

Foreign Rights List Spring 2025

WESTEND

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Axel Bojanowski

Axel Bojanowski graduated from the University of Kiel with a degree in climate research. Since 1997 he has been working as a science journalist, including for Die Zeit, Nature Geoscience, Geo, Stern and Süddeutsche Zeitung. He was an editor at Der Spiegel, then editor-in-chief at Bild der Wissenschaft and Natur. Since August 2020 he is reporter in chief in the science department at WELT. Bojanowski has written three non-fiction books. The Professional Association of German Geoscientists honoured him in 2024 for his journalistic achievements.



33 astounding rays of hope

Why the world is better than we think

Did you know that we are currently living in the best world of all time? Despite wars, climate change and other crisis – data reveals wonderful stories: Each day ten thousand people free themselves of extreme poverty, the poorest countries have as much food as the rich nations had 60 years ago, there were never fewer people dying through weather disasters. And most of the islands in the South Pacific are actually growing instead of being swallowed by the ocean. This book tells the 33 best stories about our world, based on accurate scientific data and astonishing graphics. They encourage us to create a better tomorrow through rational optimism!

Over 100 coloured tables and illustrations

Honoured by the Association of German Geoscientists in 2024

Original title:

33 erstaunliche Lichtblicke, warum die Welt besser ist, als wir denken

Original language: German

Publication in May 2025
192 pages with charts and figures

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Jonas Toegel

Dr. Jonas Tögel is an Americanist and propaganda researcher. He works as a research assistant at the Institute of Psychology at the University of Regensburg, where he got his doctorate degree on the topic of soft power and motivation. His research focuses on motivation, the use of soft power techniques, nudging and propaganda as well as epochal challenges of the 20th and 21st centuries. The author's website is www.jonastoegel.de.



War games

How NATO and the Pentagon simulate the destruction of Europe

While the war in Ukraine intensifies, not only the danger of a military escalation increases. The battle of propaganda also is fiercely fought on both sides, and with top-notch modern weapons of manipulation. Russia continuously threatens with atomic confrontation. The western governments meanwhile frame this an empty threat. In all of this one aspect is overlooked: since the end of WW2, the US, Great Britain and Russia as well as NATO have simulated possible atomic confrontations between each other. Still, there is hardly a public discourse about the devastation of such a confrontation – although most of those simulations anticipate the complete destruction of Germany and other European countries.

Deadly simulation games - Germany as possible battlefield

Original title:
Kriegsspiele
Wie NATO und Pentagon die Zerstörung Europas simulieren

Original language: German

Publication in January 2025
96 pages

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**SPIEGEL
Bestseller-
Autor**

Also available by Jonas Toegel:



Cognitive War Leadership
Latest manipulation techniques
as NATO weaponry

Original language: German
Publication in July 2023
250 pages

10.000 copies sold

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Oliver Schulz

Oliver Schulz is an Indologist, Tibetologist and Sociologist and works as a freelance journalist. He is the author of the non-fiction books "India on foot" and "8849" (Westend) and has written numerous articles on the political situation on the subcontinent published in Die Zeit, Zeit online, Spiegel, Welt, among others. Schulz is based in Hamburg.



Tibet's Future

The difficult inheritance of the Dalai Lama

In the coming year, the Dalai Lama celebrates his 90th birthday. How does the nearing death of the Dalai Lama affect the continuance of Tibetan culture? Will the chances for more freedom, which have been successively limited since the reintegration to the People's Republic of China in the 1950s, decrease even further? And why did the Dalai Lama's Beijing strategy fail? The Tibetologist Oliver Schulz offers deep reaching insights into the political history and traditions, as well as addressing the present day challenges and future perspectives of Tibet. Moreover, he illustrates how our western Tibet perception is based too extensive amounts on stereotypes.

What will happen once the Dalai Lama is gone?

90th birthday of the Dalai Lama on the 6th of July 2025

Original title:

Tibets Zukunft
Das schwierige Erbe des Dalai Lama

Original language: German

Publication in March 2025
192 pages with photos

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Sebastian Schoepp

For many years, Sebastian Schoepp worked as political editor at Süddeutsche Zeitung. He spent the chief amount of his career focussing on South Europe and South America. In this time he published three books at Westend: the most recent of which is *See how you get on* as well as *The end of loneliness* and *Dare more South*.



