PRESS RELEASE

International media conference M1oo Sanssouci Colloquium takes place in Potsdam tomorrow / M1oo Media Award for Scotland’s First Minister Nicola Sturgeon

Potsdam, 16 September 2019. At tomorrow’s M1oo Sanssouci Colloquium in Potsdam’s Orangery Palace, around 70 chief editors, academics and politicians from all over Europe will discuss the future of the European public. In the evening, Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland’s First Minister, will receive the M1oo Media Award. Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble, President of the German Bundestag, is the main political speaker. North Rhine-Westphalia’s Minister President, Armin Laschet, delivers the laudatory speech. The event will be broadcasted live on Facebook and on www.m1oopotsdam.org.

“From Pipedream to Reality - Democracy and the European Public Sphere” is the title of the international media conference with top-class participants in its anniversary year. Against the background of an imminent Brexit and anti-European developments and tendencies this subject is more relevant and topical than ever. After a welcoming address by Dr. Dietmar Woidke, Minister President of Brandenburg, opening speaker Prof. Saskia Sassen (Columbia University), known for her analyses of crisis structures, will offer participants a sociological perspective on current challenges of the EU. The subsequent round-table discussions will focus on Europe as a communication space and the role of the media in overcoming the current crisis of understanding (Session I), the situation of press freedom in Europe and ways to strengthen it (Session II) and, finally, the future viability of the media and current framework conditions for media innovation (Session III).

Following the conference, the M1oo Media Award ceremony will take place in the evening. Since 2005, the M1oo Sanssouci Colloquium has awarded the unendowed prize to personalities who have left their footprints in the world and are committed to democracy, European understanding, freedom of opinion and freedom of the press. By awarding this year’s M1oo Media Award to Scotland’s First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, the M1oo Advisory Board is explicitly backing her responsible and ethical stance against a Brexit and expressing its desire for sustained close relations between Britain and the European Union in the service of the European unification process. The award ceremony will be opened by Mike Schubert, Lord Mayor of Potsdam, who this year took over the chairmanship of M1oo. The main speech will be delivered by the President of the Bundestag, Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble, who has been involved in many important decisions for European politics over the past 30 years of his political work. Nicola Sturgeon’s laudation will be delivered by Armin Laschet, Minister President of North Rhine-Westphalia.

M1oo stands for media exchange between different European contexts and accordingly sees itself as a catalyst for the European public sphere. The eight-day M1oo Young European Journalists Workshop, which took place in the run-up to the conference, will also facilitate a special change of perspective between media professionals from different generations. This year, the special role of young journalists will be highlighted: On the day of the conference, they will be in charge of all social media activities on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

The event will be streamed live on www.m1oopotsdam.org/livestream and Facebook (www.facebook.com/m10osanssoucicolloquium).
For more information, please visit our website: http://www.m10opotsdam.org/en
Follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

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