

## **Bill Drozdiak, the next President of the American Council on Germany**

(PRESS RELEASE, New York City, June 16, 2004)

The selection of Bill Drozdiak as next President of the American Council on Germany was announced today by the Council's Chairman Garrick Utley. Drozdiak, Executive Director for the last two years at the German Marshall Funds Transatlantic Center in Brussels, is expected to assume his new position at the Council's New York City headquarters in February 2005. Prior to his move to Brussels, Drozdiak served for over 20 years as foreign correspondent, foreign editor, and chief European correspondent for the Washington Post, including two stints in Germany. Prior to joining the Washington Post, he worked as State Department correspondent for Time Magazine, and as foreign correspondent for both Time and the Washington Star.

ACG Chairman Utley said the ACG was gratified at the strong list of candidates for the ACG job. He was now looking forward to engaging Mr. Drozdiak's impressive talents over the coming years in the cause of positive and productive transatlantic relations.

Craig Kennedy, President of the German Marshall Fund, said, "Bill did an outstanding job of establishing our Center and making it the central forum for transatlantic dialogue in Brussels. He is a creative and entrepreneurial leader who also has a deep understanding of Germany."

Mr. Drozdiak and his family will be moving to New York City, where his wife, a senior Belgian diplomat, is being posted. Drozdiak succeeds retired Foreign Service Officer Hugh 'Gerry' Hamilton, who has been at the ACG helm since 1999, and who, with his wife, will be moving to their home in Northern Virginia. Chairman Utley said, "Gerry Hamilton has provided outstanding leadership for more than five years, as he has expanded the ACG's activities. He has also allowed us ample time for a smooth transition to his successor, Bill Drozdiak, who will build on Gerry's accomplishments."