

PRESS RELEASE

### **Security level 1.1. at the peace conference**

Phoenix reports live, 6 television teams, 54 journalists in Münster

*Münster, September 12, 2023* - When Federal Minister of Defence Boris Pistorius takes to the lectern next Friday, September 15, at 10:50 a.m., not only the 350 high-profile guests in Münster's town hall will be able to follow this opening speech at the peace conference. Five cameras from the documentary and event channel Phoenix, which is operated jointly by ARD and ZDF, will ensure a nationwide broadcast of the conference from the ballroom. Six other television and radio teams and a total of 54 journalists have been accredited to report from Münster.

Münster's population will also be able to follow the conference live, with the Economic Society broadcasting via livestream on its website ([www.westfaelische-friedenskonferenz.de](http://www.westfaelische-friedenskonferenz.de)). The day before, hundreds of meters of cable will be laid in the town hall and satellite dishes will be set up to ensure live coverage. A 9-metre-long and 3.5-metre-wide stage is set up in the ballroom, the rows of chairs with a wide aisle in the middle are extended into the adjoining armory.

Together with many of those responsible in Münster's town hall, the team led by Dr André Vielstädte, Managing Director of the organizing Economic Society for Westphalia and Lippe, had spent the weeks beforehand in constant consultation and conferences discussing and organizing the many individual trades. Vielstädte: "Although we already have a certain routine at the same location due to the Peace Prize ceremony, the large number of high-caliber guests from Germany and abroad and the all-day event make the demands even higher."

At the top of the agenda is the issue of security: police and professional cooperation with the Münster security service HRC are not enough. When the Federal Minister of Defense arrives, the highest security level is called for. The Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) has a level 1.1, and high security precautions are also in place for Vitali Klitschko, the mayor of Kiev, foreign guests from the Middle East and the Vice-President of the EU Parliament. On Friday morning, all guests and journalists must undergo a personal security check before entering City Hall. Vitali Klitschko's route to Münster is classified for security reasons, and the exact times of arrival and departure are only known to a few insiders.

The official cars of the politicians and business leaders who drive up to Prinzipalmarkt are then parked on Domplatz. The "Atlantic" is the conference hotel, some of the politicians and guests arrive the evening before, others stay until Saturday and take part in the festive closing dinner in the foyer of the LWL Museum.

The peace conference is also a special challenge for caterer Dieter Schmitz and his team from Tafel Schmitz. With a number of chefs and more than three dozen service staff, he is catering for the conference guests under increased security conditions. A quick glance at the menu gives a hint of good things to come: for the one-hour lunch break, he prepares Westphalian veal stew with autumn mushrooms, potato noodles with garden chives and a vegetable pan with prawns. In the evening, he is replaced by the LUX team. For the festive closing dinner in the foyer of the LWL Museum of Art and Culture, the chefs serve pickled monkfish on baby spinach and red orange as a starter. For the main course, guests can choose between Allgäu beef fillet or vegan flank steak, with ratatouille vegetables and truffled puree.

Every two years since 1998, the Wirtschaftliche Gesellschaft für Westfalen und Lippe e. V. has awarded the International Peace of Westphalia Prize to personalities who have made a special contribution to peace in the world. Previous winners include outstanding statesmen and stateswomen such as Vaclav Havel, Giscard d'Estaing, Helmut Schmidt, Helmut Kohl and Carla del Ponte. French President Emmanuel Macron, who has been working with great commitment to mediate between the warring parties since the beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, will receive the Peace of Westphalia Prize this year, which will be presented in Münster in the first half of 2024.

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