



**evz** STIFTUNG  
ERINNERUNG  
VERANTWORTUNG  
ZUKUNFT

ACTIVITY REPORT

**2019**

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# Who we are ...

The Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future” (German acronym EVZ) was established in the year 2000 to pay compensation to former forced labourers during the period of National Socialism (NS). Since 2001, the EVZ Foundation has also granted humanitarian aid to survivors, promoted a critical examination of history and strengthened civic involvement in Central and Eastern Europe.



# ... and what we do

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## Dear Readers,

On December 17, 1999, then Federal President Johannes Rau held a speech, in which he asked for forgiveness for the injustice of forced labor during the barbaric National Socialist era and publicly announced the agreement on compensation for forced labor. This marked the beginning of preparations to set up the “Remembrance, Responsibility, and Future” Foundation (EVZ), which was established by the German Bundestag in August 2000 by passing the relevant act.

Twenty years later, hatred and violence against dissenters, racism, and antisemitism have increased significantly at home and around the world. Radicalization in word and deed is on the rise. Policies of reconciliation and appreciation of compromises are belittled. A global consensus on respect for human rights is far from being a reality.

The EVZ Foundation strives for clarification and clarity in its efforts to combat the many manifestations of contempt and division, denial of injustice, and rejection of the culture of remembrance. In the future, it will be specifically addressing a generation that is young today, but which will bear responsibility tomorrow. It aims to spur a future culture of remembrance and responsibility that protects the victims against being forgotten and keeps their stories alive.

Twenty years after being established, the EVZ Foundation is entering a new decade. Its mission remains as vital as ever due to the distressing experiences of the present and the devastating actions of the past.

*Annette Schavan*  
Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Federal Minister (ret.)



# Boards



## The Board of Directors

The members of the Board of Directors are elected for a period of four years by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Directors manages the day-to-day business of the Foundation and implements the decisions of the Board of Trustees. It oversees the purposeful and prudent expenditure of the Foundation's funds and represents the Foundation in both judicial and extrajudicial matters.

Andreas Eberhardt  
Moritz Kilger



Luisa Maria Schweizer  
Monika Bertele  
Jacqueline Rux

## The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees decides on all fundamental questions that are part of the remit of the EVZ Foundation, in particular on the determination of the budget. It establishes guidelines for the use of funds. The Board of Trustees is international. The 27 members are for four years sent by e. g. the German Bundestag and Bundesrat, the German economy and the states and organizations involved in the former international negotiations. The current term of office of the Board of Trustees started on September 1st of 2016. The Chair of the Board of Trustees and her deputy are appointed by the Federal Chancellor.





**The Board of Trustees of the EVZ Foundation:**

Dr. Jörg Freiherr Frank von Fürstenwerth, Hella Dunger-Löper, Dr. Wolfgang Malchow, Karin Maag, Lucia Puttrich, Arie Zuckerman, Ulle Schauws, Greg Schneider, Anshelika Anoschko, Dr. Wladimir Adamuschko, Sophie Voets-Hahne, Oleg J. Krasnizkij, Annette Schavan, Dariusz Pawłoś, Jakub Deka, Christiane Reeh, Genevieve Libonati, Shari C. Reig, Dr. Roland Bank, Prof. Dr. Susanne Sophia Spiliotis, Dr. Jost Rebentisch, Ulla Jelpke, Dr. Jiří Šitler, Dr. Kurt Bley, Jonathan Mack, Dr. Andreas Görgen, Rüdiger Mahlo, Peter Schatzer, Svetlana Fourer  
(from left to right)

**All the members of the Board of Trustees and their respective deputies can be found at:**

*[www.stiftung-evz.de/board-of-trustees](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/board-of-trustees)*

# What we funded

A total of 309 projects received 10.5 million euros in support in 2019.

All facts and figures available at:  
[www.stiftung-evz.de/facts-and-figures](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/facts-and-figures)

25  
publications



35 videos  
and films



22  
websites

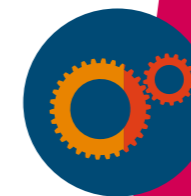


20  
exhibitions



The EVZ Foundation participates in Transparency International's Transparent Civil Society Initiative.

For more information, visit:  
[www.stiftung-evz.de/transparency](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/transparency)



Project partner-  
ships with  
20 countries

16 theater  
productions



47  
encounters  
with more than  
166 historical  
eyewitnesses

A critical  
examination of history:  
114 projects with 3.074.758 euros

Working for human rights:  
106 projects with 3.482.680 euros

Commitment to the victims  
of National Socialism:  
89 projects with 3.962.880 euros



# Fields of activity of the EVZ Foundation

**In accordance with its statutory remit, the EVZ Foundation funds international projects in three fields of activity:**

## **A critical examination of history**

### **Goals**

- To encourage reflection on the history of National Socialism, especially forced labor under the National Socialists, in the European landscape of remembrance.
- To document, pass on, and make the experiences of the victims of National Socialism available for historical and political education on a permanent basis.
- To contribute to the further development of cultures of remembrance in Germany, a society shaped by immigration.
- To promote the development and testing of digital formats to provide innovative access to National Socialist history and ensure a critical examination of current forms of group-based hostility.

## **Working for human rights**

### **Goals**

- To support international youth projects on human rights education in conjunction with historical learning.
- To stand up determinedly against antisemitism, antigypsyism and trans- and homophobia.
- Commitment to the concerns of minorities.
- To strengthen Sinti and Roma by promoting educational projects and scholarships

## **Commitment to the victims of National Socialism**

### **Goals**

- To fund projects that allow now-elderly victims of National Socialism to lead a life of dignity and autonomy, to improve their social situation and healthcare, and to engage them in intergenerational dialogue.
- To strengthen initiatives in Israel, Central and Eastern Europe that promote greater solidarity with and willingness to help victims of forced labour and National Socialism at the local and international level.
- In addition, the EVZ Foundation is committed internationally to strengthening the sense of responsibility for the interests of victims of National Socialism and for their participation in society.



# Our funding programs 2019

The EVZ Foundation supports projects within its funding programs. The programs are divided into three fields of action. In addition to this, the “EVZ expanded” team designs new methods and future-ready funding formats.

## EVZ expanded

The EVZ expanded team develops new methods and future-ready funding formats in order to respond promptly to current challenges that society faces and to advance the Foundation’s strategic development. *17 project approvals totaling EUR 859.327.*

## A critical examination of history



**digital memory:** How robust is our consensus on remembrance culture? Do we need new approaches to remembering? How do the new media change our image of the past? The EVZ Foundation is addressing these questions in the “digital // memory” program, making the development and testing of digital formats in historical and political education possible. *10 project approvals totaling EUR 779.859.*



**Migration and the culture of remembrance:** German society faces a range of challenges in a world characterized by a new magnitude of globalization and migration. Immigration and emigration processes are increasingly giving rise to academic and educational discussions about a contemporary approach to history. *13 project approvals totaling EUR 472.659.*



**Encounters with historical eyewitnesses:** Encounters with victims of National Socialism are intended to facilitate a spirit of reconciliation and keep the memory of National Socialist injustice alive. *47 project approvals totaling EUR 180.464.*



**Education with testimonies:** Surviving victims of National Socialism have given impressive accounts of their experiences. Both during the time of their persecution and after 1945, they created pictures, drawings, poems and songs, diaries, letters, and other literary works as well as audiovisual accounts of what they experienced. The EVZ Foundation is looking for ways to make these testimonies usable for teaching history. *8 project approvals totaling EUR 187.270.*



**Forced labor and forgotten victims:** From 2014 to 2019, international projects that critically examined the history of Nazi forced labor or “forgotten” victim groups of National Socialism were funded under the “Forced labor and forgotten victims” funding program. The aim was to anchor the history of National Socialist forced labor in German and European cultures of remembrance. *16 project approvals totaling EUR 421.701.*

## Working for human rights

**Europeans for Peace:** In the EUROPEANS FOR PEACE program, the EVZ Foundation funds international school and youth projects between Germany and the countries of Central, Eastern, and South-Eastern Europe as well as Israel. *25 project approvals totaling EUR 698.454.*

