

Ausstellungen Begegnungen Studienzentrum

May 4, 2023

Inauguration of the monument to Spanish resistance fighters and members of the International Brigades

Music Canción by Manuel de Falla

Greeting Prof. Dr. Oliver von Wrochem

Director of the Foundation of Hamburg Memorials and Learning Cen-

tres

Welcome Javier Dago Elorza

General Consul of Spain Hamburg

Music Asturiana by Manuel de Falla

Speech Rita Camblor Rodríguez

Minister of State of the Principality of Asturias

Music Nana by Manuel de Falla

Welcome Jean-Michel Gaussot

Vice President of the Amicale Internationale KZ Neuengamme

Welcome Barbara Brix

Member of the board of the Friends of the Freundeskreis der KZ-

Gedenkstätte Neuengamme

Music Canto a la libertad by José Antonio Labordeta

Speech Balbina Rebollar

President of the Spanish Amical de Neuengamme

Musical accompaniment by Anna Senda-Pimentel (Soprano) and Pablo Villafuerte (Guitar)

Oliver von Wrochem

Dear Consul General Javier Dago Elorza,

dear Minister of State of the Government of Asturias, Rita Camblor Rodríguez,
dear Cultural Attaché of the Spanish Embassy, Juan Manuel Vilaplana,
dear President of the Amical de Neuengamme from Spain, Balbina Rebollar,
dear Vice President of the Amicale Internationale KZ Neuengamme, Jean-Michel Gaussot,
dear relatives of former prisoners of the Neuengamme concentration camp,
dear friends,

Today we are celebrating the opening of the monument to the Spanish resistance fighters and members of the International Brigades. I would like to welcome you all warmly on behalf of the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial.

Many of you visited us for the first time last year, and we commemorated the Spanish victims of Neuengamme on this site. Today our great desire to create a lasting memorial to these victims has become a reality.

The monument is an important addition to the memorial grove at the Neuengamme Memorial, where individual groups of victims from many different countries are honoured. Anyone who reads the dedication on this monument and the others will realize how diverse the reasons for their persecution were, as were the journeys of the people who were deported to the Neuengamme concentration camp, many of whom were murdered here.

The monument we are dedicating today honours a group that the very young Spanish Amical has made it a special priority to commemorate. We are very pleased that the Amical is also participating in the Foundation Advisory Board and the Future of Remembrance Forum, as well as the annual ceremonies to commemorate the liberation of the Neuengamme concentration camp and its satellite camps.

Special thanks are due once again to my colleague, Dr Alexandre Froidevaux, for his tireless commitment to raising awareness of the fate of Spanish victims in the work of the Memorial. He closely supported the process of creating this monument in the grounds of the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial.

Representatives of the Spanish state supported the realization of this monument in multiple

stages, and generous support was additionally provided by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in

Northern Germany and the Friends of the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial.

Today we are opening an impressive commemorative monument designed by the artist Serge

Castillo.

It is very important to the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial and its employees

that the descendants of former concentration camp prisoners around the world help to keep

this memory alive and play a part in shaping our Memorial and generating positive impetus

for our coexistence today.

In light of the developments in Europe, the continued rise of illiberal right-wing movements

and the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, it is important for us to stand up together

everywhere against the enemies of democracy. Remembering historical injustices is an im-

portant contribution to this.

I would therefore like to combine this commemoration of the Spanish victims of Neuengamme

with the remembrance of all those who continue to be victims of war and crimes under inter-

national law worldwide.

Thank you for your attention!

Translation / Übersetzung: Jessica Spengler

Javier Dago Elorza

Dear Prof. von Wrochem, dear Ms Camblor, dear Ms Brix, and dear Ms Rebollar, Dear Guests,

It is a pleasure and an honour for me as representative of the Spanish government to attend the official inauguration of the memorial to the victims of the Spanish Civil War and to the members of the International Brigades who suffered the barbarity of the Nazi regime at Neuengamme Concentration Camp.

Spain stayed out of the conflicts of the Second World War, both because of its determination not to take part in the war, but also because of its peripheral location, geographically far removed from the epicentre of the conflict. This does not mean that Spaniards did not suffer the most horrific repercussions of the war, in particular the Republican exiles who fled Spain in 1939 in the wake of Franco's victory.

