

Fact Sheet

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FY 2016 Geo-Political Seminars at the Haus Rissen Institute

On behalf of Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, commanding general, Army Europe, the Public Affairs office is offering an academic opportunity for selected personnel to attend a Geo-Political Seminar with counterparts from the German military and USAFE. The Geopolitical Seminars at the Haus Rissen Institute is a professional education program which directly supports in strengthening today's leaders and in developing the leaders of tomorrow. It remains a mission critical tool to meet the USAREUR Pillar "Allies & Partners" of Strong Europe to maintain relationships with NATO, allies and other coalition partners and conduct security cooperation activities. The program educates USAREUR personnel in a joint and combined setting on German and European geopolitical issues. It offers vital knowledge about the German and European military, cultural, political, and economical systems and key differences compared to our own system. The program also supports the USAREUR Pillar "Empowering Junior Leaders" of Strong by providing leader-development training.

The Haus Rissen Institute, located in Hamburg, Germany is a private, independent, nonparty, and non-profit-making organization. It is a think-tank and continuing education institute not financed by church, state, political or other funding bodies. From the founding impulse of 1954 to attract youth for democracy and for economical issues and to promote international understanding, the Institute has developed its current profile as a non-profit education institute. Haus Rissen sharpens with its educational services, in form of seminars, conferences and lectures, the political and economic judgment of all of its customers – from business, the armed forces, schools and other institutions. Besides classroom discussions there are team building events to encourage discussions in and outside the classroom. MISSION: To build, operate, defend, and extend network capabilities that enable mission command and create tactical, operational and strategic flexibility for Army, Joint and Multi-National Forces within the EUCOM and AFRICOM Areas of Operations.

WHAT: Request nominations for USAREUR sponsored Geo-Political seminars. Participants will spend a week discussing current and historical military, political, and economic issues with USAFE and German Forces personnel in a joint and combined educational environment. USAREUR Public Affairs will fund the training for US Army Europe personnel to include seminar fee, lodging, meals, and travel by providing a line of accounting that must be added to the TDY/DTS order.

WHEN: Seminars scheduled for the FY2015 year include:

- March 13-19, 2016 – for NCOs. Nominations due March 4.
- May 23-27 – for officers and civilians (GS and LN). Nominations due March 4.

WHERE: Haus Rissen Institute, a prominent international think tank for politics and economics in the city of Hamburg, Germany's second largest city located in northern Germany.

WHO: USAREUR can fund five slots for US Army Europe personnel for each listed seminar. Nominees are required to have at least one year remaining in theater. Commanders, staff officers, public affairs, civil affairs and other personnel who regularly interact with host nation military and civilian counterparts, authorities, and institutions are excellent candidates for this program.

HOW: Completed nomination forms and required endorsements by rater/senior rater, stating why personnel should be selected for the training need to be emailed to: usarmy.wiesbaden.usareur.list.ocpa-north-team@mail.mil. Nominated officials and participants will be informed two weeks prior to seminar start date about the selected personnel. Participants will also receive administrative instructions, the program, and other appropriate information.

POC: The program coordinator can be reached by email at usarmy.wiesbaden.usareur.list.ocpa-noth-team@mail.mil or phone at DSN 537-0022, commercial +49 (0)611-143-537-0022.