**Meet up!** The funding program aims to intensify relations with Ukraine and to strengthen the commitment of young people from Germany and Ukraine to basic democratic values and international understanding. *34 project approvals totaling EUR 722.011.*

**Facing Antisemitism and Antigypsyism:** Antisemitism and antigypsyism pose a threat to European social cohesion by justifying the violation of human rights and sowing hatred. They have a long, sinister tradition and were used to legitimize the murder of European Jews, Sinti, and Roma under the Nazi regime. *15 project approvals totaling EUR 467.330.*

**Sogidarity:** The EVZ Foundation supports projects that combat discrimination based on a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity. *7 project approvals totaling EUR 228.665.*

**Empowerment for Sinti and Roma in Germany and Eastern Europe:** The EVZ Foundation supports the uptake in education by Sinti and Roma in Germany and funds scholarships for Roma in Eastern Europe. *8 project approvals totaling EUR 374.651.*  
Funds scholarships for Sinti and Roma: *3 project approvals totaling EUR 433.400.*

## Commitment to the victims of National Socialism

**Dialogue Forum:** The program is aimed at Belarussian, Russian, and Ukrainian organizations committed to improving the lives of elderly people in their countries. The EVZ Foundation does not want to address the survivors of Nazi persecution simply as people in need of help. *32 project approvals totaling EUR 618.723.*

**Partnerships for victims of National Socialism:** As part of the program, the EVZ Foundation supports project partners in Central and Eastern Europe, Israel, and Germany, so that elderly victims of the Nazi regime can be allowed to grow old with dignity through cross-border processes under joint responsibility. *18 project approvals totaling EUR 1.293.402.*

**Latcho Dives:** Roma in Eastern Europe, especially the survivors of National Socialist persecution, live in poverty and are socially excluded. For many years, the EVZ Foundation has been supporting humanitarian aid projects for Roma born before 1945 in some Eastern European countries. With the “Latcho Dives!” program, the Foundation aims to strengthen its previous commitment to this target group and extend project funding to other Eastern European countries. *13 project approvals totaling EUR 475.518.*

**We’re here!** The program helps survivors of National Socialist persecution in Ukraine to have a good life and grow old with dignity. The projects aim to ensure that survivors of National Socialist persecution are socially involved and participate in communal life, and that they feel better cared for in terms of their basic needs. *8 project approvals totaling EUR 388.796.*



# EVZ expanded – laboratory for new funding formats

In order to react promptly to the current challenges facing society and drive the strategic development of the Foundation forward, EVZ expanded is designing new methods and forward-looking funding formats. The term “expanded” stands for a committed and “expanded” team that dares to tackle new issues methodically and topically: the Think-and-Do Tank, consisting of three women, supplements the long-term funding programmes in collaboration with our colleagues in the three fields of activity of the EVZ Foundation.

## Beta testing of the interactive eyewitness German testimony of Anita Lasker-Wallfisch

During Jewish Culture Week in Frankfurt, the interactive historical eyewitness testimony of cellist and Auschwitz survivor Anita Lasker-Wallfisch went into the first beta-testing phase in November. In order to record the interactive testimony, Anita Lasker-Wallfisch had to answer approximately 1,000 questions about her life history before, during, and after the Holocaust in front of several cameras. This resulted in a database of answers that can be called up by oral questions asked by the users. In 2020, the program will be tested at two further locations in Germany. The interactive historical eyewitness testimony was created by the USC Shoah Foundation and is the first German-language program in the *Dimensions in Testimony* series.

<https://sfi.usc.edu/dit>

## EVZ Award for Jewish-Muslim Solidarity

On November 21, 2019, the first award ceremony of the EVZ Foundation Award for Jewish-Muslim Solidarity took place in Berlin. In a time when antisemitic and anti-Muslim attitudes, attacks, and acts of violence are increasing, solidarity between communities and joint efforts by Jews and Muslims to fight ideologies of inequality are more essential than ever. With this award, the EVZ Foundation is sending a positive message to promote open and respectful coexistence. Together with the Kreuzberger Initiative gegen Antisemitismus e.V., the awards were presented to the best initiatives to strengthen Muslim-Jewish solidarity from Germany and the United States, respectively. The winner for Germany was the meet2respect initiative and for the United States, the Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom. The projects received a prize of EUR 5,000 each.

[www.kiga-berlin.org](http://www.kiga-berlin.org)

**meet2respect:** <https://meet2respect.de>

**Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom:** <https://sosspeace.org>



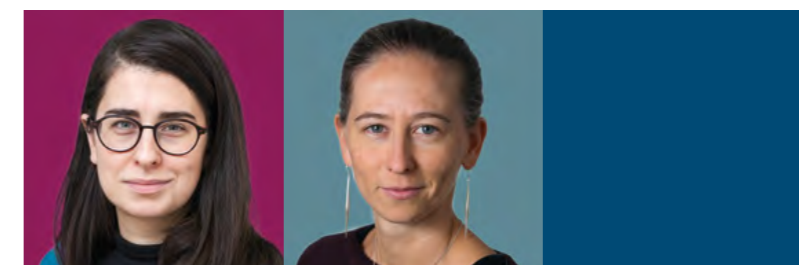
## Panel discussion on antisemitism on the Internet

On October 22, 2019, renowned experts met in Berlin to discuss the issue of “Hatred towards Jews 2.0 – Strategies against Antisemitism on the Net.” Participants included Felix Klein, Federal Government Commissioner for the Fight against Antisemitism; Anna Staroselski, Vice President of the Jewish Student Union Germany; Levi Salomon, cofounder and spokesman of the Jewish Forum for Democracy and against Antisemitism; and Ben Solomon, rapper, YouTuber, and author. The latest findings on antisemitic online comments were presented, challenges were discussed, and calls were made to better interact with each other. The participants agreed that hatred on the Internet should be seen as part of a social change that has to be counteracted in a targeted manner. ZDF correspondent Nicole Diekmann hosted the event organized by polisphere as part of the EuropX project to strengthen digital democracies in Europe.

[www.polisphere.eu](http://www.polisphere.eu)

[www.europx.digital/de](http://www.europx.digital/de)

*Aleksandra Janowska  
Marianna Matzer  
Friederike Niemann*



# A critical examination of history

## “Die Macht der Gefühle” (The Power of Emotions) international exhibition

In collaboration with the Bundesstiftung zur Aufarbeitung der SED-Diktatur (Federal Foundation for the Reappraisal of the SED Dictatorship), the EVZ Foundation published this poster exhibition titled “Die Macht der Gefühle. Deutschland 19 | 19” (The Power of Emotions. Germany 19 | 19). Based on twenty emotions, the exhibition looks at continuities and fractures over the past 100 years, thus creating a completely new approach to addressing history. It was prepared by historians Ute and Bettina Frevert; the patron of the exhibition is Federal Foreign Minister Heiko Maas. In total, more than 2,600 copies were ordered and distributed throughout Germany and abroad. The Ukrainian version succeeded in reaching more than 200 exhibition locations. The exhibition is available in ten languages: German, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Finnish, and Arabic.

<https://machtdergefuehle.de>

 Exhibition trailer (1 min)



### Remembrance best practices seminar in Lublin

Project executing agencies from the “Forced Labor and Forgotten Victims” funding program and other organizations involved in commemorative work regarding various groups who suffered under Nazi persecution in the EVZ Foundation’s target countries met from November 26 to 29, 2019. The goal of the seminar was to bring people together, learn from each other, discuss opportunities for cooperation, and build networks. The seminar was organized by “Brama Grodzka – Teatr NN” (Lublin) and marked the launch of the new “local.history” funding program, through which the EVZ Foundation is supporting local history projects in Germany and other European countries.

