



R.S.V.P. 30 June 2017



# Charity Dinner

The Ireland Funds Germany e.V.  
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Invitation

## THE IRELAND FUNDS

The Ireland Funds is a global philanthropic network established in 1976 to promote and support peace, culture, education and community development throughout the island of Ireland, and Irish-related causes around the world. The Ireland Funds has chapters in 12 countries.

**The Ireland Funds Germany e.V.** was established in 1993 and has used its available resources to support – among other projects – a holiday camp for children from all over Europe suffering from serious illness, integrated, i.e. multi-denominational schools in Northern Ireland, as well Irish and German students and young artists.

A new objective of The Ireland Funds Germany e.V. is to strengthen German-Irish social, academic and university connections. The organization underlines the high importance of bilateral contacts in general and of Irish Studies in Germany and German Studies in Ireland in particular which contribute to consolidate the old and firm friendship between the two countries.

The Ireland Funds Germany e.V. has established the award “An Duais” in order to acknowledge outstanding achievements in the field of Irish-German relations and especially Irish-German Studies.

This year’s Charity Dinner is for

STIFTUNG DEUTSCH-IRISCHE FREUND-  
SCHAFT / THE IRELAND FUNDS GERMANY  
FOUNDATION

This new foundation was set up by board members and friends of The Ireland Funds Germany e.V. in order to secure the charitable work of this organization in the years to come. The activities of the Foundation will not depend on membership fees and will focus on the four programme areas of The Ireland Funds, namely peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education, and community

development. The newly established Stiftung Deutsch-Irische Freundschaft / The Ireland Funds Germany Foundation will be presented to the public at this year’s Charity Dinner.

### IRELAND’S AMBASSADOR TO GERMANY, HIS EXCELLENCY MICHAEL COLLINS

**Michael Collins** was born in Dublin in 1953. He studied at the Institute of Public Administration and Trinity College Dublin and graduated with a BSc in Economics and Politics at TCD.

He joined the Department of Foreign Affairs on 1 March 1974. Before becoming 1<sup>st</sup> Secretary at the Consulate General of Ireland in New York in January 1982, he served in the Consular and the Anglo-Irish Divisions of the Department of Foreign Affairs and in the Embassy of Ireland in Rome.

From July 1986 to January 1990 he was 1<sup>st</sup> Secretary in the Political Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs. Until August 1995 he worked as Counsellor in the Anglo-Irish Division and the Press Section of the Department and at Ireland’s Embassy in Washington.

In September 1995 he was appointed Irish Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and was also accredited to Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

In August 1999 he became Irish Ambassador to the Czech Republic and also to Ukraine.

From July 2001 until July 2007 he was Second Secretary General at the Department of the Taoiseach with responsibility for International and European Union affairs and particularly the Northern Ireland Peace Process.

In July 2007 he was appointed Irish Ambassador to the United States of America.

Since August 2013 Michael Collins has been Ireland’s Ambassador to Germany.

Michael Collins is patron of The Ireland Funds Germany e.V.



THE IRELAND FUNDS

**The Ireland Funds Germany e.V.**

requests the pleasure of your company at a

# Charity Dinner

**Saturday, 8 July 2017**

Historic Irish College,  
Jansenusstraat 1, 3000 Leuven, Belgium

Hosted in conjunction with  
The Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe  
and the  
German-Irish Lawyers  
and Business Association (GILBA)

Guest of Honour

**H.E. Ambassador Michael Collins**

7.30 pm    Cocktail Reception

8.00 pm    Dinner

Black Tie