

“Bei uns ist immer was los!”

der 20. Juli—German Resistance Day

Individual responsibility

“Human dignity shall be inviolable. To respect and protect it shall be the duty of all state authorities.” So says the very first Article of the Grundgesetz, the German constitution. That has been, and will continue to be the basis on which the Federal Republic of Germany created its political system, carries out its public life and conducts its foreign policy.

July 20 reminds everyone that citizens have to accept responsibility on an individual level and accept the constant premise of preserving and strengthening the shared values of freedom and the rule of law. Germany’s history, as dark as it has been, can now help to make sure that it will never again steer in a similar direction. History assists in a constant process of verification of our political life.

This day is a symbol of résistance and the will to end tyranny and totalitarianism. Germany’s history has a tradition of freedom, even though the young Republic was only able to achieve it with the help of other freedom-seeking and freedom-loving nations like the United States of America.

In his now famous speech, Acknowledgement and Gratitude, in 1954, Theodor Heuss said: “The legacy is still effective, the obligation has not yet been removed.”

Resistance Anniversary



THE GERMAN RESISTANCE MEMORIAL CENTER

The center's goal is to show how individual persons and groups took action against the National Socialist dictatorship from 1933 to 1945 and made use of what freedom of action they had. It is located in the Bendler Block in Berlin and also administers the Plötzensee Memorial Center and two other sites.

[German Resistance Memorial Center](#)