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## Inauguration of the new Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Berlin

by *Abdurrahim Güleç*



*The new Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Berlin*

On the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011, the new Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Berlin was inaugurated by **H.R.H. Prince Saud Al-Faisal**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and by **H.E. Dr. Guido Westerwelle**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany in the presence of **H.E. Gerhard Schröder**, former Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and Honorary Chairman of NUMOV. Addressing the opening ceremony, **H.E. Prof. Dr. med. Ossama bin Abdul Majed Shobokshi**, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Berlin, highlighted the relations between the two countries. H.E. Dr. Guido Westerwelle welcomed H.R.H. Prince Saud Al-Faisal and remarked on the significance the new embassy in Berlin will have in strengthening bilateral ties.

With great interest, both in Germany and Saudi Arabia, in further intensifying the cultural, political and economic relations, the inauguration of the new embassy is a further step towards this target.

Traditionally, Germany and Saudi Arabia have enjoyed good economic relations and in 2009 Germany was Saudi Arabia's 3<sup>rd</sup> most important trading partner behind the USA and China. Germany exported a total of USD 4.84bn worth of goods to Saudi Arabia in 2009, corresponding to a market share of 8%. In the first half of 2010 Germany exported EUR 2.66bn worth of goods to Saudi Arabia, representing a 14% increase when compared to the first half of 2009. The main goods supplied by Germany were heavy goods vehicles and special vehicles EUR 212m, private

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