

Erect an appropriate symbol of remembrance at the Ravensbrück Memorial Site for the lesbian women who were jailed there

Joint proposal for embedding a commemorative sphere on the site of the memorial

The “Autonomous Feminist Women and Lesbians Initiative of Germany and Austria” and the “Alliance of Initiatives in Support of the Commemorative Sphere for the Persecuted and Murdered Lesbian Women and Girls in the Former Women’s Concentration Camp Ravensbrück and Uckermark”, the LesbenRing e.V., the RuT Rad und Tat – Open Initiative of Lesbian Women, the Lesbian and Gay Association in Germany (LSVD) – Federal Association, the Federal Foundation Magnus Hirschfeld, and the Professional Association Homosexuality and History (FHG) have today, on October 1st, 2020, submitted a joint proposal to the Brandenburg Memorials Foundation.

The letter to the foundation reads:

“With this letter we once again appeal to you to erect an appropriate symbol of remembrance at the Ravensbrück Memorial Site for the lesbian women who were jailed there. In its press release of November 11th, 2018, the foundation called on the initiatives who have been advocating for such a symbol to “agree on a joint proposal that takes into account the discussion so far.”

After talks, a joint inscription was decided on. It should be:

*“In remembrance of all lesbian women and girls in the women’s concentration camp Ravensbrück and Uckermark.
They were persecuted, jailed, and also murdered.
You are not forgotten.”*

There are furthermore numerous co-founders, persons, and organisations, both from within and outside of Germany, who support the plan to erect an appropriate symbol of remembrance for the lesbian women in Ravensbrück. The commemorative plaque shall be designed as a sphere made of clay with a 40cm diameter following an idea of the initiative and the artist, who is already active.

We the civil society initiatives and organisations have successfully found a good consensus. It is now time for the foundation to act. We ask the committees of the foundation to reach a decision in the fall of 2020 that allows for the implementation of this joint proposal.