Christopher and Klaus-Peter had gathered, and have continued to gather, international experience at various WSDC events and other tournaments. Christopher was in charge of Competition Relations at WSDC 2004 in Stuttgart and therefore knows how to untangle the knotty problems encountered during the application for visas from the many countries which will be represented at WSDC.



Marketing: Christine Blume

Christine is a psychologist and currently doing her PhD at the University of Salzburg, Austria. She was a keen debater when she was at school and participated in the WSDC 2005 in Calgary, Canada, as a debater. After having graduated from school in 2006, she changed to judging and since then has been a judge at national and international debating tournaments. Besides her background in psychology, she has worked in the HR department of a large German company for some time.



Social Media: Miriam Ramos-Warth

IT/Media: Luisa Jautelat



Volunteer: Eva Sule

In debating for 10 years, **Eva** is a volunteer with a diverse organisational experience varying from running debate tournaments in her homeland Estonia to event management, volunteering in theatre festivals and even tour-guiding. She is particularly keen on the WSDC format and has thus participated in Worlds not only as a debater, but also twice as a judge and as a coach in 2014 training the German national team.

Provisional Schedule

Day	Events	Lunch /Dinner provided?
Tuesday, July 19th	Arrivals	Dinner
Wednesday, July 20th	Briefings for adjudicators and team managers Tours for debaters in the morning Prep and spare time in the afternoon OPENING CEREMONY + DINNER	Lunch Dinner at banquet
Thursday, July 21st	Debate rounds 1+2	Lunch Dinner
Friday, July 22nd	Debate rounds 3+4	Lunch Dinner
Saturday, July 23rd	Excursion day Evening: Round 0 if needed	Dinner
Sunday, July 24th	Debate rounds 5+6	Lunch Dinner
Monday, July 25th	Debate rounds 7+8 BREAK NIGHT PARTY	Lunch Dinner
Tuesday, July 26th	Tournament Committee meeting part 1 Octo-Finals	(Lunch)
Wednesday, July 27th	Quarter-Finals Semi-Finals	(Lunch)
Thursday, July 28th	Tournament Committee meeting part 1 Grand Final CLOSING CEREMONY + DINNER	(Lunch) Dinner at banquet
Friday, July 29th	Departures	

Accommodation

All participants will be accommodated at our tournament partner **MARITIM HOTEL****** in downtown Stuttgart, located in close proximity to the downtown pedestrian zones and other facilities for entertainment and culture.

The MARITIM Hotel Stuttgart and its media provider Deutsche Telekom AG have agreed to provide free wireless internet access for all participants during all tournament days.

Most participants will stay in twin or triple rooms; single rooms will be available upon request.

All rooms will feature

- Bathroom/WC
- Hairdryer
- Dressing mirror
- Room safe
- Satellite TV with Pay-TV channels and SAT on demand
- Telephone with voice mail

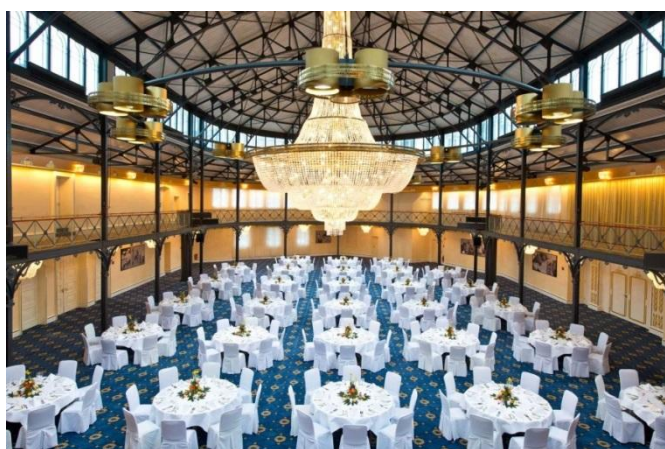
The following services can be used for free:

- Swimming pool
- Sauna
- Fitness area

Weblink:

<http://www.maritim.com/en/hotels/germany/hotel-stuttgart/hotel-overview#>

all images © Maritim Hotel



Projected registration fee for debaters, coaches, adjudicators and team managers will be **between € 400 and € 500**. We will reduce this fee if sponsorship allows us to do so. Observers will pay a higher registration fee which will be confirmed at a later stage.

