

MARIANNE BIRTHLER “THREE DECADES LATER: REFLECTIONS ON THE PEACEFUL REVOLUTION IN THE GDR”

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German activist and politician Marianne Birthler grew up in former East Germany. As a member of the group “Church Solidarity” and later the “Initiative for Peace and Human Rights,” she was actively involved in the peaceful revolution that led to the opening of the Berlin Wall on November 9th, 1989. From 2000-2011 she was the Federal Commissioner for the Stasi Records, responsible for investigating past crimes of the Stasi, the East German secret police, and in 2018 she co-curated the exhibit “Unbuilding Walls” at the Biennale in Venice.

Sponsored by the German Embassy’s “Wunderbar Together” Campus Weeks 2019, the Department of German and Russian Studies, The School of Languages Cultures and World Affairs, The First Year Experience Program, the Department of History, the Department of Political Science, the Department of Religious Studies, the International Studies Program and European Studies.