<https://teatrnn.pl/brama-edukacja/en/seminar-evz-2019>

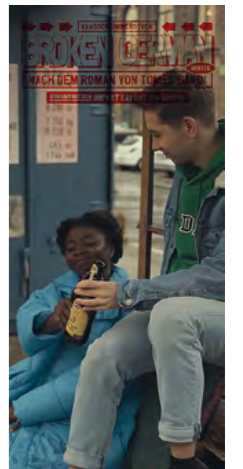


### BROKEN GERMAN at Schauspielhaus Köln

In June 2019, the “Migration and Remembrance Culture” program included the “YourHistory” workshop for coming up with ideas to develop historical and political education projects in a society shaped by immigration. One of the projects subsequently funded is the play BROKEN GERMAN by IMPORT EXPORT KOLLEKTIV (Schauspielhaus Köln).

In the play, BROKEN GERMAN, which is based on the book by Tomer Gardi, stories and memories of Germany as a society of immigration are presented in their own particular, contemporary language. In addition to public performances, the play also tours schools and other institutions as a classroom piece, including a follow-up workshop.

[www.schauspiel.koeln/spielplan/monatsuebersicht/broken-german](http://www.schauspiel.koeln/spielplan/monatsuebersicht/broken-german)



Annemarie Hühne  
(Team Leader)  
Evelyn Geier  
Corinna Jentsch  
Agnieszka Pustola





**Theater competition  
focused on biographies of  
victims of National Socialist  
“euthanasia” crimes**

The nationwide “andersartig gedenken on stage” (remembering differently on stage) competition is a project of remembrance for the victims of the National Socialist “euthanasia” murders. It offers young people a platform to find inclusive and personal ways of approaching the topic of remembrance. For the 2019 competition, 15 plays were submitted that addressed on stage the long-unmentioned subject of the murder of people with disabilities and mental impairments under National Socialism.

A total of five school theater groups were awarded prizes during the ceremony at Theater Thikwa in Berlin on November 19, 2019. In the winning entry, “Das Kinderkrankenhaus von Rothenburgsort. Oder: Keine Ahnung!” (The Children’s Hospital of Rothenburgsort. Or: No idea!) by Stadtteilschule Bergedorf in Hamburg, the students examined the history of a hospital near their school, as well as structural discrimination and current continuities.

More about the competition: [www.andersartig-gedenken.de](http://www.andersartig-gedenken.de)

 **Award ceremony (76 min)**

*“It is wonderful  
that we’ve been able to  
get so many young people  
involved in an issue that has been  
repressed and kept secret for so long.  
I am sure that these young people will  
spread their ideas – important messages  
against exclusion and hatred –  
all over the country.”*

**Jury member Sigrid Falkenstein,  
author and former teacher**

Sonja Begalke  
(Team Leader)  
Leonore Martin  
Malte Switkes vel Wittels



### “Ende der Zeitzeugenschaft?” (The end of historical eyewitness testimony?) exhibition

The age of historical eyewitnesses to the Holocaust is coming to an end. Only a few remaining survivors of the National Socialist regime can speak from their own experience – or give an account of those who were murdered during the Holocaust. What is left behind are literary testimonies and countless video interviews with the survivors, as well as the question as to how we are to handle this inheritance in the future. For this reason, the funded exhibition focuses on the history of historical eyewitness testimony and the complex relationship between historical eyewitnesses and interviewers, medium and society. The “Ende der Zeitzeugenschaft?” exhibition was jointly developed by the Jewish Museum in Hohenems and the Flossenbürg concentration camp memorial site, and is now being shown in various locations as a touring exhibition. At each location, specific interviews with the historical eyewitnesses can be integrated into the modular system.



Radio report on Deutschlandfunk (9 min.)



### “Let’s make history!” Kickoff of the new “digital // memory” funding program



In November 2019, the first projects funded by the EVZ’s new “digital // memory” funding program were presented to the public at a kickoff event. At the launch of “Let’s make history! Tackling Hate Speech and Anti-Semitism in the Digital Age,” Magdalena Waligórska (University of Bremen, Department of History), Steffen Jost (Concentration Camp Memorial Site of Dachau) and Johannes Baldauf (Policy Programs Manager, Facebook) discussed digital approaches to a contemporary culture of memory and current challenges regarding antisemitism on the Web. The iRights.Lab digital think tank is slated to support and advise the projects from Germany and Poland until 2020.


<https://irights-lab.de/digitalmemoryevent>



## Second EUROPEANS FOR PEACE youth conference in Berlin

Nearly 50 committed young people from 17 countries came together for the second youth conference themed “The Good Human or the Human Good – Footprints of Modern Slavery” to discuss this challenging topic. What’s more, the conference gave participants the opportunity to develop their own ideas for small, innovative “action projects,” which they would then implement using prize money. Six projects have been awarded and are now preparing to put their ideas into action. Federal Foreign Minister Heiko Maas, patron of the EUROPEANS FOR PEACE program, sent welcoming words and was clearly impressed by how motivated the young people were about the topic. The conference was organized by the EVZ Foundation in cooperation with the wannseeFORUM Foundation.

Photos and interviews on the blog:  
[www.youforpeace.org/blog](http://www.youforpeace.org/blog)

 Video of the conference  
(1 min.)

*“In a globalised economy, “modern slavery” is a problem that affects all of us. Far too often we unintentionally take “modern slavery” home in our shopping bags. Young people are keenly interested in sustainability. The international EUROPEANS FOR PEACE youth conference is making it very clear that committed young people are deeply serious about working hard for justice.”*

Heiko Maas, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs and patron of the EUROPEANS FOR PEACE program



# Working for human rights



**TEAMWORK: Collaboration between the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation and the EVZ Foundation**

The EVZ Foundation and the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation have been collaborating since 2019 as part of the “MEET UP! German-Ukrainian Youth Encounters” program. The aim is to intensify exchange between young people and civil-society stakeholders in both countries and to exploit synergies. Young artists and cultural workers who use their ideas and works to promote basic democratic values and a lively German-Ukrainian dialog are jointly supported. In 2020, the two foundations will provide this support with a focus on the theme “Culture for changes” to mark the 75th anniversary of the United Nations.

<https://bit.ly/culture-f-changes>



**Unframed: A German-Ukrainian youth project on participatory art in rural areas**

In the small town of Pustomyty in western Ukraine, 25 young people from Ukraine and Germany looked at how art and photo projects can be used to positively support participatory processes in rural areas. The group tried out new creative methods of inclusive cultural education. In addition to a theory-based introduction, the hands-on trials were a key part of the workshop. At the same time, practical examples dealing with cultural diversity and intercultural learning were presented and discussed in order to strengthen the participants’ own skills and abilities and to initiate a conscious examination of the participants’ own prejudices, experiences of discrimination, and privileges. The participants then used their knowledge to jointly carry out their own projects with children and young people from Pustomyty. The results were publicly presented and discussed at a town festival.

<https://bit.ly/unframed-fotos>



Judith Blum  
 (Team Leader)  
 Pavel Baravik  
 Kateryna Churikova  
 Artem Iovenko  
 Evelyn Scheer  
 Merle Schmidt



## Project ideas to combat discrimination and hatred

In the “Facing Antisemitism and Antigypsyism” program, support was given for the first time in 2019 to building alliances for a diverse and supportive society. Seven project teams from Lithuania, Poland, and the Czech Republic successfully responded to the “Project ideas to combat discrimination and hatred – for a society of solidarity” call for applications. The selected teams from these three countries took part in the qualification and networking workshop “Coalition Building against Antisemitism and Antigypsyism” in Berlin in August 2019. Since fall 2019, seven local alliance projects are being carried out in the project countries. These include a project by the Polish Foundation for Social Diversity to promote the educational participation of children from marginalized groups in Poland. Alliances are being set up in twelve cities and municipalities to sensitize schools and municipalities to the work of intercultural school assistants and to address the issues of antisemitism and antigypsyism. The project has triggered a snowball effect; it is gaining new partnerships and is supported by the Polish Ombudsman.

[www.stiftung-evz.de/coalitionbuilding-eng](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/coalitionbuilding-eng)

## Expansion of a network for solidarity and against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in Ukraine

The first LGBTI Allies Forum in Ukraine took place in Zaporizhzhia on September 14 and 15, 2019. About a hundred participants from civil society came together to reflect on public opinion toward sexual orientation and gender identity. Over the two days, participants learned to respond to myths and stereotypes about LGBTI people using an argumentative approach and discussed how these matters are presented in the media and on social networks. In the course of various workshops, participants developed specific concepts for taking action and a competition for ideas. A total of 15 concepts from different regions of the country were selected as the winners and will be implemented as part of the ongoing project by the end of 2020.