The registration fee will cover:

- 10 nights of **accommodation** in twin- or triple-sharing rooms at MARITIM Hotel in downtown Stuttgart.
- **transport** to all debate and social event venues (excluding destinations on excursion day), Stuttgart airport or central railway station transfers on the arrival and departure days, a **Greater Stuttgart Area rail pass** for all participants for all tournament days.
- **most meals**: daily 4-star breakfast buffet, lunch at schools during prelim days, lunch for WSDC core (Tournament Committee members, breaking teams) from knock-out rounds onwards, eight dinners (incl. three banquets). There will only be two nights without dinner but we'll provide you with several recommendations where to go out for dinner depending on your budget.
- several **social events**

Fundraising and winning as much sponsorship as possible is one of our top priorities in order to keep registration fees as low as we can. We have already won the support of MARITIM Hotel Stuttgart, Deutsche Telecom and the official Stuttgart Marketing Agency. There are a number of other potential sponsors who are more likely to support us once the bid is secured.

We have already won two **patrons** of the event: **Fritz Kuhn**, Lord Mayor of Stuttgart and **Rainer Wieland**, Vice President of the European Parliament in Brussels and Strasbourg.



Fritz Kuhn, *Lord Mayor of Stuttgart*



Rainer Wieland, *Vice President of the European Parliament*

The **British Embassy in Berlin** is also patron to all our activities in Germany during the tenure of the British ambassador, **Sir Simon McDonald (KCMG)**.

Proposed Excursion Sites

We have several ideas and options available to show you around Stuttgart and the southwest of Germany, possibly even going into France and Switzerland. We are aiming at a number of five tours to choose from as day tour excursions on Saturday, July 23rd 2016. Moreover, there will be several optional city tours for debaters on adjudicator training day.

Adjudication Training Day

Tours for debaters; there will be several options to choose from. Some considerations:

Stuttgart-based activities:

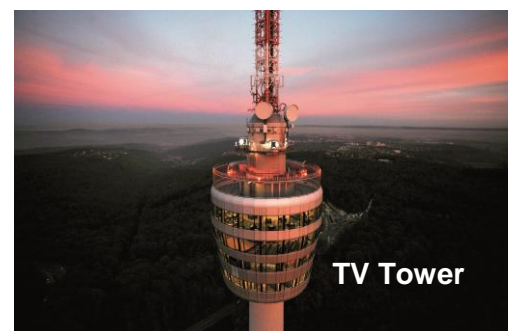
- City Tour
- State Gallery
- Museum of Art
- Württemberg State Museum
- Mercedes-Benz Museum, Mercedes Benz factories
- Porsche Museum

Half-day trip to Ludwigsburg, incl. Residential Palace

See Ludwigsburg with its lovely city centre and visit the Residential Palace. In the 18th century the Palace of Versailles was the ideal to which every European ruler aspired. Duke Eberhard Ludwig had his modest hunting lodge converted into a palace from 1704. Between 1724 and 1733 it received the ultimate mark of prestige in the form of a fourth wing. This made it the largest baroque palace in Germany and one of the biggest anywhere in Europe. Inside the palace, suites of luxurious banqueting halls and apartments faithfully reflect the styles of three different periods.

Half-day trip to Esslingen

Esslingen is a very picturesque city east of Stuttgart and serves as an exemplary representation of the typical ancient towns of southwestern Germany. Its walkable, nice old town allows for both shopping and experiencing well-kept medieval architecture before climbing the steep vineyards along the Neckar River on top of a very long city wall and enjoying a great view over the hilly regions of Swabia.



Proposed Excursion Sites

Day tour options will include at least some of the destinations listed below:

Black Forest tour and trip to Baden-Baden

The summer capital of Europe during the belle époque and a rendezvous for the rich and the beautiful, Baden-Baden today is famous worldwide as a spa town with a cultural tradition and a top-class reputation for healthcare. Situated in beautiful countryside on the fringes of the Black Forest, Baden-Baden provides the most stylish setting imaginable for a cultural break. The city's Lichtentaler Allee park is home to the fascinating Frieder Burda Museum, which is regarded as one of the best collections of modern art in the world. Whatever the time of year, Baden-Baden's beautiful old quarter is also ideal for a leisurely shopping spree.



Hohenzollern Castle

Fortified with a multitude of towers and turrets, Hohenzollern Castle sits in splendour almost 900 metres above the Swabian Alb. This is a storybook fortress from the heyday of the neo-Gothic style. On a balmy summer evening in 1819, the 24-year-old Prussian Crown Prince saw the crumbling walls of his forefathers' castle and decided to have it rebuilt. Building work began in 1852 and the restoration was completed in 1867. There are 140 rooms in the castle, most notably the library with its murals, the King's bedroom, a family tree hall and the Queen's Blue Salon.



