13. November 2026

Education and culture

Closing event at the LernWerk: Jürgen Hardt discusses the situation in the Middle East

Tuesday, 17 November, 7.00 pm, at the LernWerk // Exhibition "I see something you don't see. Germany. Israel. Insights."// Welcome address by First Councillor Björn Volmering // Free admission, registration with the VHS

The exhibition "I See Something You Don't See. Germany. Israel. Insights." at the LernWerk Bocholt will draw to a close on Tuesday, 17 November 2026, with a closing event. At 7 pm, Jürgen Hardt, foreign policy spokesperson for the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the Bundestag and Vice-President of the German-Israeli Society, will speak about the current situation in the Middle East. Admission is free; please register with the VHS.

The Westmünsterland branch of the German-Israeli Society (DIG), in collaboration with the Culture and Education Department of the City of Bocholt and the Bocholt-Rhede-Isselburg Adult Education Centre (VHS), invites you to the closing event. The event begins on Tuesday, 17 November, at 7 pm at the LernWerk, Industriestraße 1. First Deputy Mayor and Head of the Culture Department, Björn Volmering, will give a welcoming address.

The highlight of the evening will be a talk by Jürgen Hardt. A Member of the Bundestag, he is the foreign policy spokesperson for the CDU/CSU parliamentary group and Vice-President of the German-Israeli Society. He will speak about the current situation in the Middle East. Musical accompaniment will be provided by music school teacher Christiane Schröder.

Personal perspectives on two countries

The exhibition has been on display at the LernWerk since September. It showcases 35 figures from the worlds of culture, politics, diplomacy, the media and civil society who have a personal connection to Germany and Israel. They all answer the same two questions: What comes to mind when they think of Israel, and what when they think of Germany? The exhibition was developed by cultural studies scholar Dr Alexandra Nocke to mark the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. It was first shown in 2025 at the North Rhine-Westphalia State Parliament. In Bocholt, it formed part of Intercultural Week and was opened with a discussion between Dr Alexandra Nocke and the Israeli writer Lizzie Doron.

""Over the past few weeks, the exhibition has shown just how much personal stories can contribute to understanding between two countries,"" explains Deputy Mayor Björn Volmering, ""the closing event offers an opportunity to reflect on these impressions together once again.""

Anyone who has not yet seen the exhibition can visit it until Wednesday 18 November in the foyer and the small foyer on the first floor of the LernWerk.

Attendance at the closing event is free of charge. Please register with the VHS Bocholt-Rhede-Isselburg at vhs.bocholt.de. The exhibition is a collaboration between the VHS Bocholt-Rhede-Isselburg, the Culture and Archives Department and the Westmünsterland Working Group of the German-Israeli Society. It is sponsored by the City of Bocholt, the VHS project "Shaping Diversity" and the Rudolf and Margot Ostermann Foundation.



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Exhibition "I see something you don't see. Germany. Israel. Insights."