

Our social commitment

Our responsibility goes further than our next branch office. Making a committed, creative contribution to keeping our society and German democracy in good shape is part of Dresdner Bank's self-image.

We firmly believe that a company can only achieve long-term success and create lasting value if it manages to take the interests of all stakeholders in the economy into consideration in an even-handed manner. In addition to our shareholders and customers, this includes our employees and the society around us. We assume our **share of the responsibility** for our community and help safeguard and shape the country's future in numerous ways.

During 2001, our social and sociopolitical activities focused on education, Europe and an open society. In addition, we demonstrated our commitment to art and culture in particular through the Dresden Cultural Foundation and the Jürgen Ponto Foundation. We continued our support for highly talented young musicians, visual artists, architects and writers on the road to excellence, as we have been doing for many years now.

Our dedication to excellence also lies behind our support of top young athletic talent. For example, for four years now, Dresdner Bank has been the main sponsor behind the "Young Athlete of the Year" award, the German Sports Foundation's (Stiftung Deutsche Sporthilfe) most important award for great talent.

Furthermore, we once again provided assistance last year to a project that has become a symbol of reunification, restoration and international understanding: the Frauenkirche in Dresden. More than €51 million has already been donated as a result of widespread popular commitment and generous financial support from thousands of people around the world, and we will be making a concerted effort to collect the remaining €28 million for its completion by 2005.

In order to help our country master the challenges of the future, we want to stimulate our society towards the modernisation it urgently needs and contribute to keeping Germany competitive as a business location. In addition to issuing volumes campaigning for labor market reform, such as "Arbeit ohne Barrieren" (Jobs without Barriers) and for the role of women in the modern workplace, such as "Frauen – Karriere – Familie" (Women – Career – Family), we also initiated a range of **symposia and debates**.

Symposia and debates initiated by us during 2001 included "Responsibility for the future – Dresdner Bank's sociopolitical forum" and the Brussels-based "Value-driven growth series," in which company ethics, the future and the reform of the EU ("European corporate governance") are discussed.

The Walter Hallstein Symposium on "Die Zukunft der Europäischen Union – Vision und Realpolitik" (The Future of the European Union – Vision and Realpolitik), took place for the first time in 2001 and was staged with the joint support of the City of Frankfurt, the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University and Dresdner Bank. In keeping with our image as an international bank, we focused our role particularly on Europe.

Our Euro Roadshow also made clear that, for us, Europe is the future. We used this vehicle to introduce the topic of Europe to a total of 50 different schools. The vision promoted was one of an even more closely integrated Europe with a single agenda. For Dresdner Bank, at home in the world of the international capital markets, and with a workforce as international as its business, Europe has long been a self-evident truth.

Openness, tolerance and non-violence are what Europe stands for – and what Dresdner Bank stands for.

Europe stands for the values to which we are most committed: **openness, tolerance, and non-violence**. Only if these values pervade our society can Germany remain an attractive business location and a respected partner in an increasingly global environment. The Victor Klemperer Competition, which we initiated in close cooperation with the “Bündnis für Demokratie und Toleranz” (Alliance for Democracy and Tolerance), the Bundesinnenministerium (German Interior Ministry) and the publishing house Aufbau-Verlag, is an expression of our fundamental ethical and sociopolitical beliefs and our commitment to overcoming racist and nationalistic trends. In the face of increasing violence on the part of right-wing extremists, we want to send a clear signal. The second competition is now underway, not least because of the remarkable response to the initiative from young people.

Education is another topic to which we are very committed. Schools make or break the future. This is even more clear since the publication of the Pisa study, which gave the German school system a frighteningly bad rating. In order to stress the importance of education, Dresdner Bank has developed an innovative school project in conjunction with the Federal State Government of Hesse, which could develop into a pedagogical model and set a trend in school policy: Schloss Hansenberg is a high school focusing on providing highly gifted young people with optimised, individual tuition in the three years leading up to their school certificate. Dresdner Bank is involved in the development of the concept, which adopts an all-round pedagogical approach combining theory with practice. We support Schloss Hansenberg financially and at a conceptual level, providing expertise and helping with seminars and internships.

We hope that this commitment will help overcome outdated ideas about school policy and the partially ideological prejudices regarding performance and the relationship between school and business. Schloss Hansenberg is part of our overall view of society and of a system of values centered on freedom, responsibility and the public interest.