

3-5 October, 2025

CDA-CDU Jumelage 2025

Resilience in Modern Society



Abstract

From 3 to 5 October 2025, the CDA South-Holland and CDA Rotterdam will host a CDU delegation in Rotterdam for a three-day political exchange. The event focuses on strengthening cross-border cooperation, sharing ideas on key societal and political challenges, and deepening the relationship between both parties.

The programme includes political dialogue, work visits, a thematic conference, and cultural activities. It offers space for networking, reflection, and joint exploration of shared values in a European context.



Chapter I: Introduction

This year's *jumelage* between CDA South-Holland and CDU Kreis-Bonn, hosted by CDA Rotterdam, takes place at a time when the concept of resilience is more relevant than ever. Our cities are facing a multitude of challenges, including housing pressure, migration, social fragmentation, climate adaptation, polarisation, and economic insecurity. Yet it is precisely in these complex urban environments that the Christian Democratic worldview continues to offer a powerful and hopeful vision.

Rooted in a long tradition of personal responsibility, solidarity, and care for creation, Christian Democracy has always been about more than just policy. It is a way of strengthening the communities that make up society. We believe in strong communities, where people are not left to face difficulties alone, and in a government that supports without overwhelming them and empowers without abandoning them. In the face of hardship, resilience is found not only in infrastructure and governance but also in the moral and cultural strength of the people themselves.

Both the CDA and CDU emerged in postwar Europe as movements focused on social, economic, and spiritual reconstruction. Today, our task is similar in many ways. While the cities we serve are modern and diverse, the call remains the same: to bind what has been fragmented, to restore dignity where it has been lost, and to foster the quiet strength of everyday people.

This *jumelage* offers a space to exchange insights, deepen cooperation, and explore how Christian Democrats can shape the future of resilient cities and communities. These are cities that are not only livable, but also truly humane.



Freedom is the possibility to do the right thing.

Henri Bontenbal





Chapter 2: The Programme

With the support of CDA Rotterdam, the CDA Foreign Affairs Commission South-Holland, and the broader CDA Party Office, we are pleased to present the following programme:

Friday | 3 October

Time	Activity	Location
16:00-17:00	Arrival CDU delegation	The Usual Hotel (stay for our German guests)
17:30-18:00	Welcoming reception	City Hall of Rotterdam
18:00-20:30	• Welcome • Introduction to Municipal and national politics • Upcoming elections • Developments in Rotterdam and the Netherlands • Developments in Kreis-Bonn and Germany • Dinner	City Hall of Rotterdam
20:30	Networking reception (optional)	The Usual Hotel



We need strength and reliability – at home and abroad!

Friedrich Merz



Saturday | 4 October

Time	Activity	Location
	Free time to explore the city	Rotterdam City Centre
13:30-14:00	Doors open	Oude Pelgrimsvaderkerk in Delfshaven, Rotterdam
	Conference: <i>Resilience in Modern Society</i>	
14:00-14:15	Opening Speech Wim van de Camp & Wolfgang Quirin	
14:15-15:00	Session I: <i>Technology, complexity, and the need for resilience</i> Axel Voss & Maurice Adriaensen	
15:00-15:45	Session II: Resilience through values, care, and European solidarity Ingeborg ter Laak & Dr. Rik de Ruiter	
15:45-16:00	Break	
16:00-16:45	Session III: Defence, society, and strategic resilience Derk Boswijk & Stefan Mastenbroek	
16:45-17:00	Closing remarks Cees Bremmer	
17:00-18:00	Networking reception	
18:30-20:30	Dinner for speakers, delegation, and organizers	Vapiano, Binnenrotte

Sunday | 5 October

Time	Activity	Location
10:00-11:30	Coffee and Closing Remarks Cees Bremmer & Wolfgang Quirin	Rotterdam City Centre
11:30	Until next time!	

Contact Details

Wolfgang Quirin (CDU Kreis-Bonn)

