

# German Chancellor Merkel awarded Medal of Freedom

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By **U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs**



Photo credit **Whitehouse**

President Barack Obama awarded German Chancellor Angela Merkel the Medal of Freedom June 7 at a state dinner in Washington D.C.

The Medal of Freedom is the highest civilian award the president can bestow.

Merkel, the first East German, and the first woman to serve as German Chancellor, said that as a little girl growing up in a part of Germany without freedom, imagining that she would one day “stand in the Rose Garden of the White House and receive the Medal of Freedom from an American president, that was certainly beyond even my wildest dreams.”

More information from the White House on Merkel’s award can be found [here](#).

Information from the White House about U.S. military cooperation and overall relationships with German can be found here:

**[U.S.-German security cooperation](#)**

**[U.S-German relations](#)**

White House information about U.S. military cooperation with Poland, another one of our important partners in Europe, can be found here:

**[U.S.-Poland bilateral defense cooperation](#)**

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