Dr. Karen Donfried
President, German Marshall Fund of the United States

Dr. Karen Donfried is president of the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF), a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening transatlantic cooperation.

Before assuming this position in April 2014, Donfried was special assistant to the president and senior director for European affairs on the National Security Council at the White House. Prior to that, she served as the national intelligence officer for Europe on the National Intelligence Council.

Donfried first joined GMF in 2001 after having served as a European specialist at the Congressional Research Service. From 2003-2005, she handled the Europe portfolio on the State Department's Policy Planning Staff. She returned to GMF from 2005 to 2010, first as senior director of policy programs and then as executive vice president.

Donfried is a trustee of Wesleyan University, her undergraduate alma mater. She received her doctorate from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and a Magister from the University of Munich. She is a Senior Fellow at Harvard University’s Center for European Studies and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.