### Conference summary (Ukrainian):

<https://bit.ly/sogidarity-ua>



## Networking meeting for Sinti and Roma organizations

On October 2, 2019, the networking meeting of the Hildegard Lagerenne Foundation “Gemeinsam mehr erreichen. Vernetzungstreffen der Romno-Communités” (Achieving more together. Networking meeting for the Romani Communities) took place. The EVZ Foundation and the Freudenberg Foundation invited all funded projects that work to increase participation in education and self-organization by Sinti and Roma in Germany. A panel discussion addressed the various challenges facing Sinti and Roma organizations. The increasing level of organization by minorities and the higher visibility and participation of groups in social life as a result raise the question for those involved as to what extent active political discourse brings them into conflict with authorities and institutions. This is relevant, for example, when it comes to structural cooperation, state subsidies, or assuming social responsibility.



Sonja Böhme  
(Team Leader)  
Olga Daitche  
Wanja Hargens  
Christa Meyer  
Maxim Stepanow

**Conference**  
**“Remembering and Forgetting.**  
**International Conference on Psycho-**  
**social Work for Shoah Survivors**  
**and Their Families”**

Dealing professionally with traumatized survivors of National Socialist persecution reveals the importance of the remembered and lived experiences in the everyday lives of those affected and of their descendants. Around 200 international experts discussed the complexity of processes of remembrance, how even silent survivors share their traumatic experiences nonverbally, and the sensitive relationship between historical facts and individual interpretations. Citing longtime ZWST director Benjamin Bloch, Prof. Doron Kiesel reminded attendees how important it is not only to think about the survivors, but also to do something for them. Fortunately, the annual increase in the number of participants at the conference shows how relevant and current this concern is.

<https://bit.ly/zwst-kongress>



# Commitment to the victims of National Socialism



### Promoting innovation and competition for ideas in Poland

A program and project development process known as “PoMoc. Together we can do more” commenced in Poland in the summer of 2019. In two strands of the program, which are aimed at long-term project partners on the one hand and the general public on the other, participants develop and test ideas and improved solutions for dealing with future challenges in providing psychosocial support to victims of National Socialism.

Experts from Poland and other countries identified priorities and challenges in an exchange across disciplines. These are to be taken up in a national ideas competition, which is open to everyone, and will be implemented in 2020 in four pilot projects.

The Warsaw-based Stocznia organization provides operational support to the EVZ Foundation in the implementation of all activities in Poland.

<https://bit.ly/shipyard-pl>



Anja Krätler  
(Team Leader)  
Stephanie Bock  
Hana Čopić  
Lisa Eichhorn  
Adriana Koch

### Professional exchange “Commitment to Victims of National Socialism in Germany. Sharing Experiences – Developing Perspectives”

The EVZ Foundation invited twenty experts from funded projects to come up with new ideas together for further developing the commitment to victims of National Socialism in Germany. Apart from exchanging practical experiences, the discussion focused on future challenges. For example, psychosocial support for survivors is becoming ever more heterogeneous, complex, and time-consuming. There is also a growing need for advice for caregiving family members and descendants. As a result, the few organizations that specialize in working with traumatized victims of National Socialist persecution are increasingly reaching their limits. It was therefore agreed that pooling forces more effectively in order to mobilize greater practical solidarity for the surviving victims of National Socialist persecution is a key concern.



## New “We’re here!” funding program in Ukraine

In 2019, the “We’re here! Support for survivors of National Socialist persecution” funding program was publicly announced for the first time in Ukraine.

The program helps survivors of National Socialist persecution in Ukraine to have a good life and grow old with dignity. The projects aim to ensure that survivors of National Socialist persecution are socially involved and participate in communal life, and that they feel better cared for in terms of their basic needs.

A total of 82 applications were received, of which eleven organizations can be funded for two to three years, coming to EUR 500,000.



Elke Braun  
(Team Leader)  
Sigrun Döring  
Valentina Valtchuk  
Ulrike Vasel



### Workshops on the development of new funding formats for Roma in Eastern Europe

As part of the development of a strategy to promote Roma in Eastern Europe, the EVZ Foundation held two workshops in Sumy and Kharkiv (eastern Ukraine) in fall 2019. The workshops were organized by a project team consisting of representatives from all three of the EVZ's fields of activity. The aim was to gather new ideas of relevance to local communities, to develop projects together, and to form coalitions for the benefit of Roma. Representatives of Roma organizations, mainstream-society NGOs, and the respective regional authorities participated in the seminars. Out of eight applications submitted after the workshops, two were selected for funding. The pilot projects, which run for 14 months, are scheduled to start in early 2020.



### "Golden Experiences for the Golden Years" brochure in Belarus

A collection of well-established projects in the form of a brochure is the result of a collective exchange of experience between employees and volunteers from various NGOs. It presents specific methods of working for and with elderly people and outlines prerequisites and steps for successful implementation so that other organizations can adopt the models. The NGO "AKT," which guided participants through the knowledge-sharing process, offers support, advice, and further training to Belarussian civil society.

The brochure is available in Russian at:

<https://bit.ly/goldenes-alter>



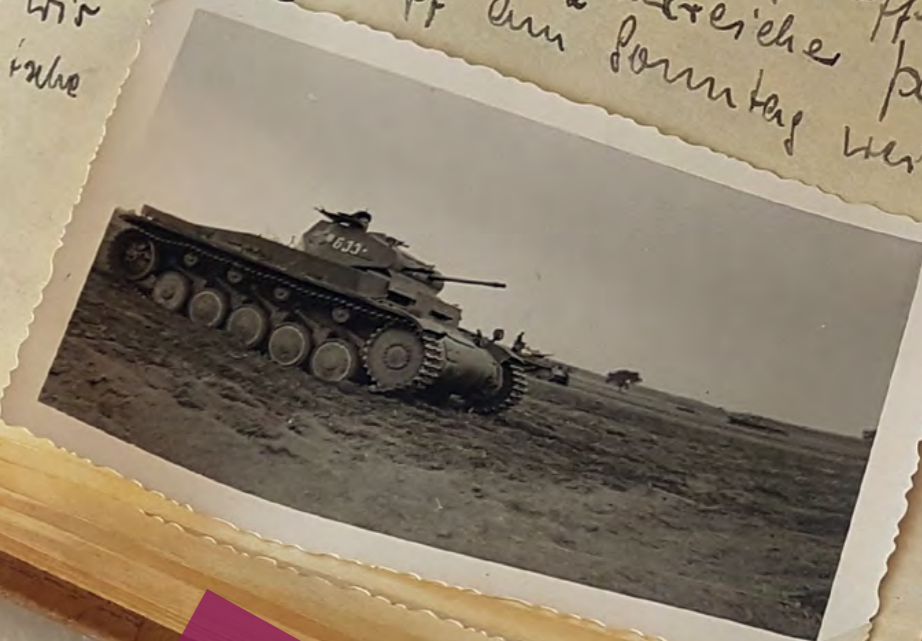
# Public relations



Ausgebrannter  
polnischer  
Panzer  
bei  
Kamienisk



Blougossa



## “Silent Testimonies” exhibition project

On September 1, 1939, Germany’s attack on Poland marked the beginning of the Second World War. In Poland, this is an important historical date that serves as an occasion for remembrance and commemoration. In the German landscape of remembrance, the attack on Poland stands in the shadow of the subsequent wars of conquest. Together with the Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam and students from Freie Universität Berlin, the House of the Wannsee Conference Memorial and Educational Site called upon the public, both in German and Polish, to root out pictures and documents dating from September and October 1939. This resulted in an online exhibition, bearing witness to the Second World War from both German and Polish perspectives through family biographies. The project was funded by the EVZ Foundation.

