EINLADUNG

Freedom and Security
Women Summit

Press invitation: International female dissidents to visit the Bundestag - Masih Alinejad, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya and others at the Freedom and Security Women Summit

9 November 2026 | Deutscher Bundestag, Berlin

An initiative for women's rights, democratic resilience and tangible political impact.

What role do women play in resistance movements against authoritarian regimes—and what implications does this have for German and European politics?

At the Freedom and Security Women Summit on November 9, 2026, at the invitation of the German Bundestag's Commissioner for the Victims of the SED Dictatorship, female dissidents, civil rights activists, and women's rights advocates will discuss repression, resistance, and the political significance of women's rights.

Participants will include, among others:

- Masih Alinejad, Iran
- Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, Belarus
- Almut Ilsen, GDR civil rights activist
- Rosa Maria Payá, Cuba
- Rushan Abbas, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region
- Roya Mahboob, Afghanistan

We cordially invite you to cover the summit. Upon request, we can also **arrange background interviews** with summit participants.

Panel at 5:15 pm: Two Speakers of Parliament and Two Voices for Freedom
Starting at 5:15 p.m., the **President of the German Bundestag, Julia Klöckner, and the President of the Assemblée Nationale, Yaël Braun-Pivet,** will give a joint address to the evening session of the summit titled **"Women in the Struggle for Democracy — Courageous and Vulnerable at the Same Time".** Here, international voices for democracy will engage in discussion with high school students. This part will take place in the Berlin Wall Memorial.

Panels starting at 12:00 p.m.
Starting at 12:00 p.m., you can participate in three panels:
Panel 1: Women in Dictatorships: Understanding Oppression, Driving Political Action
Panel 2: Women in Resistance: Networks, Exile, and Political Demands
Panel 3: Women's Rights as a Security Factor for German and European Policy

Minister of State Serap Güler (Federal Foreign Office) will also deliver a keynote address.

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Award for Courage
The Axel Springer Freedom Foundation's Award for Courage will also be presented during the conference. You will receive a separate invitation to the awards ceremony. Registration for the summit also serves as registration for the awards ceremony.

About the Summit
The Freedom and Security Women Summit is jointly organized by the Federal Commissioner for the Victims of the SED Dictatorship at the German Bundestag, My Stealthy Freedom, Frauen für Freiheit e. V., and the Axel Springer Freedom Foundation.

Registration
Please register by November 5, if possible, with the office of the Federal Commissioner for the Victims of the SED Dictatorship at sed-opferbeauftragte@bundestag.de. If you do not have a German Bundestag press pass, we will also need your date of birth for registration.

Event Details
Date: Monday, November 9, 2026
Panels: starting at 12:00 p.m.
Evening Panel: starting at 5:15 p.m.
Location: German Bundestag, Marie-Elisabeth-Lüders-Haus, Meeting Room 3.101 + Berlin Wall Memorial

We look forward to welcoming you to the German Bundestag.

Evelyn Zupke,
Commissioner for the Victims of the SED Dictatorship

Masih Alinejad,
Founder,
My Stealthy Freedom

Rebecca Schönenbach,
Chairwoman,
Women for Freedom

Antje Schippmann,
Managing Director,
Axel Springer Freedom Foundation

Deutscher Bundestag
Die SED-Opferbeauftragte

My Stealthy Freedom
Campaign against compulsory hijab in Iran

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