Soul paths

Why I hike through Germany to find myself

There is plenty of reading about climate change, but two types dominate the genre: one that dramatically warns of the apocalypse, and one that seeks to expose alarmism as a Trojan horse of political forces. Both ignore the essentials: On the one hand, science has convincingly demonstrated that there is a climate problem; on the other, it is in fact being exploited politically. So instead of falling into one of the two categories, this book tells the story of how the niche subject of meteorology became the defining topic of our time. This is by no means only because global warming brings with it manifest risks, but also because science is misused as a vehicle for power, influence and money.

How can we live more slowly, healthy and sustainably?

On track to a more mindful life

Original title:

Seelenpfade

Warum ich durch Deutschland wandere, um zu mir selbst zu finden

Original language: German

Publication in March 2025
208 pages

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Philippinum Marburg

52 students of the Grammar School “Philippinum” in Marburg, Germany, take part in a thought experiment concerning the future of humankind.



2125

The Future of Humankind

What happens when offline becomes the new normal? In 2125 the ultimate disaster occurs: For reasons unexplained the meta computer collapses, the only computer worldwide on which the knowledge of over thousands years of humankind is saved. From one second to another, all data is gone. What remains is only the knowledge residing in humans. Everything digitally saved is lost, and there are no books, maps, films, LPs, documents, recipes, paintings, CDs, or the Internet left.

52 students of the Grammar School “Philippinum” in Marburg, Germany, engage this scenario. In their texts, they elaborate on how humanity would survive and reinvent itself under such circumstances – and how knowledge would return. A unique project in collaboration with Marburg's oldest Grammar School.

How Gen Z anticipates our future in 100 years

Back to square one – How would a restart of humankind look like?

Original title:

2125
Die Zukunft der Menschheit

Original language: German

Publication in May 2025
224 pages

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Ulrike Guérot

Ulrike Guérot studied Political Science, History and Philosophy in Bonn, Münster and Paris. She is a professor and author in the fields of Europe and Democracy. Contributing her knowledge to various think tanks as well as at universities in Paris, Brussels, London, Washington, Berlin, and Vienna. In 2014, she founded the European Democracy Lap e.V., a think tank to reshape Europe. Her book, *Why Europe Must Become a Republic. A Political Utopia*, published in 2016, became a bestseller across Europe. As were her 2022 publications *Remaining silent equals agreement* and *Endgame Europe*.



Turning Times

The mental state of the present

Polarized society and divided opinions. Right is left and vice versa, conservative no longer exists, liberal has newly morphed into libertarian. Security is more important than freedom, peace is no longer of consequence and climate change bears all the responsibility. Fake rules over everything, all truth is lost without a trace and those who speak of it, have already lost. Content does not matter as long as the presentation is right: studies become politics, science turns into belief. Ulrike Guérot illustrates in 10 short essays in what kind of intellectually demented world we have entered and how political thinking has been changed and twisted. Welcome to the 21st century!

10 short essays in what kind of intellectually demented world we have entered

Original title:

ZeitenWenden.
Zur geistigen Situation der Gegenwart

Original language: German

Publication in May 2025
144 pages

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Also available by Ulrike Guérot:



Silence means Consent
About the state of our time and how we want to live

Original language: German
Publication in March 2022
144 pages

40.000 copies sold

Rights sold to Italy, Bulgaria, Hungary

Backlist



**SPIEGEL
Bestseller**

What You Always Wanted to Know About the Climate but never Dared to Ask Climate Change between Lobby Groups and Science

There is plenty of reading about climate change, but two types dominate the genre: one that dramatically warns of the apocalypse, and one that seeks to expose alarmism as a Trojan horse of political forces. This book tells the story of how the niche subject of meteorology became the defining topic of our time.

Axel Bojanowski graduated from the University of Kiel with a degree in climate research. He has worked as a science journalist since 1997. He has been chief reporter for science at WELT since August 2020. Bojanowski has written three non-fiction books. The Professional Association of German Geoscientists honored him in 2024 for his journalistic achievements.

Original title:

Was Sie schon immer übers Klima wissen wollten, aber bisher nicht zu fragen wagten

Der Klimawandel zwischen Lobbygruppen und Wissenschaft

Original language: German

Publication in June 2024
288 pages

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12.000 copies sold



**SPIEGEL
Bestseller-
Autor**

Plan B for the Climate Overcoming Climate Change with the Forces of Nature

It is getting warmer and the cause is carbon dioxide from burning coal, gas and oil. Politicians are calling for the extinction of humanity and demanding radical and unachievable measures. But there is a way beyond ideology. Oceans and land plants absorb half of the carbon dioxide every year. So if we reduce our emissions by half, the concentration of CO2 in the air would remain constant. In addition, the capacity of the sinks can be increased with gentle measures. It is a citizen-friendly path to the future that poorer countries can also follow.