Information on the exhibition is available at:  
<https://onlinesammlungen.ghwk.de/stummezeugnisse>

Image gallery on the Deutsche Welle website: <https://bit.ly/zeugnisse-dw>



TV report on rbb Fernsehen (7 min)



## Commemorative event at the German Football Museum

Exactly 81 years after the destruction of the Jewish sports movement by the National Socialist regime, the German Football Museum in Dortmund recalled this largely forgotten chapter in German soccer history at a commemorative ceremony and included in its permanent exhibition the only remaining jersey from that period. Representatives from the spheres of both soccer and society discussed antisemitism in sport. Max Girgulski had to leave his club, Eintracht Frankfurt, after the National Socialist takeover and successfully participated in the German Makkabi Championships with the Jewish club Bar Kochba in the years that followed. As a result of the increasingly widespread exclusion and persecution, Girgulski emigrated to Argentina in 1938 and never returned to Germany. Susana Baron, daughter of persecuted Jewish soccer player Max Girgulski, donated her father's soccer jersey to the German Football Museum.

*"I am very pleased that the jersey is here now, so that it can be shown to students, schoolchildren, and young fans. So that young people will learn what happened back then and how many Jewish athletes were persecuted or murdered."*

Susana Baron, daughter of persecuted Jewish soccer player Max Girgulski



<https://bit.ly/dfm-trikot>



Video of the handing over of the jersey (1 min)



## New findings of the "MEMO Germany" study

On April 11, 2019, the EVZ Foundation, in collaboration with the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research on Conflict and Violence at the University of Bielefeld, presented the results of the second round of "MEMO Germany – Multidimensional Remembrance Monitor." The representative study shows that critical examination of the period of National Socialism is an important source of civil courage. People who engage more intensively with this period are also more committed to combating exclusion and discrimination.

[www.stiftung-evz.de/publications](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/publications)



Nadine Reimer  
Sophie Ziegler



## STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR DEALING WITH THE PAST

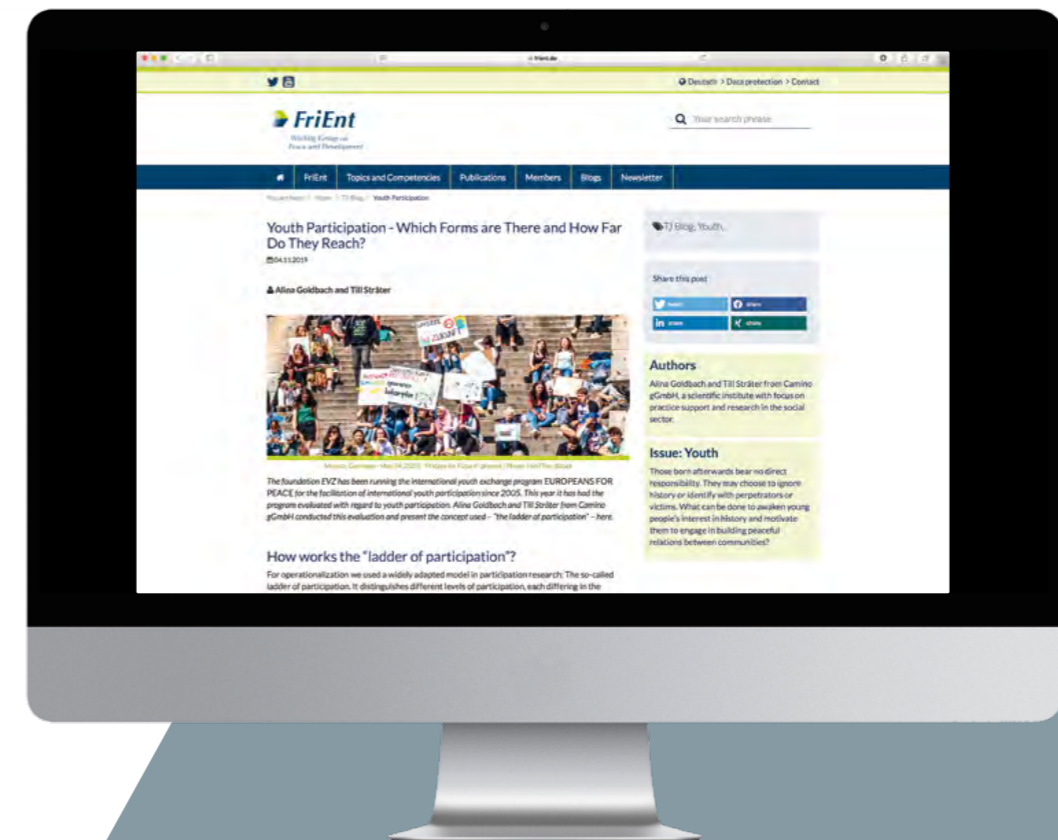
### A joint project between the Working Group on Peace and Development (FriEnt) and the EVZ Foundation

Against the backdrop of Agenda 2030 – Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development, the two-year project aimed to identify topics and issues that are of equal interest to German and international stakeholders in the field of dealing with the past/transitional justice and to develop formats to enhance exchange.

The blog “Dealing with the Past – Exchange and Reflect,” which started in summer 2019, is one important outcome of the project. Professionals from Germany and other countries use the platform to share their experiences regarding the challenges that emerge when dealing with the past.



[www.frient.de/en/transitional-justice-blog](http://www.frient.de/en/transitional-justice-blog)



# Award-Winning Projects

## Exhibition awarded design prize

The German- and English-language exhibition “Das Reichsparteitagsgelände im Krieg. Gefangenschaft, Massenmord und Zwangsarbeit” (The Nazi Party Rally Grounds in World War II. Imprisonment, Mass Murder and Forced Labour) critically examines the largely unknown history of the National Socialist Party Rally Grounds in Nuremberg during the Second World War. For the first time, its use as a camp for prisoners of war and forced laborers was documented and individual destinies are presented through photographs, drawings, letters, memoirs, and personal documents. The project was funded as part of the “Forced labor and forgotten victims” funding program. The exhibition received the “DDC Award Gute Gestaltung Silver 2019” (DDC Award for Good Design Silver 2019) for sustainable design using natural and recyclable materials.

**Brief overview of the exhibition:** <https://bit.ly/ausstellung-nb>



## Medal of Merit for Nadezhda Slesareva

On September 19, 2019, Nadezhda Ivanovna Slesareva received the Medal of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany from the German Ambassador to Ukraine, Anka Feldhusen, for her many years of dedication to the topic of National Socialist forced labor. Nadezhda Slesareva first suffered under the National Socialist regime and then under the Stalinist dictatorship. She published her memoirs of the persecution and concentration camps, and her biography served as the basis for a play that was shown at the documentary film theater in Berlin. Today, Nadezhda Slesareva is the director of the Nadezhda Women’s Center in Kyiv. Since 2002, she has also been collaborating with the EVZ Foundation as part of the “Dialogue Forum” program.



## Federal President honors Eva Schöck-Quinteros with the Federal Cross of Merit for an award-winning theater project

On May 22, 2019, Bremen historian Dr. Eva Schöck-Quinteros was awarded the Cross of Merit by Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier. She is the initiator of the award-winning theater project “Aus den Akten auf die Bühne” (“From the files to the stage”), a collaboration between the University of Bremen and the Bremen Shakespeare Company. To mark the 70th anniversary of Germany’s Basic Law, citizens from all of the federal states were honored for their outstanding commitment to political education in keeping with the idea of “Democracy up close – 16 ideas for an active Basic Law.” Schöck-Quinteros initiated the theater project, which is the only one of its kind in Germany. Since 2007, the project has been combining historical and dramaturgical work and making source-based historical research accessible to a wide audience.



## Photo of an EVZ project participant nominated for a dpa award

The image taken of a participant in the EVZ Foundation’s “Latcho Dives” program was nominated for the dpa PR-Bild Award 2019 (dpa PR Image Award) in the “Portrait” category. The photo entitled “Hope” was taken by the EVZ Foundation’s Ukrainian PR consultant Lesya Kharchenko. It depicts a Roma woman, Ludmila Serdyuchenko, from Zolotonosha, Ukraine, who was born in Central Ukraine in 1944. When she was just a few months old, her hometown was attacked by German soldiers and her older brother fled with her. Her family lived in extreme poverty. Ludmila suffered a stroke and has not been able to walk or speak since then. Her granddaughter was the first in the family to go to school, and her great-granddaughter goes to school, too. Today, there is a memorial plaque in the village of Bilozirya, where her ancestors were shot. The EVZ Foundation supports Ludmila Serdyuchenko as part of the “Latcho Dives” funding program, which has been supporting humanitarian aid projects for Roma in many countries since 2016: Belarus, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, and Ukraine.

