

Press contact:

EVZ Foundation
Press and public relations
Kathrin Wiermer

Friedrichstrasse 200
10117 Berlin
Tel. +49 (0)30 25 92 97-24
Fax +49 (0)30 25 92 97-11

wiermer@stiftung-evz.de

www.stiftung-evz.de

[facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stiftung.evz)

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PRESS RELEASE

International Board of Trustees of the EVZ Foundation meets in Prague for the first time

Event programme to include on-site project visits and encounters with surviving witnesses

Berlin, 21 June 2018 – At the invitation of Czech Foreign Minister Martin Stropnický, the Board of Trustees of the Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future” (EVZ) is meeting in Prague on 21 June 2018. For the first time, the meeting of the Board of Trustees, made up of representatives from eight nations, is taking place outside Berlin.

“We are so grateful for the kind invitation of the Czech Foreign Ministry, and we are delighted at this opportunity to further strengthen the connection to our central and eastern European partners,” said Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Harald Braun, State Secretary of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany (ret.). “To be able to hold the meeting at such a symbolic location is a great honour for us, particular twenty years after the German-Czech Declaration.”

“I am very pleased that our Ministry has been given the opportunity to host the meeting of the international Board of Trustees of the Foundation ‘Remembrance, Responsibility and Future’”, said Martin Stropnický, Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic. “The Czech Republic has a strong tradition of championing the destiny of the victims of the National Socialist regime and the Holocaust, and we regard the Berlin-based Foundation as an important ally in our efforts.”

Event programme with project presentations

In the afternoon of 20 June 2018, project sponsors supported by the EVZ Foundation had the opportunity to introduce themselves to the Board of Trustees. An encounter with surviving witnesses, hosted by the organisation Živá paměť, provided a platform for discussing the Foundation’s humanitarian projects and the current living conditions of Nazi survivors in the Czech Republic. Afterwards, the new “EVZ Lab for Civil Society” was presented, which the Foundation is carrying out for the first time this year, in cooperation with the Impact Hub

Prague. The Lab sees itself as a network designed to promote an open society.

The Board of Trustees of the EVZ Foundation

The Board of Trustees decides on all the fundamental issues within the scope of responsibility of the EVZ Foundation, in particular regarding budget approval. The Board, made up of international members, issues guidelines for the use of the funds. Each serving a four-year term, the 27 members are delegates of the German Bundestag and Bundesrat, the German business community and the countries and organisations involved in the international negotiations regarding the Foundation's establishment, among others. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees and his deputy are appointed by Germany's Federal Chancellor.

About the EVZ Foundation and its funding priorities

The EVZ Foundation was established in the year 2000 to provide compensation for forced labour during the period of National Socialism. Since 2001 the EVZ Foundation has also been making humanitarian aid available for survivors, fostering the discussion about the past and strengthening civic involvement in Central and Eastern Europe.

For more information about the fields of action of the EVZ Foundation, visit www.stiftung-evz.de.

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