After experiencing three years of war, many exiles did not hesitate to serve in the ranks of the French army, until that army too was defeated by the Nazis in 1940. They were subsequently taken prisoner and deported to concentration camps between August 1940 and the end of 1941. A second group of Spanish exiles who joined the *Résistance* were arrested by the French police and the Gestapo during the war and deported to the camps in 1942, 1943 and 1944. Not all deportees were resistance fighters, however. There is indeed one particularly serious exception that does not fall into either one of these two groups, namely the so-called "Convoy 927". It consisted of civilians – men, women and children – who were held at the 'Les Alliers' camp near the French town of Angoulême.

Documents show that the number of Spaniards held prisoner in Nazi concentration camps was 9,328, of whom 5,185 died, 3,809 survived and 334 are considered missing. The data corresponds to a death rate of 59%.

As for Neuengamme Concentration Camp, it is assumed that approximately 750 Spaniards were interned here. However, the work on identifying them is still ongoing. Certainly, they were not one of the most numerous national groups, but their suffering deserves the remembrance and reverence afforded by the memorial we are now inaugurating.

Among those present here today are relatives of some of the prisoners of this camp. They have kept alive the memory of their parents' or grandparents' suffering during the war and

have shown tremendous commitment to preserving the memory of what happened here in

the 1940s. Yet they too will leave us in the course of time, and then it will be this memorial

that will convey to future visitors the memory of the events that occurred here as well as the

memory of the 700 Spaniards who were victims of Nazism and the cruelty of that era.

I would also like to commemorate the volunteers of the International Brigades, who fought in

the Spanish Civil War in defence of the legitimate government of the Republic and to whom

this monument is also dedicated. Many of these Interbrigadists were Germans. They too be-

came victims of Nazi repression after the Spanish war and, as opponents of the regime, were

interned in camps such as Neuengamme.

As I mentioned earlier, Spain did not participate directly in the Second World War, and we do

not have the same perception of the war and the same interest in it as the countries that were

directly involved. It has meant that, among Spain's population, there is a striking ignorance

about the atrocities suffered in concentration camps by Spaniards, most of them Republican

exiles.

This monument, erected with the financial support of Spain's public agencies, represents an

official recognition on the part of the Spanish authorities of the suffering enduring by a num-

ber of Spanish citizens who were unable at the time to rely on their country's help. I am con-

fident it will represent yet another step towards greater official and social recognition of the

lives of the Spanish citizens who fell victim to National Socialism.

Thank you!

Translation / Übersetzung: Stephen Grynwasser

Rita Camblor Rodríguez

Professor Dr Oliver von Wrochem, Director of the Foundation of Hamburg Memorials and Learning Centres,

Mr Jean-Michel Gaussot, Vice President of the Amicale Internationale KZ Neuengamme,

Ms Barbara Brix, Member of the Board of the Friends of Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial,

Ms Balbina Rebollar, President of Spain's Amical de Neuengamme, daughter of Evaristo Rebollar, Spanish seaman, Prisoner No. 32042 at Neuengamme Concentration Camp, defender of the Spanish Republic, antifascist fighter, native of Tazones, and our compatriot...

Representatives of the Spanish State, members of the Amical, relatives of the prisoners held captive in the concentration camps... I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all those present for taking part in this commemorative event, dedicated to reverence, memory, respect, solidarity, admiration, remembrance, and dignity.

I am attending this event accompanied by the Director General for Democratic Remembrance. I do so on behalf of the government of the Principality of Asturias, a peripheral region in northern Spain with a population of just under one million. It is a region of tranquil valleys and hills, but also rugged coastlines and mountains. A region with an illustrious past in industry and mining, with a vibrant fishing sector now reinventing itself daily on the mainstays of training and talent, with first-class public services and high-quality education aimed at offsetting as much as possible the decline of those mining and industrial sectors.

If I am telling you this, it is because that past has much to do with what unites us here today. It was in the mining and industrial region of Asturias that strong political and social thinking emerged during the first decades of last century, one that opposed fascism and remained loyal to the Republic, a government elected by the people.

In my homeland, the homeland of Balbina, of Evaristo and of many of the women and men present here, we suffered dreadfully from the repercussions of the military uprising against the established power and the consequences of a harsh and bloody repression that left innumerable people dead, mass graves, concentration camps, hatred, misery and revenge throughout the land.