[www.pr-bild-award.de](http://www.pr-bild-award.de)

<http://www.stiftung-evz.de/latcho-dives>



*The EVZ Foundation team congratulates all of the award winners and thanks them for their dedication!*

## Roundtable discussion of the journal "Die Stiftung" (The Foundation)

Ann-Grit Lehmann, Head of Finance at the EVZ Foundation, discussed challenges and solutions for investment strategies with representatives of the Foundation and asset management experts. The focus was on low interest rates.

[www.stiftung-evz.de/eng/the-foundation/finances.html](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/eng/the-foundation/finances.html)

[www.die-stiftung.de/vermoege-finanzen/diversifizierung-ist-das-a-und-o-86118](http://www.die-stiftung.de/vermoege-finanzen/diversifizierung-ist-das-a-und-o-86118)

Ann-Grit Lehmann  
(Team Leader)  
Daliso Lea Cifre



# Finance



# Financial Report

## Foundation assets

Half of the EVZ Foundation’s original assets in the amount of DM 10.1 billion (EUR 5.2 billion) were raised through a foundation initiative by German business involving more than 6,000 participating companies, and half by the federal government and thus German taxpayers. The Foundation, which was established in 2000, is therefore an expression of overall social responsibility for the injustice committed during the National Socialist era.

A large part of the calculated assets were earmarked for the EVZ Foundation’s compensation programs; another part was to be used to fund projects promoting understanding and reconciliation.

With the support of its international partner organizations, the EVZ Foundation had been able to pay a total of EUR 4.37 billion to former forced laborers and other victims of the National Socialist regime by the end of 2006. The payout programs were concluded on June 12, 2007, with an official ceremony.

## Foundation capital

In line with the basic principle that remembering the past must be accompanied by a commitment to the future, when the Foundation was established, DM 700 million (EUR 357.9 million) of the total assets were earmarked for the creation of an internationally active funding foundation.

There have been intense and controversial discussions on how to use this capital. When the Foundation was being set up, there was talk of the “legacy of forced laborers who did not survive.” This expressed a particular sense of responsibility by which the Foundation is still guided in terms of its investments.

As a result, the EVZ Foundation sees itself as a trustee both for the whole of German society and for the former forced laborers who suffered exploitation through labor in National Socialist Germany.

This has resulted in two obligations on our part:

- to preserve and maintain this special capital in accordance with ethical investment principles and
- to generate returns that can be used for the purpose of the Foundation.

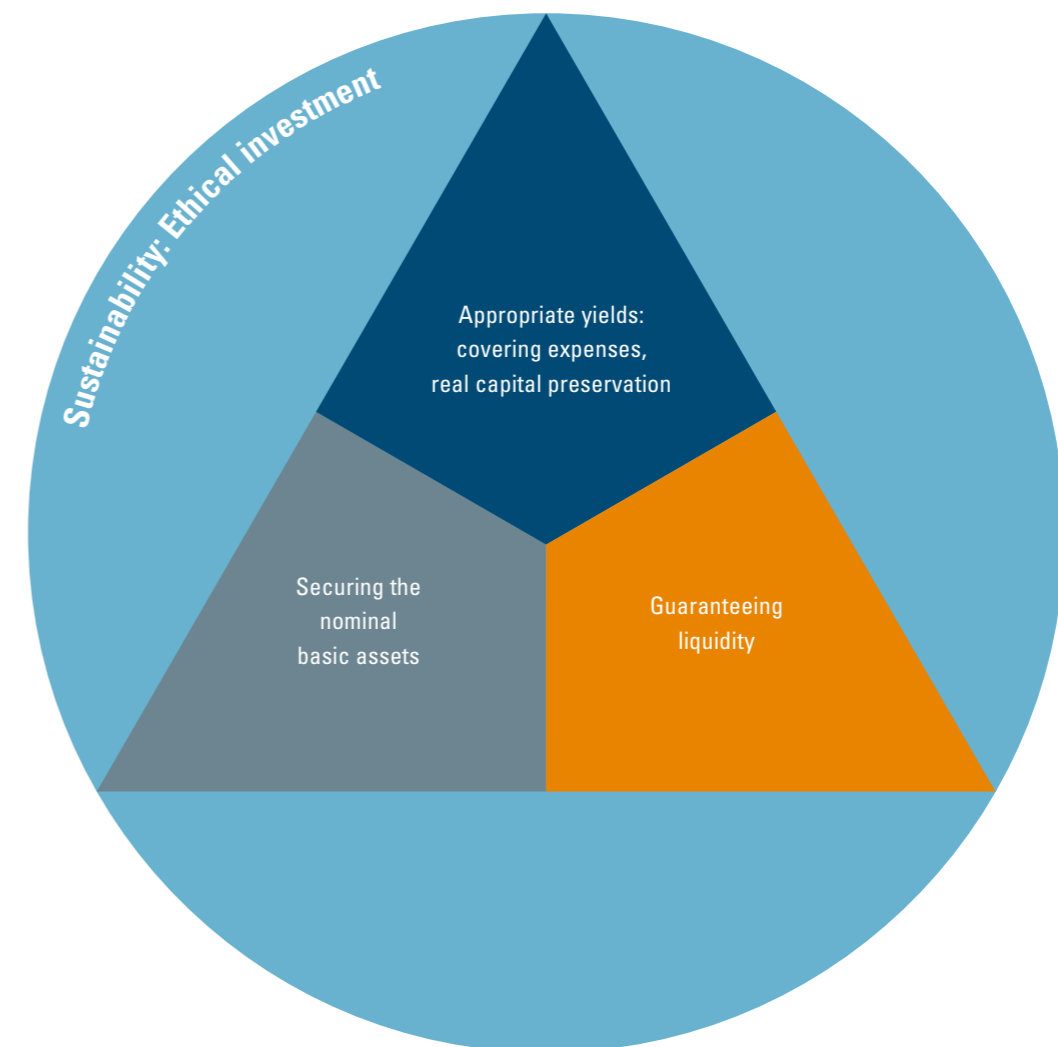
## Principles of the Investment Policy and Sustainability

### Investment principles

The EVZ Foundation pursues three main objectives in investing its assets. First, sufficient funds are to be generated in the sense of ordinary net income from sustainable investments to cover the funding activities and administrative costs at a manageable level of risk. The aim is to avoid deriving current expenditures from the risky reallocation of assets. Second, capital is to retain its real, i. e. inflation-protected value, in the medium term. Finally, it is important to ensure that sufficient liquidity is available at all times for ongoing business operations. All three targets were met in the 2019 fiscal year.

These three objectives are to be achieved based on environmental, social, and good corporate governance criteria (hereinafter: ESG criteria).

The focus is on ESG aspects that are directly linked to the Foundation’s purpose. In particular, these include modern forms of forced labor and human rights violations in the world of work.



**Sustainability: Ethical investment**

The EVZ Foundation has further developed its sustainability strategy in order to contribute to the sustainability strategy of the Federal Government. The new strategy was implemented for the first time as part of a pilot project under a special fund mandate for shares. Unification of standards and further strategy implementations will take place next year.

The new sustainability strategy is a combination of different approaches to stock selection and dialog strategies. In addition, the EVZ Foundation has defined different levels of exclusion criteria. This differentiation expands the scope for a gradual operationalization of the strategy.

As a result of a global dialog with issuers in recent years, major issuers such as Royal Dutch Shell, Apple, Walmart Stores, Barrick Gold, ExxonMobil, Mitsubishi, Seven & i Holdings, Sony, and TEP-CO have been divested because of various controversies. The asset managers must take this black-list into account.

