



Press Release

International art competition for "Decolonial Memorial" starts

UT: 750,000 euros have been awarded for realization. Extensive educational program.

Berlin, 30th of March 2023. Berlin Global Village has today launched the art competition for the "Decolonial Memorial". In an open, anonymous, two-phased and worldwide competition, the realization of a decolonial memorial - an artistic work dealing with decolonization - is announced. The artwork will be placed clearly visible on the forecourt of Berlin Global Village. The competition and the creation of the artwork will be accompanied by an extensive educational program and innovative public relations work on the topic of decolonization.

"German colonialism and its consequences have long been marginalized in Germany. But ongoing interventions from civil society have set a process in motion. Black and migrant organizations played an important part in this," says Michael Küppers-Adebisi, diversity officer at Berlin Global Village. The international art competition is being held to address colonialism, its effects to this day and the continuities also in development cooperation. The artwork will then be permanently installed between or in front of the two buildings of Berlin Global Village.

"As a center of development and migrant-diasporic associations, it is important for us to bring decolonial perspectives more strongly into the perception of society as a whole. The Decolonial Memorial is intended to provide a variety of stimuli and impulses for remembrance policy," says Armin Massing, managing director of Berlin Global Village. Artists from formerly colonized countries are also invited to participate in the competition – for the first time in Germany.

A top-class international jury will decide in a two-phase process which design is to be realized. The jury includes Kristina Leko (Berlin University of the Arts), Prof. Dr. Walter Mignolo (Duke University) and Prof. Dr. Chika Okeke-Agulo (Princeton University). For the realization of the artwork 750.000 Euro are available from the City State of Berlin (SenKultEU). The competition, educational program and public relations work are financed by the federal government (BKM) with a further 750,000 euros. The project is supported by the Berlin Global Village gGmbH in cooperation with the office for art in public space of the Kulturwerk GmbH of the bbk berlin e.V. and a civil society circle of supporters consisting of eight associations.

The application phase runs until 7th of May 2023. The announcement can be found in five languages with all further information under: www.berlin-global-village.de.

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