



Deutscher Bundestag

Programme

75 years of the Basic Law

25 May 2024, 11 – 19 hrs

in the former Plenary Building



75 Jahre
Demokratie
lebendig

Freedom of the person
 Freedom of assembly
 Freedom of association
 Freedom of expression
 Freedom of religion
 Freedom of movement
 Freedom of the family
 Freedom to choose an occupation
 Secrecy of correspondence
 Guarantee of property
 Inviolability of the home
 Human dignity
 Nationality
 academic freedom
 Freedom of religion
 Basic law
 academic freedom
 Equality
 Democracy
 Right of asylum
 freedom of the press
 Right of petition, basic rights for those doing military and alternative service
 artistic freedom
 welfare state, constitutional state
 prohibition of discrimination
 education
 physical integrity
 Socialisation

Additional needs

The building is accessible and suitable for wheelchair users. In order to ensure that the day is accessible to as many people as possible, interpretation into German sign language is offered for certain programme points and interpretation into English is available in the plenary chamber.



Available in sign language

EN

English interpretation available

Security

Your safety is important to us:

- Any items you bring with you (bags and similar items) may be checked at the entrance.
- Avoid bringing larger pieces of luggage.
- You are not permitted to carry any dangerous items.
- Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the building.
- Please carry an ID card or other form of photo identification with you.

Opening hours:
 11:00 – 19:00 hrs,
 last admission 18:30 hrs
 Admission free of charge

Dear citizens of Bonn, dear guests,

A very warm welcome to the Festival of Democracy here in Bonn!

The constitution drafted 75 years ago by the Parliamentary Council – the Basic Law – gave birth to the most stable German democracy which had ever existed. For 50 years, your city was home to Parliament and Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. It was on the banks of the Rhine that our country became a democracy. In Bonn.

Around 4,000 photos on display at the Haus der Geschichte museum here in Bonn take us back in time to the difficult negotiations in the Parliamentary Council. The photographs were shot by Erna Wagner-Hehmke – a woman photographer! In 1949, this was certainly not the norm. Likewise, at the time, it was by no means clear that

we would one day be able to celebrate 75 years of the Basic Law.

Many people today envy us our democracy, our freedoms and our basic rights, which play a major role in our everyday lives – though we are not always aware of it.

We can love whom we want and learn whatever interests us – Article 2, the right to free development of one's personality. We can believe in whatever and whomever we want – Article 4, freedom of faith. Did you take part in a demonstration or attend the meeting of a club or association at the weekend? Then you were enjoying the basic rights to freedom of assembly and association, Articles 8 and 9. And these are just a few examples.

And our Basic Law also served as a beacon for many people who courageously demonstrated against the SED dictatorship. This year, we also

Welcome to 75 years of
the Basic Law in the former
Plenary Building

celebrate the 35th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall!

Germany is fortunate to have the Basic Law. Yet our democracy cannot be taken for granted. It is therefore encouraging to see so many people taking to the streets in support of our democracy.

I am convinced that our democracy is just as vibrant as the 75th anniversary celebrations for the Basic Law. Let us celebrate our democracy!

Best wishes,




A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized letters that appear to be 'B-B-B'.

Bärbel Bas
President of the German Bundestag

Plenary Chamber Forum 2  EN

Take a seat in the plenary chamber and for half an hour step into the shoes of a Member of the Bundestag and join a parliamentary debate. In the Plenary Chamber Forum you join in the political action and vote on a legislative proposal. Just like in Parliament in Berlin you can experience live and in an entertaining way how our parliamentary processes work and what role is played in them by the President of the Bundestag, the parliamentary groups, the government, the opposition and the Bundesrat.

“Information as a weapon – Freedom of the press in times of war and dictatorship” Discussion 2  EN

75 years of the Basic Law also means 75 years of freedom of the press in Germany. Join this interactive discussion format with Ukrainian journalist-in-exile Lina Safronova and Kai Pfundt from the local newspaper *Bonner Generalanzeiger* in cooperation with the “Year of News” campaign by the UseTheNews initiative.

Programme

“How the German Bundestag works” 2 EN**„Menschen und Parlament – 75 Jahre. Demokratie lebendig“**

The Head of the Parliament and Members Directorate presents her book on how Parliament works and looks forward to a discussion with visitors.

“People and Parliament – 75 years. Living democracy”

Watch an exclusive screening in the historic plenary chamber of the film tracing 75 years of German parliamentary history that will be screened every evening throughout the summer in Berlin’s parliamentary district as part of an impressive film and light show.