Schwäbische Alb (a hike)

Running right across Baden-Württemberg, the Swabian Alb is a striking highland region that rose up out of the Jurassic sea millions of years ago and features a combination of bizarre rock formations and gentle rolling slopes. Every season has something new to discover along the approximately 200-kilometre length of the Swabian Alb Route.



Ulm

Ulm Minster, the 'Finger of God' with the highest church tower in the world, is the city's predominant building and the square on which it stands is an endlessly fascinating place that offers a great mix of historical and modern architecture. After the Second World War, during which much of the city was destroyed, Ulm took the right approach to reconstruction. The city planners achieved a successful compromise that resulted in a unique cityscape of lovingly restored buildings on the one hand and breathtaking modernity on the other.



Tübingen

Tübingen has an inviting, almost serene character that belies its status as a traditional university town. Steep steps, narrow lanes and pointed gabled houses dominate the townscape from the old quarter all the way up to the castle. The lovingly restored medieval town centre, the bustling streets and the studenty vibe add plenty of character. A punting trip on the Neckar affords great views of the picturesque waterfront and Hölderlin tower. The German poet Friedrich Hölderlin lived here from 1807 until his death in 1843. The museum at Hohentübingen Castle, the Boxenstop Museum of Cars and Toys, plus other galleries, collections, theatres and festivals all shape Tübingen's vibrant cultural scene. Because if there's one thing that the locals, students, wine growers and professors do agree on, it's that everyone needs entertaining!



Proposed Excursion Sites

Heidelberg City and Castle

Heidelberg is a city that will capture your heart. Famous the world over, it is a perennial favourite among international tourists. The city has so much to offer: charm and character in abundance between the Old Bridge and the mighty castle, an unparalleled choice of culture and entertainment, hearty yet heavenly cuisine and a picturesque setting nestled between the Neckar river and the foothills of the Odenwald forest.. It is the paradox of seeing something so magnificent in a state of such beautiful ruin that gives Heidelberg Castle and its park such a captivating aura. The epitome of German romanticism, it's like something from another world. Even the majestic ruins, overgrown with ivy, still reflect the power and magnificence of the castle's former residents, the Wittelsbach dynasty.



Rothenburg ob der Tauber

Rothenburg ob der Tauber is a small town with a big reputation. Nowhere else will you find such a wealth of original buildings dating from the Middle Ages. You can't help but ask yourself whether time has stood still, as you amble past the beautiful old houses, secluded squares and tucked-away corners of the old quarter, where towers, taverns and town gates alternate with fountains, fortifications and former storehouses. Another nostalgic spot is the Käthe Wohlfahrt Christmas Village. The largest Christmas shop in Europe open all year round, it stocks everything that makes the festive season special, from candles, nutcrackers and decorative tablecloths to Germany's famous Christmas pyramids and incense burner figures.



Lake Constance

The Lake Constance region offers a range of activities and beautiful places. Visit Constance and enjoy the idyllic location on Europe's third-largest lake, the stunning views of the Swiss Alps, the historical old quarter, the cosmopolitan atmosphere, to name but a few. Close by, the Flower Island of Mainau in Lake Constance is home to an extraordinary diversity of trees, flowers and shrubs. Its other attractions include a 13th century baroque palace, a palm house and the biggest butterfly house in Germany.



Strasbourg, France

Located close to the border with Germany, Strasbourg is the capital city of the Alsace region in eastern France and is the official seat of the European Parliament. Strasbourg's historic city centre, the *Grande Île* (Grand Island), was classified a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1988, the first time such an honour was placed on an entire city centre. Strasbourg is immersed in the Franco-German culture and although violently disputed throughout history, has been a bridge of unity between France and Germany for centuries.



Wine tasting (for adults only)

in Württemberg or Rhineland-Palatinate



Visas

EU citizens do not require an entry visa. Citizens of all other countries will generally need a visa, with the exception of some countries for which the European Community has abolished the visa requirement. Nationals of those countries do not require a visa for visits to Germany lasting no longer than three months in a six-month period. An overview of visa requirements and exemptions for entry can be found here: http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/EinreiseUndAufenthalt/StaatenlisteVisumpflicht_node.html

Travel to Stuttgart

It is most convenient to arrive at **Stuttgart airport (STR)**, which has connections to almost every major hub in Europe, as well as direct flights to almost every European nation. **Frankfurt airport (FRA)** has high-speed train service (IC or 'Intercity' / ICE or 'Intercity Express') from the airport's own *AirRail* terminal to Stuttgart. *Star Alliance Flights* offer 'Rail & Fly' connections to **Stuttgart main station**, which reads **ZWS** as a three-letter 'airport' code. If you want to book trains separately from your flight, please visit *Deutsche Bahn* (German Rail) at www.bahn.de. **Munich airport (MUC)** is the second largest airport in Germany and may serve as a plausible alternative in the unlikely event that you can't get good/feasible connections to STR. **Zurich airport (ZRH)** will be your connecting hub if you fly SWISS Airlines. They do connect Stuttgart by plane, but there is train service from Zurich-Kloten airport to Stuttgart through

Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden (FKB) and **Memmingen (MMN)** airports feature low-cost service but are comparatively difficult to reach by public transport. Please note that pickups are only available from Stuttgart airport (STR), Stuttgart main station (ZWS) and either of the Stuttgart bus terminals.

