German Unification Symposium

German Historical Institute
Washington, DC
PROGRAM

2:00 p.m.    Dessert Reception

2:30 p.m.    Welcome
             Uwe Spiekermann
             Deputy Director, German Historical Institute

2:45 p.m.    *The Peaceful Revolution of ‘89*
             Marianne Birthler
             Federal Commissioner for the Records of the Ministry for State Security of the Former GDR

Marianne Birthler is the Federal Commissioner for the Records of the Ministry for State Security of the Former German Democratic Republic, a post she has held since 2000. The office itself was founded shortly after unification to safeguard and ensure access to the records left by the Stasi. Prior to unification Ms. Birthler was active in several opposition groups in East Germany and eventually became the speaker for Bündnis 90 in the East German People’s Chamber after the first free elections in 1990. Following unification, Ms. Birthler was a member of the Bundestag until the first all-German elections, after which she entered the Brandenburg Landtag, and later served as the Minister for Education, Youth, and Sports in the state government. She has also headed the unified Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen and served as a Consultant for Personal Development and Continuing Education in the Bundestag Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen coalition.

Please RSVP by September 26, 2008 (acceptances only)
Phone: (202) 387-3355
Fax:      (202) 387-6437
E-mail: events@ghi-dc.org
The German Historical Institute cordially invites you to attend its

Hertie Lecture

The Peaceful Revolution of ‘89

Marianne Birthler

Friday, October 3, 2008
2:00 — 4:00 p.m.

German Historical Institute
1607 New Hampshire Avenue, NW

The German Unification Symposium and Hertie Lecture is generously sponsored by the Hertie Foundation