Professor Dr. Gerd Ganteför, born in 1956, studied physics at the University of Münster from 1977 to 1984 and completed his doctorate in nanotechnology at the University of Bielefeld in 1989. In 1997, he was appointed to the University of Konstanz, where he researched and taught until 2022. Since then, he has devoted himself to managing his consulting company based in Kreuzlingen in Thurgau

Original title:

Plan B für das Klima
Mit den Kräften der Natur den Klimawandel bewältigen

Original language: German

Publication in November 2024
180 pages

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Principles of relevant Economics

"Principles of Relevant Economics" is the name of the new book by Heiner Flassbeck. This book turns economics upside down. For the first time, without ideological blinkers, markets are consistently examined for their functioning within the framework of a dynamic development theory and fundamentally questioned, except for the majority of goods markets. Neither capital nor labour markets produce the results claimed by the vast majority of economists and assumed in all their economic policy recommendations. This book creates a completely new basis for economic policy.

Heiner Flassbeck was State Secretary from October 1998 to April 1999 at the Federal Ministry of Finance, Bonn, responsible for international affairs, the EU and IMF. He worked at UNCTAD since 2000; from 2003 to December 2012, he was director of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies. Since January 2013 he is director of Flassbeck-Economics, a consultancy for global macroeconomic questions.

Original title:

Grundlagen einer relevanten Ökonomik

Original language: German

Publication in September 2024
465 pages

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Final questions What dying people want to know

At the end of a life, the unimportant things fade into the background and the big and fundamental questions arise. But what are the questions that emerge as central in the last hours of life? And how can they be dealt with? In his day-to-day work, pastor and Frankfurt hospital chaplain Matthias Struth encounters many people at the end of their lives who are thinking about the afterlife or dealing with their faith. Some people's faith is put to a tough test, others are only just emerging. Struth tells these stories with great ease and confidence, without taking away their seriousness.

Matthias Struth is a Catholic priest at the diocese of Limburg and preaches in the Liebfrauenkirche and in Frankfurt Cathedral. He has also been a hospital chaplain at the University Hospital in Frankfurt am Main. His focus is pastoral care on the palliative care unit.

Original title:

Letzte Fragen
Was Sterbende wissen wollen

Original language: German

Publication in November 2024
180 pages

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Backlist



**SPIEGEL
Bestseller**

We're Triggering ourselves to Death Psychogram of a Neurotic Society

In his new book, Bernhard Hommel answers the question of why more and more people are reaching their psychological limits and beyond, are constantly outraged or depressed, and are increasingly stressed and overwhelmed. It explains in a generally understandable way and without technical jargon that all these exceptional psychological states are neurotic in nature. Hommel also explains what we can do to mitigate our neuroses and make our social environment mentally healthier.

Bernhard Hommel, born in 1958, is a lecturer and researcher at TU Dresden and Shandong Normal University in Jinan, China. After studying psychology in Bielefeld and completing his doctorate in psychology, he worked at the Max Planck Institute for Psychological Research in Munich. He is now also a Senator of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. He lives in Kassel.

Original title:
Wir triggern uns zu Tode
Psychogramm einer neurotischen Gesellschaft

Original language: German

Publication in August 2024
160 pages

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Help, I am Human! Astounding Answers to Existential Questions

This remarkable academic comic by Andreas and Georg von Westphalen is concerning itself with questions central to the nature of humans, and giving unexpected answers. Are humans egocentric or altruistic? Do we need healthy competition to increase our performance or do we prefer collaboration? Which behaviour enhances individual well-being and furthers our collective social welfare? This is an affectionately drawn graphic novel which sends us on a utopian journey to discover the true nature of humans through clever and humorous content.

Andreas von Westphalen studied Comparative Literature, Modern German Studies and Philosophy in Bonn, Oxford and Freiburg. He is a director for theatre and audiobooks and also works as a journalist. **Georg von Westphalen** studied human medicine in Cologne and works as a web designer for the pharmaceutical identification service DocCheck. He developed 'Bernd das Brot', a popular German Children's TV muppet.

Original title:
Hilfe, Ich bin ein Mensch!
Verblüffende Antworten auf existenzielle Fragen

Original language: German

Publication in September 2024
248 pages, illustrations throughout

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