Currency & Banking

Germany has the **Euro (€)** as its sole currency. If you wish to exchange money, you can do so at any bank - where you can also cash in your traveller's cheques - or at currency exchange counters at international airports and some major train stations. Banks are generally open from Monday to Friday.

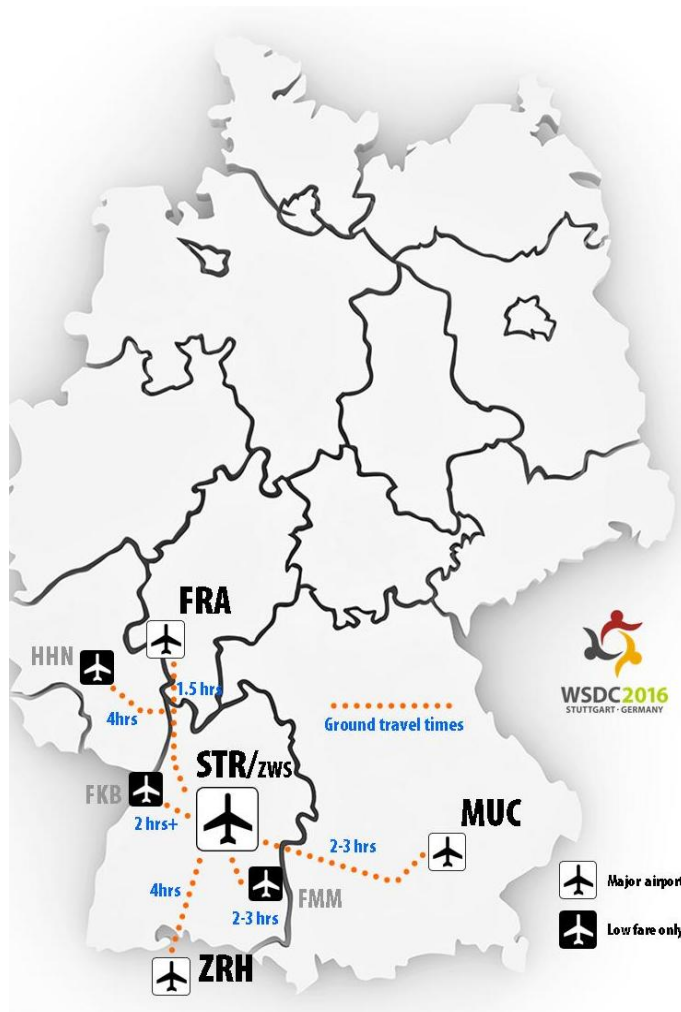
While German domestic debit cards called *EC-Karte* or *girocard* enjoy almost universal acceptance, this is not true for credit cards (VISA, MasterCard, American Express) or foreign debit cards (VISA Debit/Electron etc.), which are not as widely accepted as in other European countries anywhere else in the world. They will generally be accepted in hotels, several major retail stores and some nationwide companies but it is best to inquire or look out for acceptance decals before shopping.

Tipping

Unlike in some other countries, service staff are always paid by the hour (albeit not always that well). A tip is therefore mainly a matter of politeness and shows your appreciation. Tipping in Germany is usually done by mentioning the total while paying. A tip of about 5-10% is customary if you were satisfied with the service.

Climate

Overall, Germany's southwest has a mostly temperate climate; extreme temperature highs and lows are rare. Summer temperatures are typically between 20°C and 30°C, with more rainfall during the summer months. Frequent changes of weather make forecasting difficult. To be on the safe side, be sure to bring a sweater and wet weather clothing with you.



