

PRESSE INFORMATION

Facing History



Way of Human Rights (Photo: Uwe Niklas)

Fully aware of the city's role during National Socialism, Nuremberg today tries to live up to the challenge of being a City of Peace and Human Rights. In 1993, Israeli artist, Dani Karavan, designed the Way of Human Rights in front of the Germanische Nationalmuseum. Stone pillars are inscribed with the 30 articles of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights in different languages.

Since 1995, the Nuremberg International Human Rights Award has been presented every two years. The first awardee in 1995 was the Russian Sergej Kovalev. In 2017, the group photographer "Caesar" received the award. "Caesar" is the alias for a former Syrian military photographer, who smuggled more than 50,000 photos out of the country, including 28,000 photos of prisoners in Syrian jails who were killed by torture, execution, disease, malnutrition or other forms of abuse. The jury also recognized the determination and persistence of the French investigative journalist Garance Le Casine, who was able to interview "Caesar" and former prisoners and publish her information in the book "Codename Caesar. In the Heart of the Syrian Death Machine."

The Documentation Centre Party Rally Grounds, opened in November 2001 in the north wing of the NS Congress Hall, constitutes an important contribution to an in- depth analysis of the National Socialist period. Particularly with younger visitors in mind, the permanent exhibition

"Fascination and Terror", and the Study Forum aim at explaining the reasons and repercussions of the Nazis' criminal regime of terror. Since 2006, an information system on the 940 acres of the former party rally grounds has explained the history and repercussions of the Nazi propaganda events staged here.

In November 2010, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Free State of Bavaria and the City of Nuremberg officially opened the Memorial Nuremberg Trials – in the location which was the venue for the International Military Tribunal's trial of the main war criminals of the Nazi regime – the authentic historical location, Court Room 600. This new institution of museen der stadt nürnberg (Nuremberg Municipal Museums) provides new access to the world-famous Court Room 600 in the Nuremberg Palace of Justice in Fürther Straße. The documentation exhibition gives a vivid description of the history leading up to this international trial, of its course and its repercussions-. Here, for the first time, individuals had to answer personally for their crimes against international law. Across an area of 750 square metres, the unique historical trial is illustrated by comprehensive photographic, word, film and sound documents. Three smaller rooms will present examples of the follow-up trials which were also held in Nuremberg, as well as further legal proceedings dealing with the Nazi regime. This section will also describe the development started in Nuremberg which eventually led from the Nuremberg Trials to an International Criminal Court in The Hague. Courtroom 600 is still an active working courtroom used for jury trials. Access is therefore limited. On days without a trial, the courtroom is included in a visit to the museum. When a new addition to the Nuremberg Palace of Justice is completed in 2019, large jury trials will take place there. Courtroom 600 will then become, after renovation, a permanent part of the museum.

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