Making democracy possible - Working in the German Bundestag 4 ★

Our colleagues from the administration are on hand to answer your questions on jobs, training, studies and internships at the German Bundestag.

Haus der Geschichte der Bundesrepublik Deutschland – Germany’s contemporary history museum 5 ★

In cooperation with the German Bundestag, the Haus der Geschichte contemporary history museum presents exhibits relating to the drafting of the Basic Law and the first German Bundestag. In addition, the results of a workshop entitled “Free to be me!, What the Basic Law has to do with me” show how school pupils from Euskirchen and Potsdam view the Basic Law from today’s perspective. You can also contribute your own memories of 75 years of parliamentary history, by taking part in “Your Parliament. Your memories.”

Meet & Greet 6

Face-to-face meetings and discussions with Members of the German Bundestag

“The next speaker is a lady” 6

„Der nächste Redner ist eine Dame“ Engaging biographies of female parliamentary pioneers - as told by notable female writers. Conversation and reading with the author Helene Bukowski in the Berlin Space.

Parliamentary Services 10 11 ★

Ask us all the questions that you’ve always wondered about and take a look behind the scenes. Discover historical parliamentary artefacts such as the printed paper issuing office, the compartments for Members’ voting cards and the phonebooths, by taking a trip to the past and listening to recordings of historical plenary debates. Continue your journey into history and read how the press reported in 1948 on the adoption of the Basic Law. Complete your travels through time with the presentation of the formal attire worn by members of the Plenary Assistance Service from the German Bundestag’s early years to the present day.

Shorthand Writers’ Service 9 ★

Learn how speeches, interventions and applause are documented in shorthand, and take home a Bundestag bag with your name in shorthand script.

Photo station – “Me at the Bundestag” 7

Get a commemorative photo at the speaker’s rostrum in the plenary chamber.

Bundestag Quiz 12

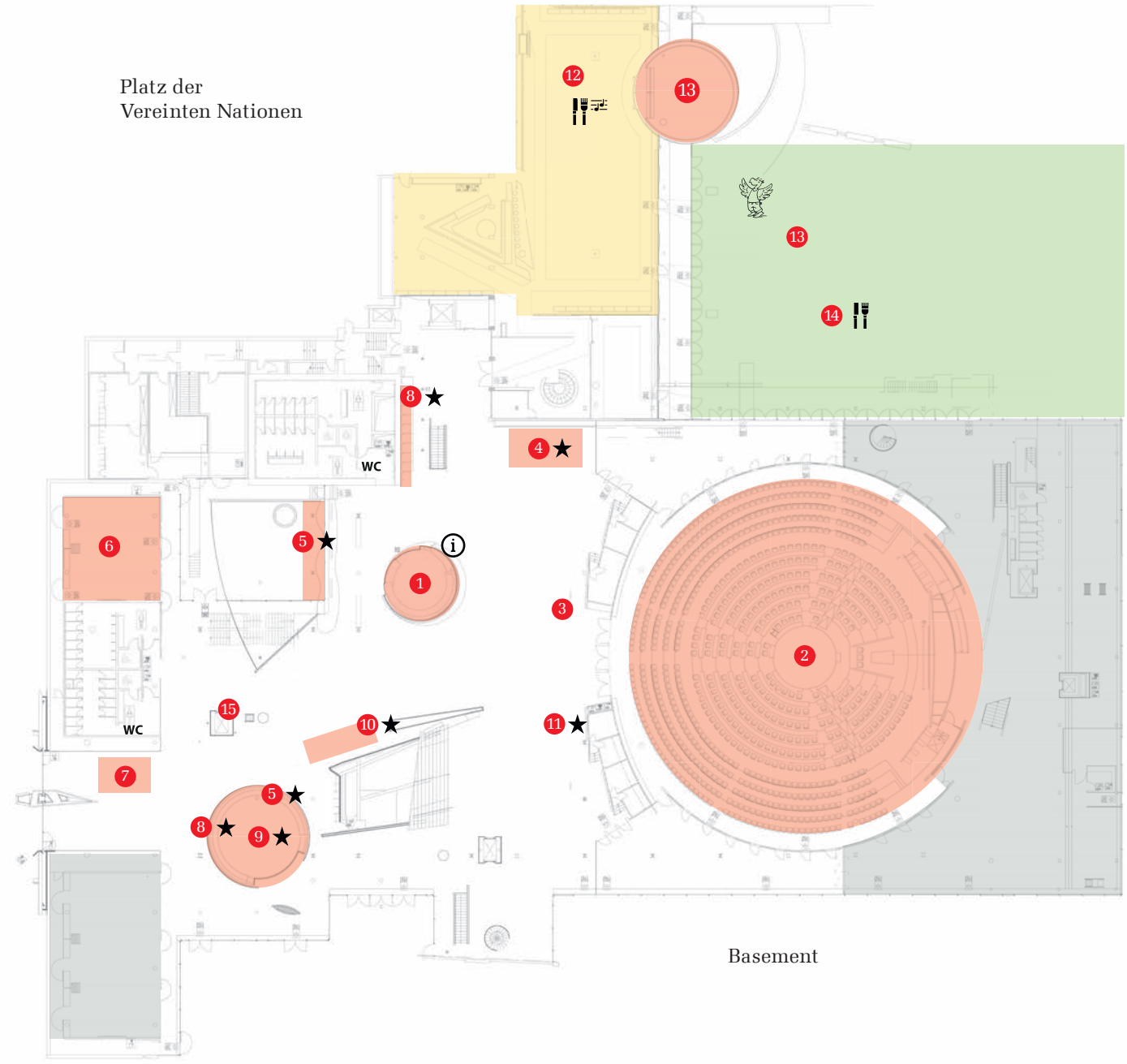
Put your knowledge to the test in our interactive Bundestag Quiz. Fun prizes await old and young alike!

