

Springer - Driving academic publishing since 1842



On 10 May 1842 (his 25th birthday), Julius Springer founded his bookstore and publishing house in Berlin, laying the foundation for today's company.

After 180 dynamic years the name Springer stands for a globally active publisher dedicated to the advancement of science, putting its authors and editors at the heart of the company's publishing activities.

The Springer story (1842-2017)

- From politics to science – the first and second Springer generation (1842-1906)
- Becoming Germany's leading scientific publisher (1906-1945)
- Reconstruction and globalization (1945-1992)
- Growth without limits? (1992-1996)
- The digitalization breakthrough (1996-1999)
- ✓ Transition and restructuring (1999-2007)

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In 1998, Bertelsmann acquired Springer to found the BertelsmannSpringer publishing group in 1999. BertelsmannSpringer now included respected publishers like Gabler, Teubner and Vieweg. The fusion entailed very few personnel changes.



In spring 2003, Bertelsmann sold BertelsmannSpringer to the British private-equity firms Cinven and Candover. A fusion with Netherlands-based Kluwer Academic Publishers (KAP) followed soon after, producing the world's second-largest academic publishing house, Springer Science+Business Media.

For Springer, these changes meant a phase of reorientation, extensive restructuring and modernization; the outsourcing of production to India was intensified. The new Springer logo, introduced in 2004, presented the classic knight chess piece in a more modern design, together with the motto "the language of science." New objectives included increasing the number of publications and further expanding Springer's electronic publishing activities.



In 2006, the Springer publishing group consisted of 70 individual publishing houses and over 5,000 employees in 19 countries, issuing 1,450 journals and approx. 5,000 book titles per year.

- Digitalization 2.0 – from Open Access to the Springer Book Archives (2007-2010)
- Content for a knowledge-based society – editorial for the 21st century (2011-2016)
- The road to Springer Nature – background and vision through 2017

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[Springer-Verlag History of a Scientific Publishing House](#)

Part 1 Foundation 1842–1945 Maturation Adversity

Authors: Heinz Sarkowski



[Springer-Verlag History of a Scientific Publishing House](#)

Part 2 Rebuilding 1945–1992 Opening Frontiers Securing the Future

Author: Heinz Götze

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