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Trial test of the work of art “Three Colors” in front of the state parliament

<https://www.welt.de/regionales/rheinland-pfalz-saarland/article221657994/Probehissen-des-Kunstwerks-Drei-Farben-vor-dem-Landtag.html>



The renovated state parliament of Rhineland-Palatinate should be ready for occupancy next year. Now it has been “test hoisted”, panels of fabric in the colors black, red and gold.

The Germany flag divided into three parts: This is what Michael Sailstorfer's work of art looks like for the renewed state parliament of Rhineland-Palatinate. The six-meter-high and three-meter-wide strips of fabric in black, red and gold were hung in a brass frame on Thursday in a first sample. At the “trial meeting”, State Parliament President Hendrik Hering (SPD) said that for him the work of art symbolized the fight for democracy. It “shows how ephemeral democracy can be if we don't commit ourselves to it every day, defend democratic values and fill them with life again and again”. Hering added: “Then the colors of the flag and democracy fade.”

The frames for the flags are about ten meters high. “Below is air,” said the artist of the German press agency. “The idea of these gates or sculptures is that you can go through below.”

This fulfills the wish to create a “contact point for our more than 30,000 visitors a year” with the work of art, said Hering. Looking at it should stimulate thinking about the values of democracy. The work of art “Three Colors” is based on the historic Hambach flag, the original of which will be returned to the state parliament next year. “For me, this flag and these colors symbolize the inestimable values and advantages of our parliamentary democracy such as peace, freedom, prosperity, humanity and solidarity.” In terms of urban planning, the work of art also fits very harmoniously into the location in front of the new Landtag annex and on Platz der Mainzer Republik.

The artist speaks of the “prototype of the tricolor” with a view to the French national colors. “It was also about creating a work of art that has a signal effect, is perceived and increases the quality of stay,” explained Sailstorfer.

The flag refers to the surrounding architecture and urban planning elements. One gate is oriented towards the state parliament balcony, the second towards the newly built state parliament restaurant and the third towards the Electoral Palace opposite.

About the flag fabric used, Sailstorfer says: "It is important to me that it has a certain transparency and lightness and that it shines through." It's also about durability. "That it is hard-wearing and durable in all weather conditions." So that the colors of democracy don't fade.

The state parliament wants to move into the historic Deutschhaus am Rhein again at the end of March 2021. Around two months after the state elections on March 14, the constituent session on May 18 is to be the first plenary session in the fundamentally renovated building - the last parliament met there in December 2015. The costs for those necessary for technical reasons and due to fire protection requirements Renovation amounts to around 67 million euros.