Only in such a context is it possible to explain that of the 9,300 Spaniards deported to Nazi concentration camps during the Second World War, at least 187 were from Asturias. Eleven of them, like Balbina's father, were interned in this concentration camp:

Francisco Cristobal Pérez, Evaristo Rendueles Sala, Benjamín Álvarez Carcedo, Alfredo Rotell Morán, Rafael González Costales, Luis Valdés, Henri Sansón, Salvador Viñas Muñiz, José Antonio Mesa Pérez, Ángel Martínez Regina, Evaristo Rebollar...

Two thirds of the 9,300 deported compatriots from Spain did not survive. Their lives ended in trenches and in crematoria; they were machine-gunned at barbed wire fences, murdered in quarries, and died starving, completely and utterly exhausted.

They died with a number tattooed on their arm or sewn onto their striped prisoner's clothing. Some died stateless; many, as was the case here in Neuengamme, wearing the red triangle of the political prisoner, with a black 'S' or an 'SP' for 'Spain'. But in each and every case, they were treated as aliens by their country's illegitimate government, which allowed – if not encouraged – them to be used as slave labourers, loaded onto trains, sent on death marches, and herded into the crematoria.

What horrors must have shaken Asturias, Spain and Europe? What drastic events would cause these men from the countryside, from small towns – simple workers who in their entire lives would never have considered travelling further afield than a few miles from their homes – to end up dying thousands of miles from their homeland and their families? Such horror has a name: it is called fascism. These men died because they remained loyal to the values of democracy and freedom – first in their own country, then later in France.

Thank you, Balbina, for your commitment! We are also grateful to organisations such as the Amical and to the women and men like you who, in co-operation with progressive governments, ensure that these people receive the recognition and the honour they deserve.

I should say that not many of those who remained in Asturias to fight fascism experienced a better fate either. Last November, I was in a place known as Parasimón, in the middle of a pine forest on a mountainside in Asturias. I was there for an exhumation during which the human remains were uncovered of people murdered in 1937, 86 years ago, during the repression imposed under the Franco regime. There are around 400 mass graves in Asturias with the remains of at least 650 people who were killed during the civil war and the ensuing period of repression.

In mid-1937, 50,000 Asturians left their homeland by sea. Some did so to continue their fight against Franco's troops. Most were fleeing the repression of the insurgent troops advancing from the east towards the central area of Asturias, the last stronghold of the Republic in northern Spain.

Only some of these refugees would return to the region after the war. All the others had either fallen on the battlefield, served sentences in prisons or in Franco's concentration camps, or gone into exile.

For all these reasons, and in order to commemorate all these people, the government of the Principality of Asturias could not be absent from an event such as this, where democracy is writ large. By the same token, we would like to apologise for the delay in making these amends to those who did not give up, namely their family members and their friends...

This is about not allowing us to forget. It is about keeping alive the memory of the victims, of the anti-fascist fighters, of the stateless, of the 'Red Spaniards'; it is about acknowledging, making reparations, paying tribute to them, and highlighting their values. Paying tribute to their work is an essential ethical, moral and democratic duty, for history cannot be written from the perspective of forgetting and silence.

The opposite of forgetting is remembering, acknowledging each and every one of them, each individual person, in their capacity as unique and discrete human beings.

'Remembrance – for what?' some people ask us. Remembrance, Ladies and Gentlemen, so we can explain that democracy and freedom are not irreversible achievements; rather, they are something well worth defending, something that has to be built and then strengthened day after day with respect, tolerance, solidarity and commitment in order to banish totalitarianism. A scourge that is not merely a threat from the past but is still present today throughout the world, and from which even the most advanced societies in terms of the respect for human life and human rights cannot feel liberated. A remembrance that must rest on the firm foundations of truth, justice, reparation and the guarantee that such events must never again be allowed to reoccur.

Legends need heroes, but history is written with the lives of exemplary anonymous people, real women and men who are role models and stand out through their dedication to others. Like those we honour here today, Asturians, Spaniards, all those who fought against fascism

first in Spain and then beyond our borders, ultimately losing their lives in the concentration

camps of Hitler's Germany.

That is the remembrance to which we aspire. To acknowledge and recognise these individuals,

to cherish them, to remember them in order to give them and their families their honour back

- an honour which, for us, they never lost - and to be able to look their descendants in the

eye and say to them: 'Because we remember them, they will never die. Their struggle and

their example have been worthwhile.'

