

**Think. Debate. Inspire.**

## **Collaboration at the Robert Bosch Academy**

**The Robert Bosch Academy offers international decision-makers, opinion leaders, and experts the opportunity for confidential exchanges and solution-oriented cooperation on issues of global relevance. The Academy contributes to a vivid debate on political and social issues by hosting a wide range of events on diverse topics.**

At the Robert Bosch Academy we pride ourselves on fostering a community of Fellows from many parts of the world with a multitude of backgrounds and lived experience. Considering the diverse nature of the topics our Fellows specialize in, difficult and uncomfortable conversations are an inherent part of our work at the Academy.

The strength of our community lies in its ability to conduct important conversations in a respectful and considerate manner. Not to be right or to convince others, but to strengthen ties within the community so that collaborative solutions can emerge from resilient relationships. The aim is to listen and to understand – especially to those with different perspectives and positions. In that, we live by our claim “Think. Debate. Inspire.”

Richard von Weizsäcker Fellows are recognized opinion and thought leaders. Their contributions are fueled by a thirst for new knowledge, a wealth of perspectives, and thinking outside the box. We encourage innovative ideas, for which the Robert Bosch Academy offers international, interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral, and confidential space for reflection and personal development.

The transmission of new ideas presupposes that the tried-and-tested is constantly challenged and questioned. We engage in debates based on various experiences and evidence. We encourage discussions that present diverse viewpoints and offer opportunities to explore new perspectives. We make sure that the loudest voices give space to those who present their positions less stridently.

By providing outstanding personalities the space to challenge and inspire one another, the Academy contributes to addressing the global challenges of our time. Uncompromising respect, empathy, and good will combined with candor and courage are our guiding lights. They constitute the cornerstones of the Robert Bosch Academy's culture, and its Fellows uphold these principles.

The staff of the Robert Bosch Academy will always be a point of contact if someone feels unheard or uncomfortable. We also believe it to be the responsibility of the entire community to listen and ask others what they need.

The continuous diversification of our Fellow community is one of our greatest assets. The wellbeing of all members is our aspiration. It is in this spirit that we invite the Fellows to conduct their conversations.



Robert Bosch Academy



### **Voices from the community of Fellows**

*“In a space as diverse as ours, it's essential we extend one another the benefit of the doubt. Let's value the discomfort that comes with genuine exchange, and stay mindful of the emotional dimensions shaping our conversations. This space is rare – let's honor it by engaging fully, respectfully, and with curiosity.”*

*“Let's cultivate spirited yet depersonalized dialogue, rooted in what one Fellow called 'strategic empathy.' The Academy offers a platform for diverse voices, not endorsements, and that distinction matters.”*

*“While some debates may feel overwhelming, our responsibility lies in approaching even the hardest topics with a spirit of constructive exploration. We are not here to fix the world, but to imagine possibilities.”*

*“The Robert Bosch Academy is a sanctuary for intellectual nourishment, not pressure or positioning. We come here to exchange and enrich, not to persuade or perform. Our voices are our own, distinct from any institutional or national affiliations.”*

*“Humility and openness must guide our exchange, especially when personal and political realities make true listening hard. The goal is not to produce solutions, but to learn and unlearn, to grow, and to see each other beyond the labels. This community only succeeds if it makes room for all of who we are – human, fallible, and interconnected.”*

*“Our internal dialogue is vital, but so is our potential to spark wider conversations in Germany and beyond. How we relate to each other should mirror how we engage with the public: with depth, plurality, and responsibility.”*

