

## **FAKULTÄT**FÜR GEISTESWISSENSCHAFTEN

### REASON, REFLECTION & RESPONSIBILITY

ÖFFENTLICHE VORTRÄGE

# "LEITKULTUR" IS PROBLEMATIC, BUT "ORIENTIERUNGSKULTUR" IS NEEDED: SOME THESES ON BEING GERMAN IN THE WORLD SOCIETY

PROFESSOR MATHIAS RISSE, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

## Thinkers in Philosophy & Public Policy

#### **About the Lecture**

The notion of "Leitkultur" has come up for a fair amount of critical discussion in Germany in recent years. And indeed the critics are to some extent right. But those who support or accept ideas of a "Leitkultur" also have a point. The notion of "Orientierungskultur" would preserve the valid concerns in this context and would be better suited for discussions about German identity in a globalizing world. This talk will make that argument, and reflect some more on being German in the contemporary world society.

#### **About the Speaker**

Mathias Risse is Professor of Philosophy and Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School. His primary research areas are contemporary political philosophy (in particular questions of international justice, distributive justice, and property) and decision theory (in particular, rationality and fairness in group decision making, an area sometimes called analytical social philosophy.) He is author of *On Global Justice* (Princeton, 2012) and *Global Political Philosophy* (Palgrave 2012).

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