

GERMAN INDUSTRY UK

THE VOICE OF GERMAN INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM



Embassy
of the Federal Republic of Germany
London

Special Event One/14

30 January, 2014



The Halkin Hotel

On Thursday, 30 January, the **German Embassy** and **GERMAN INDUSTRY UK** hosted a **Luncheon Discussion** at the **Halkin Hotel** in London, SW1, on the **UK and the EU**. Our VIP Speakers **Mr John Cridland CBE**, **Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI)** and **Dr Markus Kerber**, **Director-General of the Federation of German Industries (BDI)** talked about Joint British-German approaches to boost EU growth and competitiveness. This was followed by a discussion chaired by **Dr Rudolf Georg Adam**, **Chargé d'Affaires a.i.** at the German Embassy.

Some 50 representatives from Government, Parliament, business and the media attended the Luncheon Discussion.



Mr John Cridland speaking

Mr Cridland talked about British business and emphasised that most companies would like the UK to remain within the EU, however, they would want to see changes, fewer regulations and less costs.

This corresponds with the view of German business in the UK (see GIUK's Press Release dated 15 February 2013 below).

Dr Kerber welcomed these statements and also talked about encouraging more competition in Europe as the way forward.



Dr Markus Kerber speaking with Dr Rudolf Georg Adam on the left



L-r The Rt Hon Eifyn Llwyd MP, Dr Bernd Atenstaedt (our Chairman and Chief Executive), Dr Markus Kerber, Mr John Cridland CBE, Dr Rudolf Georg Adam and Mr Joerg Ranau (the new Chargé d'Affaires a.i. at the German Embassy since 1 February)



Top table



Mr Paul Farrelly MP asking a question with The Rt Hon Lord Dykes of Harrow Weald on the left

We would like to thank the German Embassy for sponsoring this very interesting and rewarding event.

(Photos © German Embassy London)

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To be released 15 February, 2013

PRESS RELEASE

GERMAN BUSINESS WANTS THE UK TO REMAIN WITHIN THE EU

German business supports Prime Minister David Cameron's campaign for significant reductions in EU costs, bureaucracy and regulations. However, we are concerned at the prospect of a UK outside the EU, which could be the outcome of an "in or out" referendum in 2017.

German companies today operate freely across the EU, with the UK as one of our major markets and locations in the EU and worldwide. A UK outside the EU, with a new set of trade agreements to be negotiated, would be highly detrimental to that business.

Companies need stability and certainty and Mr Cameron's proposals have the potential to create instability and uncertainty. This is not helpful for the development of German business with and within the UK.

Dr Bernd Atenstaedt, Chairman and Chief Executive of GERMAN INDUSTRY UK, said: "We respect the decision made by the Prime Minister and eventually the British people, however, we believe it is in the UK's best economic interest to stay in the EU."

End

Note to Editors:

German business today employs 500,000 (British) people in 2,500 companies across the UK.

GERMAN INDUSTRY UK, the voice of German industry in this country, is a private organisation of chief executives of industrial companies in the UK with a German majority shareholding.

Following the Prime Minister's speech on 23 January 2013 GERMAN INDUSTRY UK conducted a survey among German business in the UK (manufacturing, trading, service and banking) to find their views. THIS PRESS RELEASE IS BASED ON THE REPLIES OF SOME 50 COMPANIES WITH A WORKFORCE OF 150,000 IN THE UK AND 2,500,000 GLOBALLY

Further Details from:

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