In the face of the reckonings, the xenophobia, the racism, the thirst for revenge, the exploita-

tion of human beings, the misery, delays, humiliation, exclusion, invisibility, retributions, mur-

ders, abuse, indignity, and persecution... Against all of this, truth and remembrance.

Upholding the memory of free human beings.

Thank you!

Translation / Übersetzung: Stephen Grynwasser

Jean-Michel Gaussot

Mr. Dago Elorza, Consul General of Spain,

Mrs. Camblor Rodríguez, Minister of State of the Government of Asturias,

Mr. Juan Manuel Vilaplana, Cultural Attaché of the Spanish Embassy,

Mr. Oliver von Wrochem, Director of the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial,

today I have the honor to speak to you on behalf of the members of Amicale Internationale

Mrs. Balbina Rebollar, President of the Spanish Amical de Neuengamme,

dear friends,

KZ Neuengamme. A couple of years ago we were very happy to hear the great news that now the former deportees from Spain to Neuengamme and their Families also have their own association that represents them and preserves and upholds the memory of the victims from their country. Obviously their application to the Amicale Internationale was received with great joy and was unanimously accepted without hesitation by all members and associations. The Amicale International consisted of associations from Germany, Belgium, Denmark, France, the Netherlands and Poland. Now, with the addition of representatives from Spain, the Amicale Internationale unites associations from seven European countries and thus has better means to fulfill its vital mission of remembrance. It is a great pleasure to work with our colleagues and friends from Spain. You make an outstanding contribution to our common task. Each one of us has a parent, grandparent or other family member that suffered or died in the main camp or in a satellite camp of Neuengamme, like my father. I never got the chance to know him. We all share this dramatic experience. Let it encourage us to not only look to the past together but also to the future, that the horrors of the Second World War may never repeat themselves.

Today, the ambitious project of the Spanish Amical and its president has been put into practice: the establishment of a monument here on the site of the former Neuengamme Concentration Camp, in honor of the Spanish deportees and the tens of thousands of young people from 53 countries who fought alongside the Spanish Republicans in the terrible civil war that fascist generals unleashed in 1936. As we all know, this civil war led to the bloodthirsty and disastrous dictatorship that ended only after the death of the dictator in 1975. The monument we inau-

gurate today will help us not to forget the people of Spain who died in Mauthausen, Neu-

engamme or other Concentrations Camps. Most of them lost their lives because of their role

in the Resistance movement in France during the Nazi-occupation. We also won't forget all

those members of the International Brigades who perished on Spanish soil.

It is important that we remember those brave men and women who risked their lives for free-

dom, solidarity and brotherhood many decades ago. Especially nowadays, considering the cur-

rent international situation, where the same values that inspired these former freedom fight-

ers and deportees are still under serious attack. Let their Stories encourage us during these

dangerous times and in this indispensable struggle for democracy, freedom and for a more

peaceful and just world.

Thank you for your attention!

Translation / Übersetzung: Miriam Hill

Barbara Brix

Dear friends of the Amical de Neuengamme,

dear guests,

I would like to welcome you on behalf of the Friends of the Neuengamme Concentration Camp

Memorial.

We are very pleased and feel very honoured to be able to attend this important ceremony

with you today and provide financial support for the creation of this monument.

This was also a lovely opportunity for us to cooperate with the Working Group for Ecclesiasti-

cal Memorial Work of the Protestant Church in Hamburg and Lübeck.

We hope that our support is expressed not only financially, but also morally and politically.

A few weeks ago I was at the Montjuïc Cemetery in Barcelona. Lluís Companys, the former

president of the Catalan Republic, was held prisoner in the fortress there and executed in

October 1940. After his trial before a military court, Franco's police threw his body into a mass

grave located in a pit at the foot of the hill.

Today there is a stone there that commemorates his fate, the fate shared by many other Span-

iards who were persecuted under the Franco regime. There are additional memorial stones

on the site of the pit for other key figures from the Spanish Republic, as well as for some

members of the International Brigades from various countries.

