PRESS RELEASE

EVZ Foundation takes on part of Germany's federal “Young people remember” programme

Promoting international “culture of remembrance” projects for young people

Berlin, 29 January 2019 – At the initiative of the German federal government, the “Young people remember” (Jugend erinnert) programme is being launched today. Part of the programme involves historical-political education projects and international youth encounters; these will be implemented by the Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future” (EVZ). The programme aims to grant today’s young, increasingly multicultural generation active access to the history of National Socialism, enabling young people to develop a critical historical awareness.

“The EVZ Foundation is grateful to Foreign Minister Heiko Maas for this important initiative, and we are very pleased to be able to implement a key part of the “Young people remember” programme. Our goal in providing international youth encounters is to build young people’s historical awareness and thus to be active in counteracting all forms of group-focused enmity – especially anti-Semitism and antigypsyism. The central message of the programme is that hate directed against minorities in Germany must never again be accepted by a silent majority”, says Dr Harald Braun, Chairman of the EVZ Foundation Board of Trustees.

Digital formats for learning and teacher training

Coming together in bilateral and multilateral encounters, young people from Israel, Germany and Eastern Europe will be collaborating to develop points of access to history. They will also be trying out new digital formats for mediation and communication, including presenting survivors’ testimonies at historical locations such as memorial sites. Young teachers and multipliers will receive training and advanced training for historical learning, helping to establish and increase the international exchange of ideas and experience.
The EVZ Foundation will be supporting the programme with a total of €2.55 million for 2019 to 2021. More information will be published on the Foundation's website www.stiftung-evz.de in the first half of 2019.

About the EVZ Foundation and its funding priorities

The EVZ Foundation was founded in 2000 to provide compensation to those individuals who had been forced labourers during the era of National Socialism. Since 2001 the EVZ Foundation has also been providing humanitarian aid for survivors, fostering the discussion of the past and strengthening civic involvement in Central and Eastern Europe.