Summary - At a Glance

- **July 19th-29th 2016**
- Expected number of teams: approximately 50
- Participation fee between €400-500
- Extra fees for day tours, not more than €50
- Judges subsidies
- Greater Stuttgart area railpass for all participants for all tournament days
- **Eleven days, ten nights:**
 - ✓ Free internet at hotel
 - ✓ 4-star breakfast buffet
 - ✓ Prelim days: lunch at schools
 - ✓ Final days: Lunch for WSDC core (Tournament Committee members, breaking teams)
 - ✓ Eight dinners (incl. three banquets)
 - ✓ Two nights without dinner
 - ✓ Host schools in the greater Stuttgart area
 - ✓ Travel time to most venues 1 hour or less
 - ✓ Audiences throughout the whole tournament



Landeshauptstadt Stuttgart
Der Oberbürgermeister

STUTTGART



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GZ: OB 2018-04

20. September 2013

Sehr geehrter Herr Sanchez,

ich danke Ihnen für Ihr Schreiben vom 1. August 2013, in dem Sie mich über die Aktivitäten der Debating Society Germany e. V. und deren großem Ziel, die Ausrichtung der Weltmeisterschaften hier in Stuttgart im Jahr 2016, unterrichten.

Ich kenne und schätze die Debattierkultur, die mittlerweile auch an unseren Schulen in AGs angeboten wird. Für die Stadt ist es eine große Auszeichnung, Austragungsort dieser Weltmeisterschaften zu sein, zumal die aktiv Gestaltenden Schüler und Schülerinnen sein werden. 2004 war Stuttgart ja schon einmal Austragungsort der Weltmeisterschaft und die damals beteiligten Schulen haben von diesem Ereignis profitiert. Aber auch die Öffentlichkeit nahm großen Anteil an diesen in Englisch geführten Debatten.

Deshalb freut es mich, wenn Stuttgart zum zweiten Mal als Austragungsort angedacht ist. Ich übernehme aus diesem Grund gerne die Schirmherrschaft für die Weltmeisterschaft 2016 und kann Ihnen auch ein Grußwort – schriftlich auf jeden Fall, mündlich in Abhängigkeit von meinem Terminkalender – zusagen.

Kultur- und Schulverwaltungsamt werden Sie im Rahmen ihrer Möglichkeiten bei Ihrem Vorhaben unterstützen. Ich wünsche Ihnen und Ihrem Team nun alles Gute und viel Kraft bei den anstehenden Planungen.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen



Fritz Kuhn

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STUTTGART



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Stuttgart, im Juni 2014

World Schools Debating Championship 2016 in Stuttgart

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,

die Landeshauptstadt Stuttgart wird, sollte die Bewerbung in diesem Sommer in Bangkok erfolgreich sein, 2016 Austragungsort der World Schools Debating Championship sein. Das ist eine besondere Ehre, eine große Freude aber auch eine immense Herausforderung für die Debating Society Germany e.V. als Veranstalter und Organisator.

Herr Oberbürgermeister Fritz Kuhn hat die Schirmherrschaft übernommen und die Stadt Stuttgart wird in jeder Form die Umsetzung und Organisation der Weltmeisterschaft unterstützen. Für die Stuttgarter Schulen aber auch für viele Schulen aus der Region wird die Weltmeisterschaft die Möglichkeit bieten, Gastgeber für die einzelnen nationalen Teams zu sein. Die Fähigkeit des Debattierens ist im Rahmen von Entscheidungsprozessen in Politik, Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft von hoher Bedeutung. Die teilnehmenden jungen Leute entwickeln sich dabei nicht nur zu freien Rednern, wortgewandten Strategen und logischen Denkern, sie sind auch Repräsentanten ihrer Länder und Schulen. 2004 war die Landeshauptstadt schon einmal Austragungsort einer solchen Weltmeisterschaft und die heimkehrenden jungen Gäste waren herausragende Botschafter der Stuttgarter Gastfreundschaft. An diesen Fäden soll wieder angeknüpft werden, zumal Stadt und Region als einer der starken Wirtschaftsmotoren der Bundesrepublik internationale Begegnungen gerade junger Leute befördern sollte. Die Austragung der Weltmeisterschaft wird voraussichtlich vom 19. – 29. Juli 2016, das ist die letzte Woche vor den Sommerferien, stattfinden.

Ein so breit aufgespanntes Programm kann nicht allein aus Kräften des Vereins auf die Beine gestellt werden. Auch die Zuhilfe der Stadt wird nicht ausreichen. Deshalb bitte Sie herzlich zu prüfen, ob Sie eine Möglichkeit sehen, die Weltmeisterschaft zu unterstützen oder zu fördern, finanziell, mit Sachspenden oder Essenszuschüssen. Von großem Wert wäre zum jetzigen Zeitpunkt auch eine Interessensbekundung von Ihrer Seite, mit der Aussicht, sich bei konkreter werdendem Inhalt einzubringen. Jede Form der Unterstützung ist willkommen und ganz dringend notwendig.

Ich würde mich freuen, wenn Sie mit dazu gehören.

Mit besten Grüßen



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