This visit was an important and solemn moment for me. In this section of the cemetery, you

can sense the spirit of these women and men who were prepared to sacrifice their youth and

their lives for a political ideal – just as your family members fought for their ideals and for

democratic values – an attitude that is rare these days, but an attitude that could serve an

example for all of us in the fight against all the forms of right-wing extremism that have arisen

in all of our countries in recent years.

Translation / Übersetzung: Jessica Spengler

Balbina Rebollar

Dear representatives of the Spanish state,

Vice President of the Amicale Internationale de Neuengamme,

Director of the Neuengamme Memorial,

representative of the Friends of the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial, dear family and friends,

It is an honour and a privilege for me and for all members of the Amical de Neuengamme from Spain to be able to dedicate this monument, with which we want to commemorate and honour the Spanish Republicans and International Brigadists who fought together right from the start against the military coup in the Spanish Civil War of 1936-1939. It is a well-known fact that later on, during the Second World War, many of them also actively fought against the occupation of France by the National Socialists, knowing full well what was at stake for them when they picked up their weapons to oppose the Third Reich in a Europe subjugated under Hitler's totalitarianism.

As a consequence, especially after they had been declared stateless by the Franco regime, many of our fellow citizens and their comrades in the Brigades were viewed by the German authorities and their French collaborators as enemies of National Socialism, and they were deported to French or German concentration camps, like the one here in Neuengamme.

Almost as soon as it was founded in 2020, our young Amical strove to erect a monument that would honour the memory of our relatives who were interned in Neuengamme or one of its many satellite camps, as well as that of the International Brigadists who were their unconditional companions in the fight against Franco.

The reason for building this monument is that our Amical would like to view it as a first milestone on a path towards reviving the memory of these two groups and bringing an end to the
oblivion to which they were subjected for so many years. No one in Spain knew of the existence of the Neuengamme camp, and it is fair to say that no one in Hamburg knew there were
Spaniards here either. It is necessary to remember what happened here so that we can start
to make amends and achieve justice for the people who suffered so much. Forgetting them
would be like a second death for them, the worst of all because, from that point on, social
amnesia would bring about their ultimate demise.

This monument is very important to many families, especially those who lost their loved ones and searched for them for many years without ever learning their terrible fate. Even today there are people who do not know where the remains of their family members are – at the bottom of the sea, in a ditch along the road, in a mass grave or in an anonymous burial site. Secondly, this monument is particularly relevant to the descendants of those who survived the atrocities of two wars – the Spanish Civil War and the Second World War – but then, once they were home again, suffered from the physical and psychological effects of the terror and torture to which they had been subjected by the SS in this concentration camp.

I want to recount the story of these men and women, the anti-fascist fighters who started their life journey as resistance fighters in Spain, when they rose up against the coup d'état carried out by a few fascist generals with the support of foreign powers, namely, totalitarian governments such as Italy and Germany. The aim of the military coup was to topple the government of the legally constituted Spanish Republic. This was a dress rehearsal for what was yet to come in Europe through the invasion of various countries and the start of the Second World War.

The Spanish Republicans were given various denigrating names by the fascists. In Franco's Spain they were the 'Reds', in Petain's collaborationist France they were the 'Undesirables' and in Hitler's Germany they were the 'Red Spaniards'.

They became victims of Franco's dictatorship and had to flee from Spain and leave behind their families, most of whom were subjected to terrible retaliatory measures by the dictator. Many of those who fled to France were first persecuted by Petain's gendarmes and later taken to French internment camps and finally handed over to the Nazis, who transported them under inhumane conditions on 'death trains' and imprisoned them in the Neuengamme concentration camp, which was run by the SS.

After all they had suffered, they felt tremendous joy when they were liberated. They believed that Spain had also been freed from the clutches of the Franco regime, but that was not the case, because Franco ruled Spain for another 30 years, until his death in 1975. Their only escape was exile. It would be a long time before they could return home. All of this pain, all of the scars continue to weigh heavily on the souls of their descendants.

Next, I want to briefly point out a few special features of the monument we are dedicating at this ceremony.

At first glance, the apparent aesthetic simplicity of the monument might lead us to believe in a simple symbolic interpretation: This monument is a piece of wall with a memorial plaque. However, we would venture to predict that the complexity of the answer to the simple question of what this monument means depends largely on the emotional weight of the personal experiences connected with close family members who suffered the misery of this concentration camp.

The high brick wall of our monument recalls the central building at the Neuengamme concentration camp: its brickworks.

