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Press release

## Munich Documentation Centre for the History of National Socialism

Since 1 May 2015 Munich features a central place of remembrance and learning that documents the crimes of the Nazi dictatorship and critically discuss' their causes, characteristics and ramifications to the present day. Where the Nazi Party was founded, Munich is connected with the rise of National Socialism like no other German city. The former "Capital of the Movement" played a leading role in establishing the dictatorship and was the centre of the Party apparatus.

The NS-Dokumentationszentrum is located on the grounds formerly occupied by the "Brown House", the headquarters of the National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP). The site once symbolised the rise of the Party and its totalitarian grip on power – and it shall now be given a new purpose. The white cube represents a counterpoint to the still existing Party buildings in its vicinity and its architectural design allows a diverse array of visual connections to be made. A vibrant and lively place of information and discussion, the documentation centre is based on an exhibition and education concept prioritising learning and understanding at an authentic historical site. "What has this got to do with me? Why is this still a concern today?" are the initial questions the documentation poses the visitors.

A permanent exhibition documents the history of National Socialism in Munich, the specific role the city played in the dictatorship's terror system and the difficulties faced in dealing with this past since 1945. The exhibition not only includes photographs, documents and texts but also uses film material and media stations. It addresses a broad public and is bilingual (German and English). A learning centre with interactive media tables, research stations, a library and seminar rooms provides visitors with the opportunity to delve into themes and topics in greater detail. There are also temporary exhibitions devoted to special themes, a varied event programme and education services catering to the needs of specific groups, featuring tours, seminars, talks with contemporary witnesses, conferences, lectures and much more.

Engaged Munich citizens launched the initiative for the NS-Dokumentationszentrum. The building costs are met by the City of Munich, the Freistaat Bayern and the Federal Government. The Freistaat permitted building on the site. The City of Munich bears the operating costs.

Dr. Kirstin Frieden  
Public Relations  
Phone +49 89 233-67013  
Fax +49 89 233-67005  
kirstin.frieden@muenchen.de  
nsdoku@muenchen.de  
[www.ns-dokuzentrum-muenchen.de](http://www.ns-dokuzentrum-muenchen.de)



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