Mobile information unit – Useful information about Parliament, up close

To celebrate the 75th anniversary of Germany’s Basic Law, the mobile information unit is returning to Bonn, where it began its very first journey around the country in 1991.

Platz der Vereinten Nationen

- 1 Information and services in simple German ⓘ
 - 2 Plenary Chamber Forum ⓘ EN
 - 3 Interpreting Service GER-ENG
 - 4 Recruitment ★
 - 5 Haus der Geschichte ★
 - 6 Berlin Space
 - 7 Photo station
 - 8 Making democracy possible ★
 - 9 Shorthand Writers' Service ★
 - 10 Parliamentary Services ★
 - 11 Plenary Assistance Service ★
 - 12 Restaurant with Bundestag quiz ⓘ
 - 13 Children's area ⓘ
 - 14 Garden ⓘ
 - 15 Elevator
- ★ presentation stands



Site plan

Entrance / Exit
First Floor

Basement

Time	Plenary Chamber ² EN	Berlin Space ⁶	Restaurant ¹²
11:00	Plenary Sitting role-playing game	Meet & Greet Face-to-face meetings and discussions with Members of the German Bundestag	Bundestag quiz and live music from Tialda van Slogteren
12:00	Plenary Sitting role-playing game		
13:00	Plenary Sitting role-playing game	“The next speaker is a lady” Book presentation and discussion with author Helene Bukowski and co-author Natalie Weis	Handing over of formal attire with Dr Ruth Lang, the Head of the Parliament and Members Directorate at the German Bundestag, and Dr Manfred Wichmann, museum collection director at the Haus der Geschichte der Bundesrepublik Deutschland Bundestag quiz and live music from Tialda van Slogteren
14:00	“Information as a weapon – Freedom of the press in times of war and dictatorship” Discussion by the “Year of News” initiative with Ukrainian journalist-in-exile Lina Safronova and Kai Pfundt of the Bonner Generalanzeiger	“How the German Bundestag works” Book presentation and discussion with Dr Ruth Lang, the Head of the Parliament and Members Directorate at the German Bundestag	

Time	Plenary Chamber ² EN	Berlin Space ⁶	Restaurant ¹²
15:00	Plenary Sitting role-playing game	“The next speaker is a lady” Book presentation and discussion with author Helene Bukowski	Bundestag quiz and live music from Sascha Salvati
16:00	Plenary Sitting role-playing game	Meet & Greet Face-to-face meetings and discussions with Members of the German Bundestag	
17:00	Afterwards: Questions & Answers Discussion with Dr Ruth Lang, the Head of the Parliament and Members Directorate at the German Bundestag		
18:00	“People and Parliament – 75 years. Living democracy” Film screening every 30 minutes		

In cooperation with:



Further information on the Festival of Democracy:



More information on the 75th anniversary of the German Bundestag:



More information about the book "The next speaker is a lady":



How to get here:
Lines 16, 63, 66 towards Bad Honnef
Stop: Heussallee/Museumsmeile



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Deutscher Bundestag / compactteam

Visit us in Berlin for our Open Day and citizens' festival on 6 and 7 September 2024 and in Schwerin to celebrate the Day of German Unity from 2 – 4 October 2024.

