

## About the Author

Detlef Junker was born near Hamburg, Germany. He was trained as a Journalist in 1961/62. Then, he studied history, political science, philosophy, and German philology in Innsbruck and Kiel, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1967. In 1970/71, he was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Yale University. In 1974, he was appointed Associate Professor at the University of Stuttgart.

He taught modern history at Heidelberg University from 1975 to 1994 and held the Curt Engelhorn Chair for American History there from 1999 to 2004. From 1994 to 1999, Professor Junker served as the Director of the German Historical Institute (GHI) in Washington, D.C. After his official retirement in 2004 he dedicated himself to founding and building the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA).

The foci of his research have been U.S. Foreign Policy in the Twentieth Century, German History, International Relations, and the Theory of History. His most important publications are: “Die Deutsche Zentrumspartei und Hitler 1932/33. Ein Beitrag zur Problematik des politischen Katholizismus in Deutschland” (1969), „Der unteilbare Weltmarkt. Das ökonomische Interesse in der Außenpolitik der USA 1933–1941” (1975), “Kampf um die Weltmacht. Die USA und das Dritte Reich” (1988), “Power and Mission. Was Amerika antreibt” (2003), the two-volume handbook “The United States and Germany in the Era of the Cold War 1945–1990” (2004), which he edited, and “Deutschland und die USA 1871–2021” (2021).

In 2005, Professor Junker was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of the University of Maryland University College—Europe/Heidelberg, recognizing his commitment to fostering German-American dialogue and cross-cultural understanding. In 2007, he was appointed Distinguished Senior Professor of Heidelberg University. From 2009 to 2013, Professor Junker served as President of the American Studies Network Association (ASN) Europe. In 2010, he received the Federal Cross of Merit for his exceptional support of American Studies as a discipline, his academic teaching, and his entrepreneurial abilities. In 2014, he was named Honorary Roosevelt Fellow of the Roosevelt Study Center, Middelburg / Netherlands.

