One sentence as a guardrail for everyone

The still young association "Weilburg commemorates" attaches a granite slab to the library with Article 1 of the Basic Law.



By Olivia Hess

Weilburg. It is a day steeped in history on which one of the most important German sentences is immortalized as a monument in the old town. "Human dignity is inviolable" - this is how it can be read in the German Basic Law and since Monday afternoon on a granite slab at the district and city library in Weilburg.

The record was donated by the association "Weilburg commemorates" on the occasion of the 70th birthday of the Basic Law on May 23 last year. The day the panel was assembled shows once again why this sentence is so important. It is the day on which the Auschwitz extermination camp was liberated 75 years ago. A place where millions of people have had their dignity and life taken away.

"Those who do not remember forget. Those who forget can become guilty again".

Quoted association chairman Markus Huth from the association's statutes. "Weilburg reminds" has made it its task to give it back to all people who have been denied human dignity in the past. By remembering, you also want to contribute to the fact that no one can ever be deprived of his dignity.

Huth described the Basic Law when attaching the granite slab made by Gerhard Höhler from Villmar as "the cornerstone of our constitutional state and the beginning of a success story that continues to this day.

But the current political situation shows that the basic values cannot be taken for granted. Huth called on society to actively stand up for democratic principles based on the rule of law.

An appeal that Mayor Johannes Hanisch (CDU) also joined. Because today some would move away from the values of the Basic Law. Therefore, Article 1 of the Basic Law is a guiding principle that society must uphold. Hanisch described the sentence as a guardrail for cooperation. "It's about the values of our living together and the question of how we deal with each other."

He summarizes
What should guide us
As a society,
but also everyone
Individual.
Johannes Hanisch (CDU), mayor

"Human dignity is inviolable" is also a warning that what happened under the National Socialist regime must not be repeated. The sentence was not without reason at the beginning of the Basic Law, said the mayor. "It summarizes what should guide us - as a society, but also each one." And he reminds us that "dignity has to remain inviolable."

The granite slab with Article 1 of the Basic Law hangs in a central, historic place in Weilburger Mauerstrasse, clearly visible to citizens and visitors.

You can find the original newspaper article in German on the page "Inscriptions".