The metal plaque we fixed to the brick wall is a kind of magic window that not only allows us to see through the wall, but also — and this is where its 'magic' comes from — has the power to make the scenes of horror and cruelty fade, while the episodes of friendship and affection are emphasised. The scenes relating to activities associated with extermination through work take up little space and are relegated to the margins of the plaque, such as the strenuous act of pushing the carts on the right, the sinister building with the brick kilns in the centre, and the threatening figure of the guard dog peering out from the left.

The scenes expressing compassion and altruism, by contrast, are highlighted and emphasised on our plaque, such as the scene of comradeship where a group of prisoners helps their injured companion and, above all, the main scene on the memorial plaque, which very clearly expresses the SOLIDARITY and FRATERNITY of the prisoners: a tender embrace which can easily be interpreted as a gesture which aims to offer at least a little reassurance to a comrade who is obviously going through a hard time — as seen in his facial expression, which exudes endless sadness and suffering. We can imagine that one of the people in this image is a Spanish Republican and the other an International Brigadist. Which one is offering reassurance and which one is suffering plays no role here.

Solidarity and fraternity amongst the prisoners are the values we want to highlight the most with this monument. Solidarity like that shown by the many young people who came together from all four corners of the world when they realized the danger arising from the triumphal march of fascism in Spain. It was for this reason that these generous and idealistic young people formed what were known as the International Brigades, which stood alongside the Republic and the Spanish people right from the start of the Spanish Civil War. In many cases, their

solidarity went beyond their participation in the Spanish Civil War, because many of the International Brigadists who managed to survive the Spanish hecatomb later crossed the Pyrenees and joined their Spanish comrades fighting with the Resistance in France.

To end my speech, I would like to tell a story in which Spanish prisoners play the main role and serve as an example of the fraternity that existed between them. This moving story was told to us by our family members as an example of how, in the midst of the suffering and cruelty they experienced, they mutually helped each other in the camp and sometimes even risked their lives to do so. This is what happened:

A very sick young prisoner was lying in one of the huts. He had a high fever and was very weak. Two of his companions, the Muñoz brothers, who were carpenters who had to work for the SS, passed by the kitchen each day, where they saw the fat, sleek cat that belonged to the SS cook; it always had milk in its bowl, while their young comrade was so extremely weak that he could not fight off his illness and was dying. His friends, the carpenters, stole the milk from the cat's bowl and other provisions, such as bread and potato peels, multiple times. Thanks to their help, the health of their fellow countryman improved and he was able to survive. If the carpenters had been caught, they would have been sentenced to death. The families of these men know each other and are founding members of the Spanish Amical de Neuengamme. To be precise, I am the daughter of that sick young man who was able to survive with the help of the brave brothers Muñoz Aznar by drinking the milk left behind by a well-fed cat.

Other values that were always held by the deportees before and after the liberation are the democratic values of harmony, community, political pluralism, defence of human rights, a culture of peace, and equality between men and women.

These are the same values that support our Amical and that we want to preserve in the face of the new threats emerging in Spain and Europe – threats that once again want to harm our democracies and the hard-earned social achievements of the second half of the 20th century that now make up our way of life.

We must look to the future, and as guardians of the information that has been passed down to us directly from our family members and close friends, we have the moral obligation to talk about the events that took place during that catastrophic period in our history and to ensure that they are 'never again' repeated.

On behalf of the Amical de Neuengamme from Spain, I would like to express our gratitude:

To the artist and sculptor Serge Castillo for these beautiful bronze plaques and for designing the monument, which he created selflessly and with so much affection in memory of his father, Francisco Castillo Guerrero, and all of his comrades who were deported with him to Neuengamme.

To the Spanish Embassy in Berlin and the Spanish Consulate in Hamburg for their commitment and resolute support which helped to make this monument a reality.

To the Secretariat for Democratic Memory and the Lutheran Church of Northern Germany for their respective important financial contributions to the construction of this monument.

To the Friends of the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial, through Barbara Brix, for their dedication and great interest in supporting us.

To the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial, through Dr Alexandre Froidevaux, for the continuous and wonderful support.

To the Amicale Internationale for their support.

And thank you to everyone here today for participating in the dedication of this place of remembrance that is so important to our Amical!

Translation / Übersetzung: Jessica Spengler