

「FORUM DEUTSCHE SPRACHE」



THE PROJECT AT A GLANCE:

- Between now and 2027, the **Leibniz-Institut für Deutsche Sprache** (IDS; engl. Leibniz Institute for the German Language) is establishing the Forum Deutsche Sprache (engl. German Language Forum).
- The facility combines the functions of a museum, a science centre and a lively institution for dialogue between science and society.
- The IDS will be responsible for the content and structure of the Forum.
- The **Klaus Tschira Foundation** intends to donate the building and the first permanent exhibition to the IDS.
- The **city of Mannheim** has provided a plot to the IDS at an inner-city location next to the Neckar River.
- Since 2019, the state of **Baden-Württemberg** has been funding the conceptual planning process.
- The **Leibniz Association** sees the project as a valuable addition both for research and with regard to the interaction between science and the public.

FORUM DEUTSCHE SPRACHE

EXPERIENCE LANGUAGE IN ITS DIVERSITY –
AND BRING IT YOURSELF!

From earliest childhood to old age, language is the most important means of communication. Our own use of language is just as important to us as that of our fellow human beings.

How do children learn to speak? What role do dialects play in today's world? What is the added value of multilingualism? Should I use gendered language to not exclude anyone? Who decides what correct or incorrect German is? Why and how does our language change over the course of time?

The Forum Deutsche Sprache will be a unique place in Mannheim, where these and many other questions about our language will be explored and discussed together: in exhibitions, in events and through completely new opportunities of participation. Since the visitors carry the object of the exhibition and of research in themselves, they will be able to have a direct influence on the design of the offerings. With their own language, they can change digital exhibits or participate in linguistic surveys and citizen science projects.

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The Forum Deutsche Sprache will be built at "Alter Meßplatz", directly on the river Neckar. HENN's entry was awarded first prize for its design in the architectural competition in 2021.

FORUM
DEUTSCHE
SPRACHE

COMING TOGETHER

The multifunctional foyer is designed as a meeting place for all visitors to the Forum. It will offer space for talks, lectures, science slams, discussion events, but also for private meetings in an informal atmosphere at an attractive location next to the river Neckar in the centre of Mannheim. The foyer will be a public space and the common areas are for everyone to use.



THE PERMANENT EXHIBITION

We invite visitors on a tour to immerse themselves in a linguistic cosmos. A world unfolds in each exhibition area, revealing the dimensions in which language touches people. Interactive exhibits also allow visitors to experience their own language and thus build a bridge between the visitors and the object of the exhibition. In overarching core areas, topics such as language history, language and media, dialects of German or continuous language change will be elucidated.

TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

The temporary exhibition area allows in-depth exploration of themes, as well as the opportunity to collaborate, locally and internationally within the entire German-speaking region, e.g. for touring exhibitions. This area can also be used for larger events.

THE ADVENTURE AREA FOR CHILDREN

For younger children who are not yet able to read or write, or those who are starting to develop their literacy skills, we will have a themed adventure area which offers a sensory introduction to the topic of language. In the context of linguistic diversity of Mannheim's urban society, multilingual and intercultural approaches are particularly taken into account.

The adventure area will be a place of shared experiences and dialogue.



Initial ideas of what the adventure area could look like. Designed by "Dr. Ulrich Hermanns. Ausstellung Medien Transfer" (Münster).



AN EXTRACURRICULAR PLACE OF LEARNING

The Forum aims to attract schools and day care centres. The accompanying educational programme will take place in the exhibition areas, at the survey stations and in designated workshop rooms. We also plan individual and customised formats directly in schools as well as opportunities for virtual participation.

PARTICIPATION IN THE FORUM

The participation of the visitors via their own language is a central concern at the Forum Deutsche Sprache (e.g. via dialect recordings, handing over personal chat communications or attitudes towards linguistic phenomena). Even within the permanent exhibition, there will always be the possibility to voluntarily “donate” one’s own language and thus spontaneously be a part of linguistic research of everyday language, and at the same time learn something about one’s own use of language.

In a scientifically accompanied communication and survey area, those interested in language will have the opportunity to actively participate as citizen scientists. In this way, we will establish an equal dialogue between experts and community, new formats of science communication and the mutual knowledge transfer.



#deinWortzählt

JOIN IN NOW!

Under the hashtag **#deinWortzählt** (engl. yourwordcounts) the IDS is already collecting “language donations” for the Forum Deutsche Sprache: favourite words, attitudes towards linguistic phenomena, dialect words, funny translations and much more!

Simply subscribe to the IDS channels and join in!



https://twitter.com/ids_mannheim



<https://facebook.com/ids.mannheim>



You can also find current information and developments about the Forum on our social media channels under the hashtag **#ForumDeutscheSprache** and on the project's website www.forumdeutschesprache.de.

IDS

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DEUTSCHE SPRACHE

Klaus Tschira Stiftung
gemeinnützige GmbH



STADT MANNHEIM ²



Baden-Württemberg

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