

*Press release*

## **Angela Merkel awarded the Fulbright Prize for International Understanding**

- **Federal Chancellor of Germany honored for her leadership and commitment to international cooperation in a ceremony in Berlin**
- **Manfred Philipp, Fulbright Association: “Chancellor Merkel embodies the best of leadership in times of crises”**
- **Laudation by Christiane Amanpour: “Angela Merkel is an inspiration to hundreds of millions of women and men”**

Berlin – 28 January 2019. The Fulbright Association awarded the 2018 J. William Fulbright Prize for International Understanding to Dr. Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor of Germany. With this award, the Fulbright Association honors Chancellor Merkel for her remarkable, compassionate leadership and her strong commitment to mutual understanding, international cooperation, and peace.

Manfred Philipp, Member of the Board of Directors of the Fulbright Association: “Angela Merkel embodies the best of leadership in times of unrelenting global crises and challenges. Her work to promote international understanding resonates strongly with the Fulbright community. We draw inspiration from her work and that of past laureates as we do our own work to build friendships and understanding, and ultimately a better world.”

Christiane Amanpour, CNN Chief International Anchor, in her laudation: “It’s a great honor to introduce Angela Merkel for this richly deserved Fulbright Prize. She will soon tie the record for longest serving German Chancellor and has demonstrated over and over again her commitment to the values of tolerance, human rights and democracy. As one of the world’s most powerful leaders, while also being female, Chancellor Merkel is an inspiration to hundreds of millions of women and men across the globe.”

For the first time in the award’s 25-year history, the Fulbright Association hosted this event outside of the United States. Today, Angela Merkel has joined a distinguished group of laureates, among them Nelson Mandela, Jimmy Carter, Desmond Tutu, Bill Clinton, Vaclav Havel, Corazon Aquino, Mary Robinson, Doctors without Borders, and Bill and Melinda Gates.

### **About the J. William Fulbright Prize for International Understanding**

The Fulbright Prize honors one of the world’s most prestigious international exchange programs, as well as the legacy of its creator, the late Senator J. William Fulbright. Awarded by the Fulbright Association since 1993, the Prize recognizes outstanding contributions to promoting peace through greater understanding among peoples, cultures, and nations. The Prize has a distinguished history of laureates, among them Nelson Mandela, Jimmy Carter, Desmond Tutu, Bill Clinton, Vaclav Havel, Corazon Aquino, Mary Robinson, Doctors without Borders, and Bill and Melinda Gates.

More on the Prize, with a complete list of laureates, at [fulbright.org/prize](http://fulbright.org/prize)

### **About the Fulbright Association**

The Fulbright Association is the alumni organization of the Fulbright Program in the United States, representing over 140,000 American grantees. Founded in 1977, it is an independent non-profit organisation based in Washington, DC, with 53 chapters in 38 states. Its mission is to advocate for the Fulbright Program and promote international education. The Fulbright Association works with partners in more than 160 countries and 70 sister alumni associations around the world.

More at [fulbright.org](http://fulbright.org)

### **About the Fulbright Program**

The Fulbright Program implements Senator J. William Fulbright's visionary concept of promoting mutual understanding between countries through academic and bicultural exchange. The Program provides exchanges between the United

States and more than 160 countries worldwide. Currently, 52 permanent commissions execute the Fulbright Program on a binational level, with foreign countries contributing over \$ 100 million to the program every year. Annually, about 8,000 grantees, American and foreign, participate in the Fulbright exchange. Since its inception in 1946, the Program has sponsored approximately 380,000 grantees.

More at [eca.state.gov/fulbright](https://eca.state.gov/fulbright)

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