

Cooperation Framework for Partner Universities

The German American Conference (GAC) at Harvard Kennedy School is committed to making transatlantic exchange accessible to talented students regardless of their financial background. Through our partnerships with German universities, we seek to create transparent and equitable pathways for student participation.

October 09-11, 2026
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA



Financial Support Framework - GAC may provide fee waivers for selected participants

Important Information

- Conference fee waivers may be available for eligible students.
- The Gala Ticket is not included in the waiver.
- Partner universities are encouraged to support travel and accommodation expenses whenever possible.

Estimated Total Cost: approximately **USD 1,000 per student**

Estimated Student Expenses

Category	Approximate Costs
Travel / Flight	USD 700
Accommodation, Food & Local Expenses	USD 300
Gala Ticket (Optional)	Not included
Conference Tickets	May be Waived

Collaboration with GAC Outreach Germany

Where appropriate and desired by the partner institution, representatives of the GAC German Outreach Team may provide guidance regarding scholarship objectives and participant selection. Final selection authority remains with the partner institution.

Shared Mission

Our shared goal is to ensure that participation in the German American Conference is determined by motivation, and potential - not by financial means. Together, we promote educational access, social mobility, leadership development, and German-American collaboration.

1 Financial Need

Priority should be given to students for whom participation would otherwise not be financially feasible

Examples include:

- First-generation university students
- Students with limited financial resources
- Students without access to institutional travel funding
- Students facing significant socioeconomic barriers

2 Equal Opportunity & Diversity

Universities are encouraged to provide access to students from diverse backgrounds, including:

- Underrepresented groups
- Students with migration backgrounds
- Students from rural or disadvantaged regions
- Students with limited international exposure

3 Merit & Engagement

Applicants should demonstrate:

- Academic excellence
- Leadership potential
- Community engagement
- Interest in transatlantic dialogue and international collaboration

4 Transparent Selection Process, we recommend:

- Clearly communicated selection criteria
- Fair and objective evaluation procedures
- Documentation of selection decisions
- Equal treatment of all applicants

5 Interdisciplinary Representation

We encourage participation from a broad range of disciplines, including STEM, Medicine, Public Policy, Economics, Law, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Entrepreneurship.



GERMAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE 2026
presented by students at Harvard Kennedy School

Tharshika Thavayogarah, MD - Head of German Outreach
Hanna Frieß & Bruno Striebel - Team Germany
germanoutreach@germanamericanconference.org