

Dr Tobias Pfeifer-Helke and Dr Stefan Körner elected as new spokespersons of the Conference of National Cultural Institutions (KNK)

Gotha, 22 October 2024

At its 2024 general assembly, the Conference of National Cultural Institutions (KNK) unanimously elected new spokespersons for the upcoming term of office: Dr Tobias Pfeifer-Helke, director of the Friedenstein Stiftung Gotha and Dr Stefan Körner, chairman of the Prince-Pückler-Museum Park and Palace Branitz Foundation. They replace the previous KNK spokespersons Dr Ulrike Lorenz, president of the Klassik Stiftung Weimar and Prof Dr Christoph Martin Vogtherr, general director of the Prussian Palaces and Gardens Foundation Berlin-Brandenburg.

Dr Tobias Pfeifer-Helke and Dr Stefan Körner wish to continue the process of strategic reorientation at the KNK, which began in 2021 with the aim of enhancing the visibility of the innovative practical impulses being developed in the “cultural laboratory” of eastern Germany. The KNK members, comprised of museums, collections, historic parks and gardens, are working together to utilise the credibility and impact of these commemorative sites in order to depict, critically examine and advance the modern transformation of society in a multifaceted and accessible manner. In view of current political developments and in times of polarisation, fearmongering and overheated public debate, the Conference of National Cultural Institutions can serve as a key driver of new ideas for museums and culture in all of Germany.

The members are collaborating on a joint project, slated for completion in 2026, to develop methodical competence and exemplary project management tools for museums and commemorative sites to better convey nationally significant history and traditions for contemporary audiences.

The KNK is an interest group of equal partners, comprised of 24 nationally significant cultural institutions of varying size and orientation in the eastern German states. It serves as a platform for communicating shared interests and objectives. Its strength lies in the heterogeneity of its participating member institutions. The KNK is funded by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media.

Press information:
Konferenz Nationaler Kultureinrichtungen /
Conference of National Cultural Institutions (KNK)

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