

A coexistence with all people

Karl-Heinz Stadtler

Ladies and gentlemen,

Mr Jürgen Damm ended his memorial speech today with the first sentence of the Basic Law of the Federal Republic of Germany. "The dignity of man is inviolable." This sentence does not say "The dignity of the Germans is inviolable." Or "The dignity of the whites is inviolable." Or: "The dignity of the Christians is inviolable." But the dignity of man, every human being is inviolable. Let this be the obligation for ourselves. Let us promise each other that we will constantly confront racist, anti-Semitic, xenophobic statements. Even if it should be the case in our personal environment, in our circle of acquaintances, in our family. Let us never leave any statements of this kind unchallenged. If we do so firmly, we will act accordingly. And if we all act in this way, we will prevent the risk of developments that we all do not want. Let us work together for peace, freedom, democracy, tolerance and solidarity. A coexistence with all people.