

History of the Robert Havemann Society

- 1990 19 November: Robert Havemann Society founded by members and supporters of the New Forum group.
- First advisory board: Bärbel Bohley, Katja Havemann and Prof Jens Reich. Office in the House of Democracy, initial events and exhibitions.
- 1992 From May: establishment of the Robert Havemann Archive.
- First publication: "When We Read Our Files. Handbook for Dealing with the Stasi Files".
- 1992–1998 National working meetings in the Robert Havemann Archive on coordinating the reappraisal of Stasi files.
- 1993 The Matthias Domaschk Archive, founded in the Environmental Library on 7 January 1990, moves to the Robert Havemann Society. The two archives gradually merge, beginning with the launch of a joint photo archive.
- 1997 First volume of the Robert Havemann Archive publications series: "The Dismissal. Robert Havemann and the Academy of Sciences 1965/66".
- 1998 More than a thousand people attend the forum "Who Owns the GDR Civil Rights Movement?" organized in cooperation with *Der Spiegel* magazine at Berlin's Samariter Church.
- 2000 On what would have been Robert Havemann's 90th birthday, a memorial plaque is mounted at the Humboldt University's Institute of Chemistry, where Havemann held his legendary lectures on "Scientific Aspects of Philosophical Problems" in the 1960s.
- Advancement award of the *Deutsche Nationalstiftung*.
- An event in the Gethsemane Church recalls the church as a centre of the 1989 revolution in Berlin, ten years previously.
- 2001 A panel discussion organised jointly with the *Frankfurter Rundschau* newspaper entitled "Who Owns the Stasi Files?" causes a stir.
- Research department founded. Associated academics are Dr Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk and Dr Stefan Wolle.

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- 2003 GrauZone Archive taken over, holding written documents, photos, posters and films on the East German women's movement.
- 2004 "Stations of a Revolution 1989/90" – events series organised jointly with the Berlin Commissioner for the Stasi Records.

3-5 September: construction brigade conscripts convention in Potsdam.
- 2005 The website www.jugendopposition.de, a joint project by the Federal Agency for Civic Education and the Robert Havemann Society, goes online and receives a Grimme Online Award.
- 2006 Robert Havemann and his fellow activists from the "European Union" resistance group are awarded the honorary title "Righteous among the Nations" by Yad Vashem. The application was made in 1999 by Werner Theuer (Robert Havemann Society) and Prof Manfred Wilke (*Forschungsverbund SED-Staat* at the FU Berlin).
- 2007 The three separate archives – Robert Havemann Archive, Matthias Domaschk Archive, GrauZone Archive – are given a single name: GDR Opposition Archive.
- 2007–2010 Events series "The Peaceful Revolution. Berlin 1987-1990", organised jointly with the Berlin Commissioner for the Stasi Records.
- 2009–2010 The open-air exhibition "Peaceful Revolution 1989/90" on Berlin's Alexanderplatz attracts over two million visitors. The exhibition is awarded the Federal Agency for Civic Education's Unity Prize in 2009.
- 2010 11-12 March: international convention on the 100th anniversary of Robert Havemann's birth.

Expansion and re-ordering of the GDR Opposition Archive: 700 square metres of archive and working space on three floors at Schliemannstr. 23.
- 2010–2012 18 information stelae installed in Berlin, recalling important sites and events of the Peaceful Revolution in Berlin.
- 2011 "The Divided Station", an exhibition in Friedrichstraße station marking the 50th anniversary of the construction of the Berlin Wall; a joint project by Kulturprojekte Berlin and the Robert Havemann Society.
- 2013-2014 Initiative for and collaboration in Kulturprojekte Berlin's anniversary project for 25 years of the fall of the Wall, with the LIGHT BORDER and the exhibition "One Hundred Wall Stories" along the former course of the Wall.
- 2015 Conservation and digitalization of 60 linear metres of written documents and digitalization of 45,000 photos.

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2016 Opening of the open-air exhibition “Revolution and the Fall of the Wall” at the Stasi headquarters in Berlin-Lichtenberg.

The Robert Havemann Society has been funded entirely on a project basis since its foundation. Its most important funding institutions include the Berlin Commissioner for the Stasi Records (since 1995), the Federal Foundation for the Reappraisal of the SED Dictatorship (since 1999), the Federal Agency for Civic Education (since 2004), the Berlin Lottery Foundation and the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media.

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