

## PRESS RELEASE

Berlin, 19<sup>th</sup> of April 2018

## Planning for the street festival “Day of German Unity Berlin 2018”: A celebration by many—for everyone!

From the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2018, Berlin will host the celebration for the **Day of German Unity** as the culmination of its Bundesrat (Federal Council) Presidency. Around one million visitors are expected at the street festival, which will be held over three days around the Reichstag and the Brandenburg Gate. Headlined by the motto “**NUR MIT EUCH**” (**Only with You**), the public celebration emphasises our democracy that lives from participation and intervention. Even beyond the celebration, the motto stands for a sustainable model for the future, signifying and celebrating cohesion, tolerance and freedom:

*“As the German state hosting the celebration this year, we want to take the opportunity to look back on everything we have achieved in 28 years of German unity.” says*

**Michael Müller, President of the German Bundesrat and Governing Mayor of Berlin.**

And further:

*“But we also want to look to the present and beyond. For us, the motto ‘Only With You’ means ‘together we can accomplish great things.’ Even the highest, most formidable walls can be overcome when people come together, encourage one another and join forces to fight for something. In this sense, ‘Only With You’ is also a message for the present and the future. It means progress cannot be made single-handedly. Cooperation pays off, even with the challenges we face today, whether in Berlin, Germany or Europe. Celebrating is also best done together. That is why I cordially invite all Berliners and friends from near and far to visit the public celebration in Berlin this coming October.”*

The entire celebration programme encourages the public to visit the historical sites of German reunification and in doing so, embark on a participative journey of discovery through Berlin and the entire Republic. The connecting element is the **gallery “Einheitsband”**, showing the **names of all German communities - more than 11.000**. As a symbol for the German unity, it spans along hundreds of meters within the festival area. At the centre of the public celebration is **Platz der Republik**, upon and around which the 16 federal German states, the Zipfelbund (the four communities at Germany’s furthest cardinal compass points) and German constitutional organs including the Bundestag (German Parliament), Bundesregierung (Federal Government) and Bundesrat (Federal Council) will present themselves. The closing highlight of this three-day public celebration is the large unity concert to be held in front of Brandenburg Gate on the evening of 3<sup>rd</sup> of October, an event curated by the creators of the **peace x peace Festival**, among others. Several hundred projects, institutions and companies

will be present at the public celebration and involved in its realisation, including a number of voluntary and small associations and initiatives:

*“Berlin is the capital of German unity and has stood for cosmopolitanism and tolerance ever since. This vibrant diversity is what we will be celebrating together on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October. And wherever it says Berlin, Berlin has to be in it. So there will also be a joint programme with many hundreds of authentic partners: a celebration by many—for everyone!”* says **Moritz van Dülmen, CEO of the organiser Kulturprojekte Berlin GmbH**

Organised in cooperation with diverse museums, foundations and initiatives, the **History and Culture of Remembrance** area addresses the path to and handling of German unity, right in front of the Soviet Memorial on the **Straße des 17. Juni**. Another subject area is the reunited yet ever-multifaceted **sports metropolis Berlin**, while other offerings for **children and families** in the Tiergarten emphasise participation, art, and action. Here, as in all other areas, offerings focusing on **innovation** are integrated in a decentralised way, and thus represent the dynamic development of Berlin.

One example is the broadcaster and official programme partner **Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg** which, besides reporting live on the scene with its television channel rbb Fernsehen and various radio stations, will also be offering a varied stage programme. The **cultural programme** will also reflect the full spectrum of Berlin’s cultural diversity—from Mauerpark karaoke to “Grundgesetz” (German constitution), a Maxim Gorki Theatre production to classical music.

#### **Further information**

[www.tag-der-deutschen-einheit.de](http://www.tag-der-deutschen-einheit.de)

[www.facebook.com/TdEBerlin2018](https://www.facebook.com/TdEBerlin2018)

[www.twitter.com/TDE2018Berlin](https://www.twitter.com/TDE2018Berlin)

[www.instagram.com/TDEBerlin2018](https://www.instagram.com/TDEBerlin2018)

#TDE2018 #nurmiteuch

#### **Press contact Berlin Senate Chancellery | ceremonial and protocol-related events**

Dr. Kai-Uwe Merz | +49 (0) 30 9026 2413 | [Kai-Uwe.Merz@senatskanzlei.berlin.de](mailto:Kai-Uwe.Merz@senatskanzlei.berlin.de)

#### **Press contact Kulturprojekte Berlin | public celebration**

Susanne Galle | +49 (0)30 247 49-864 | [s.galle@kulturprojekte.berlin](mailto:s.galle@kulturprojekte.berlin)

*Following the motto “NUR MIT EUCH” (Only with You), the State of Berlin is organising the official celebrations for the Day of German Unity as part of its 2018 German Federal Council Presidency. The State of Berlin has commissioned Kulturprojekte Berlin with conceiving and implementing the public celebration and accompanying communication measures on its behalf.*

*We would like to thank the “Day of German Unity 2018” partners:  
H&M, Berliner Sparkasse, GASAG, Deutsche Bahn/S-Bahn Berlin,  
AOK Nordost – Die Gesundheitskasse and many others.*

*Media partners: rbb and Wall GmbH*