**Investment strategy and Asset classes**

**Investment strategy**

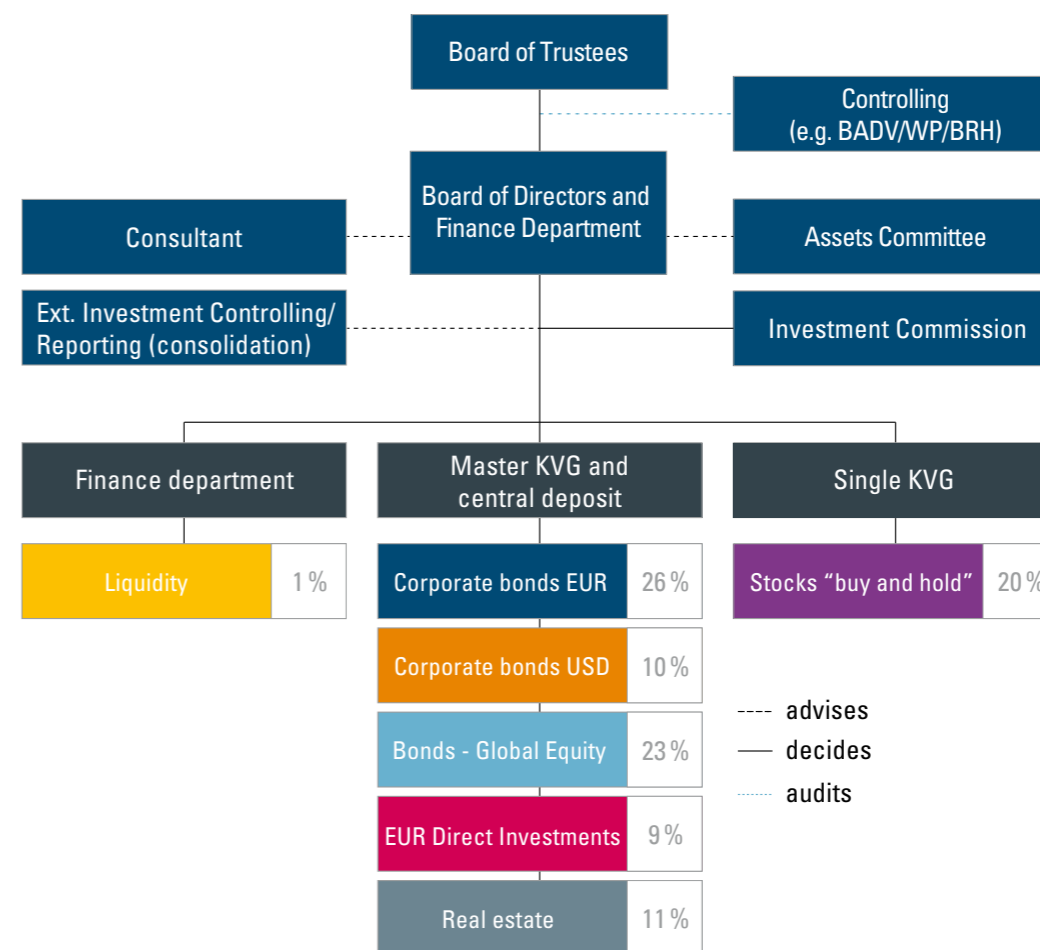
The investment strategy of the EVZ Foundation is based on the broadest possible risk distribution. This is to be achieved by investing in asset classes as diversified as equities, bonds, real estate, and infrastructure. At the same time, this is intended to ensure moderate volatility. The asset management for the EVZ Foundation basically follows the “steady-hand principle”; as such, strategies and profit targets are geared to the long term. Short-term impacts on investment capital do not have to result in immediate steps to make adjustments; only serious new findings would justify a review of the current investment strategy. Nevertheless, the investment strategy is subject to a thorough review carried out every year. Responsible parties reserve the right at all times to make adjustments with respect to tactical measures. The investment process is comprehensively documented, meets modern compliance requirements, and is designed in such a way that decisions can be made at any time on the basis of factual knowledge using up-to-date specialist know-how.

**Equity**

The EVZ Foundation’s equity capital is based on a basic stock amount of DM 700 million (EUR 357.9 million), which was reserved for the funding of projects when the Foundation was established. The EVZ Foundation invests its capital on the international financial markets.

**Asset classes**

The assets of the Foundation amounted to EUR 564.8 million as of December 31, 2019, and are invested as shown below.



## Members, Assets Committee (As of December 2019)

**Dr. Wolfgang Weiler** (Chair), President of the Gesamtverband der Deutschen Versicherungswirtschaft (GDV)

**Dieter Lehmann**, Co-Managing director and head of the Assets Department, Volkswagen Stiftung

**Dr. Michael Leinwand**, Chief Investment Officer, Zurich Gruppe Deutschland

**Gerhard Schleif**, former Managing Director, Bundesrepublik Deutschland Finanzagentur GmbH

**Martin Wieland**, Head, Market Analysis and Portfolio Division, Deutsche Bundesbank

**Prof. Dr. Uwe Wystup**, Frankfurt School of Finance and Management – Centre for Practical Quantitative Finance

## Members, Investment Commission

**Dr. Andreas Eberhardt**, Chief Executive Officer EVZ Foundation

**Dr. Moritz Kilger**, Director EVZ Foundation

**Dieter Lehmann**, Co-Managing Director and Head of the Assets Department, Volkswagen Stiftung

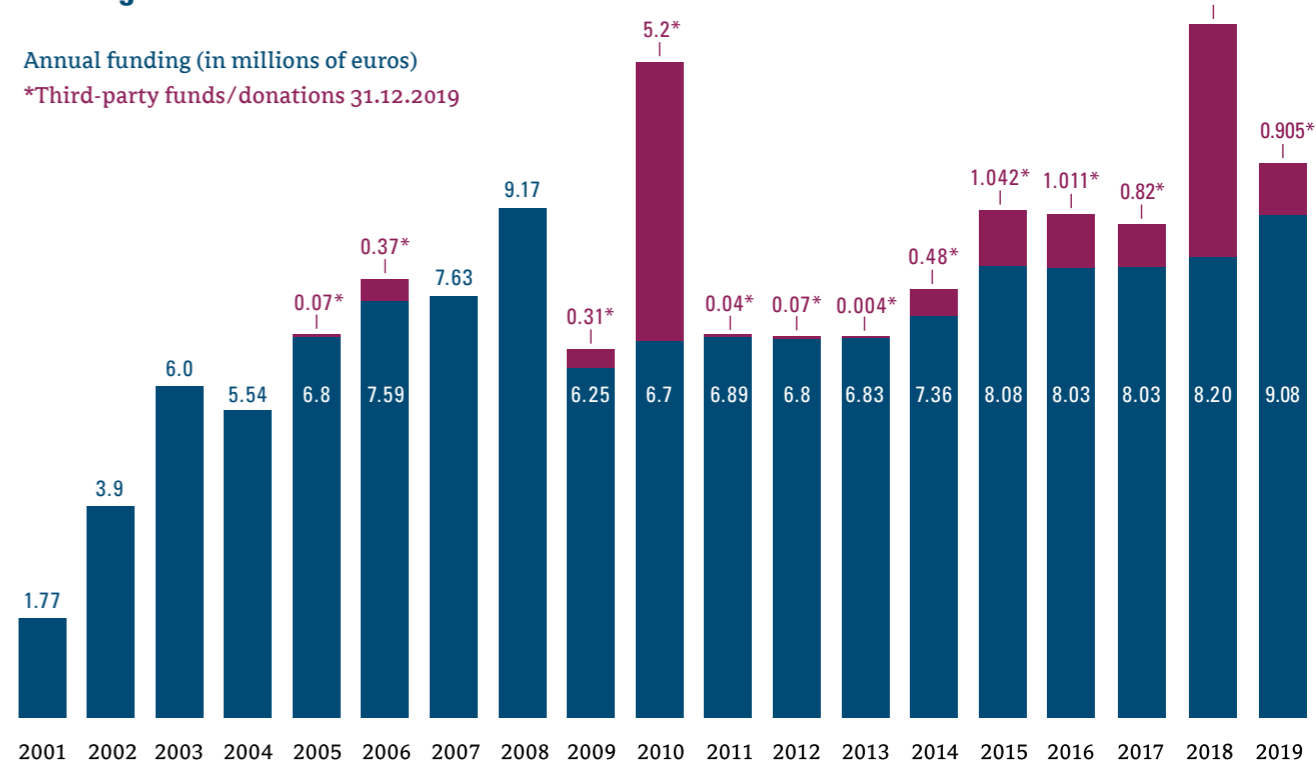
The illustration on page 57 depicts the structure of financial administration at the Foundation. The financial goals, derived from the charter, statutes, and directives from the Board of Trustees, are implemented by the Foundation’s Board of Directors. The Board in turn consults with various committees to assist in decision-making.