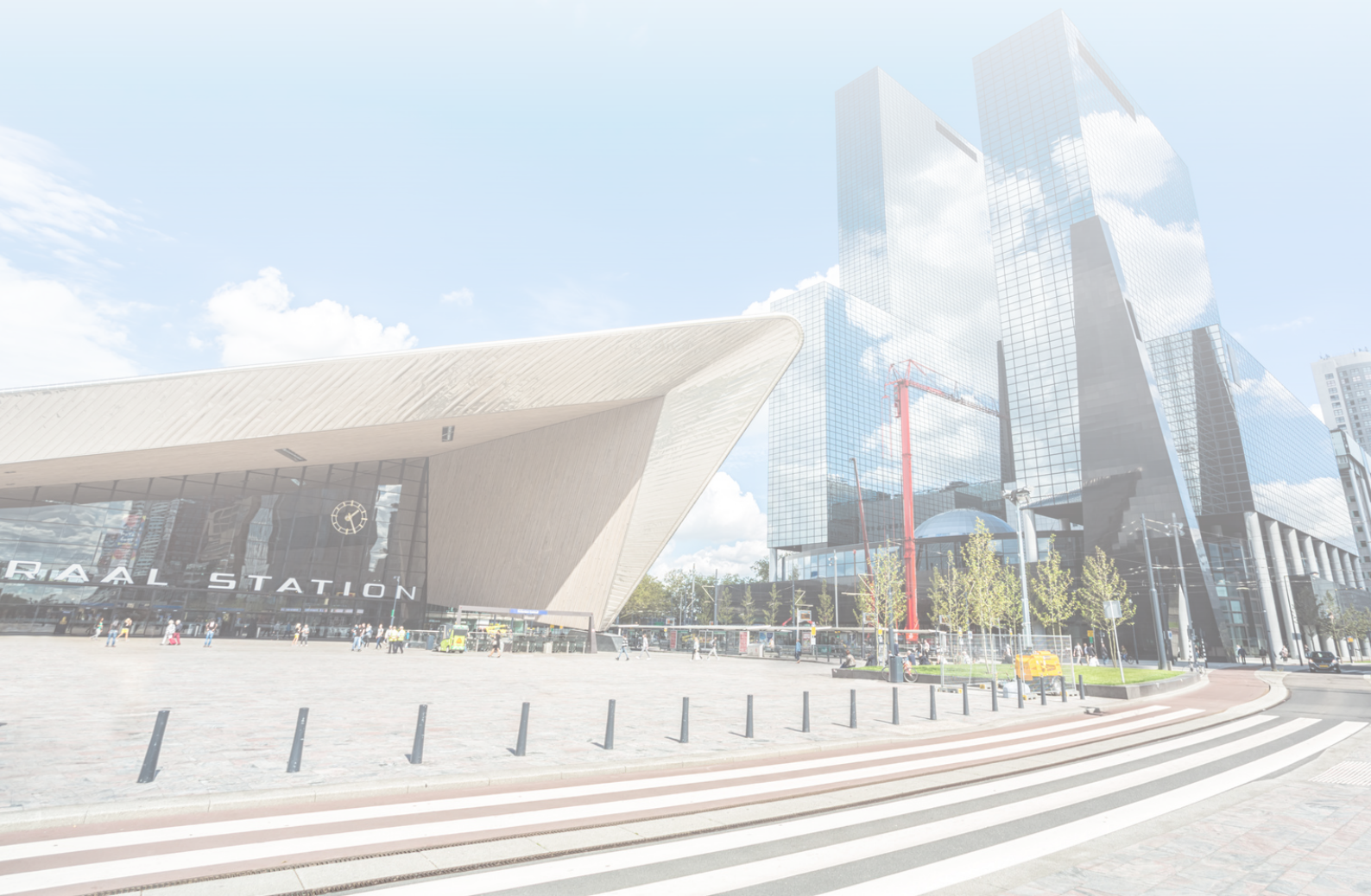
Phone: +49 170 1619854

E-Mail: QuirinWolfgang@web.de

Ioannis Kavvadias (CDA Partnership Organisation)

Phone: +31 6 48928750

E-Mail: ioannis.kavvadias@icloud.com





Chapter 3: The Speakers



Wim van de Camp

*Chair of the CDA Foreign
Affairs Commission*



Cees Bremmer

*Chair CDA Foreign Affairs
Committee South-Holland*



**René Segers-
Hoogendoorn**

City Councillor



Ingeborg ter Laak

MEP CDA-EPP



Axel Voss

MEP CDU-EPP



Stefan Mastenbroek

*Senior Advisor
Ministry of Defence*



Derk Boswijk

MP CDA



Dr. Rik de Ruiter

Professor Leiden University



Wolfgang Quirin

*Head of CDU Kreis-Bonn
Delegation*



Maurice Adriaensen

*Director and Area
Manager DNV*



Chapter 4: Practical Information



The Usual Hotel Rotterdam,
Westblaak 10-14, 3012 KL Rotterdam



Rotterdam Blaak Station
3011 GA Rotterdam



Centraal Station Rotterdam
Stationsplein 1, 3013 AJ
Rotterdam



APCOA PARKING Westblaak
Hartmansstraat 35, 3012 VA
Rotterdam



**Welcoming reception: Stadhuis
(City Hall),** Coolsingel 40, 3011 AD
Rotterdam



Conference location:
Pelgrimvaderskerk, Aelbrechtskolk
20, 3024 RE Rotterdam

