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Advocacy Quilts Promote the Message of Human Rights in Germany



Florentina Sander, 2, admires a Tiger Quilt made by relatives of the disappeared in Nepal.

The Advocacy Project (AP) has celebrated human rights day by exhibiting 16 advocacy quilts at a historic church in the Germany city of Karlsruhe (top photo).

The quilts were selected for their relevance to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted 70 years ago today on December 10, 1948.



Rebecca Zink and Janosch Kratz from the Karlsruhe College of Design produced promotional material for the exhibition.

The quilts amount to a powerful protest against discrimination and violence. They were assembled from embroidery made by over 300 artists in 14 countries, including women who lost family members to massacres in Peru and Bosnia; survivors of gender-based violence in Mali and the Congo; women who underwent excision in Kenya; former domestic slaves in Nepal; the River

Gypsies of Bangladesh; and the Roma of Europe.

The embroidered squares were collected by AP Peace Fellows on assignment and assembled by over 40 expert quilters in the US. AP curates over 40 quilts in Washington for partner organizations.

Iain Guest from AP told a large congregation at the Stephanienbad Church in Karlsruhe on Sunday: "The women who produced these squares were exercising their right to expression. By appreciating their quilts you are giving them the chance to be heard."

Ulrika Schneider Harpprecht, who heads the Stephanienbad Church, praised the courage of the artists and described the exhibition as a "once in a lifetime experience."



Taking in the fourth Middle Eastern Refugee Quilt.

The month-long exhibition was co-sponsored by the [Karlsruhe branch of Amnesty International](#) and [the Society for Threatened Peoples](#), and organized by Ina Elstner, a priest and teacher in the Karlsruhe area who specializes in reaching out to young people.

Ms Elstner showed the quilts to several groups of students

and said that some visitors burst into tears when they saw the more graphic images.

* Read about the quilts and meet the artists [here](#).

* Contact us to organize an exhibition or help assemble a quilt!

Thanks to Humanity United for supporting our 2018 program



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