The Assets Committee advises the Foundation’s Board of Directors in strategic questions of capital investment, and the Investment Commission is responsible for tactical investment decisions. In addition, specialised consultants support the decision-making process. In daily operations, asset management is handled by two capital management companies with a central deposit. The key part of asset management is handled by specialised investment managers. The investment class “liquidity” is held directly by the Finance department and administered accordingly. The consolidation of the two realms to ascertain performance and other key variables takes place by way of external reporting. This specialised service provider also has the task of managing and running investments. The admissible decision-making framework is stipulated in detail, e.g. for all those involved in the form of investment guidelines, contracts, and internal process descriptions decided by the Board of Directors. The “many eyes” principle and the requirements of corporate governance in the realm of capital investment are implemented across the board. All decision-making processes are recorded in writing and subject to external audits.

## Funding activities

Annual funding (in millions of euros)

\*Third-party funds/donations 31.12.2019



## Facts and figures on the funding activities

Original capital of the Foundation	DM 10.1 billion (approx. EUR 5.2 billion)
Foundation total assets in 2019	564.5 million EUR
Income generated in 2019	18.29 million EUR
Projects supported since the creation of the Foundation in 2000	5,310 projects with EUR 144.5 million
Project funding amount in 2019	309 projects with EUR 10.5 million

## Key figures, 2019

Excerpt from the Balance Sheet (in compliance with the German Commercial Code)

<b>Assets</b>	
Financial assets	460.5 million euros
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Foundation capital	357.9 million euros
Assets maintenance fund	73.2 million euros
Deferred liabilities	2.1 million euros
Result carried forward	8.5 million euros
Annual Surplus	4.8 million euros
<b>Balance</b>	<b>468.0 million euros</b>

### Excerpt, Profit and Loss Account

Foundation management costs	8.43 million euros
Staffing costs	3.40 million euros
Public relations	0.18 million euros
Other administrative costs	1.30 million euros

### Costs of asset management

In 2019, the costs of asset management were 1.3 million euros, consisting of costs for the depository bank, the capital management company, manager fees, costs of consulting and investment reporting and controlling. These costs are paid directly using the Foundation's special fund and calculated against running yields.

### Auditing

The annual balance sheet of the EVZ Foundation is calculated according to the principles of the German Commercial Code by an accounting firm. The Federal Office for Central Services and Unresolved Property Issues (BADV) annually audits the Foundation's calculations, budgeting and business management. Audits comply with the regulations of the German Commercial Code with the assistance of the Federal Central Tax Office. The auditing of budgeting and business management complies with the regulations of the Federal Budget Code. At irregular intervals, audits are performed by the Federal Audit Office.



### Three questions for...

#### Ann-Grit Lehmann, Head of Finance at the EVZ Foundation

Ann-Grit Lehmann has been working in the financial department of the EVZ Foundation since 2002. Until 2007, her main task had been to manage and implement the worldwide compensation payments in the amount of billions. From 2007, she managed the investments of the EVZ Foundation, which currently amount to EUR 560 million, initially as a financial manager, in order to ensure the economic success of the Foundation's international work. In the past, the Foundation's investment policy has won several awards. Since April 2018, Ms. Lehmann has been in charge of the investments in her role as Head of Finance.

You secure the Foundation's economic basis through investment income. How does that work?

**Ann-Grit Lehmann:** The Foundation requires funds of around EUR 13 million per year, which are met by the current investment income. Furthermore, the Foundation is committed to maintaining its real value in the medium term. After the compensation payments were finished, we established a professional and cost-effective investment organization in 2008, in which investments are made globally in various asset classes to spread the risks.

What are today's investment challenges?

**Ann-Grit Lehmann:** The expansionary monetary policy of global central banks since the financial crisis in 2008 has confronted investors with historically low interest rates. Conversely, global equity markets have since seen a generally positive trend, which the EVZ Foundation has benefited from quite nicely in recent years. But the stock market is not a one-way street. The situation on the international capital markets has resulted in increased complexity in terms of structure, including with regard to investment law and regulatory issues. Moreover, the geopolitical environment must increasingly be taken into account in risk management.

Are there any topics you will be addressing in the future?

**Ann-Grit Lehmann:** Since 2009, the Foundation has invested in what are known as illiquid investments through real estate funds. In 2013, we expanded our investment universe to include investments in infrastructure. In concrete terms, we are talking about investments in residential, office, and commercial real estate, for example, as well as wind power and solar systems, toll roads, and airport investments. On the illiquid side, the Foundation faces significant capital reflux. We have therefore developed a new investment strategy in this area, which is now being implemented step by step. However, this issue is enormously complex, which is why we are availing ourselves of the external expertise of a consultant.

Sustainability is currently on everyone's lips. The Foundation implemented a dedicated engagement process as early as 2012, which has been further developed at various levels. I have already implemented the first pilot project. Next year, the processes for the other mandates are set to be standardized.





# Administration and legal counsel



## Administration

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(Leader)  
Judith Ambros  
Martin Bock  
Dirk Gerls  
Olga Kohn  
Manuel Kowalewski  
Ina Krause  
Viktoria Lambrecht  
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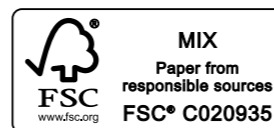
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**Interior:** pp. 2, 12/13, 48, 62/63: Raum 11/Jan Zappner | p. 4 Laurence Chaperon | pp. 5, 6 (top left), 7, 8/9, 49 Raum 11/Amélie Losier | p. 6 (top right) Mikołaj Bujak | pp. 16/17 USC Shoah Foundation/Zute Lightfoot | p. 18 KigA e. V./Boris Bocheinski | p. 19 Stefanie Loos | pp. 20/21 Dagmar Stratenschulte | p. 22 Brama Grodzka/Monika Tarajko | p. 23 (top) Schauspielhaus Köln/Rosa Sadnik | p. 23 (right) cocktailfilms | pp. 24/25 andersartig gedenken on stage | p. 26 Jüdisches Museum Hohenems/Dietmar Walser | p. 27 iRights.Lab | pp. 28/29 Ralph Pache | p. 30 Marco Fieber | p. 31 SocialVisions e. V. | pp. 32/33 EVZ Foundation | p. 34 Gender Z | p. 35 Hildegard Lagrenne Stiftung | p. 36/37 Rafael Herlich | p. 38 (top) Stocznia/Adam Chabiera | p. 38 (bottom), p. 39 EVZ Foundation/Anja Krätler | pp. 40/41 Teplo Opalennym Serdzam/Natalja Burmakina | p. 42 EVZ Foundation/Lesya Kharchenko | p. 43 (top) Mogilewskaja Ewrejskaja Obschina/Aleksandr Litin | p. 43 (right) Shag Navstrechu/Zoja Chruzskaya | pp. 44/45 GHWK Berlin | p. 46 DFB-Stiftung Deutsches Fußballmuseum gGmbH | p. 47 EVZ Foundation/Sophie Ziegler | p. 50 (top) Municipal Museums of the City of Nuremberg/Tim Hufnagl | p. 50 (bottom) German Embassy Kiev | p. 51 (top) private | p. 51 (bottom) Lesya Kharchenko | pp. 52/53, 61 (top) Journal „Die Stiftung“ | p. 61 (right) Barbara Bertolini

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