



Second press Release

Hamburg, December 2017

On 11 December 2017, the Karin und Walter Blüchert Gedächtnisstiftung presented the “Fairness & Courage” Award in their capacity as official sponsor of the “Hamburger des Jahres” event

The **Karin und Walter Blüchert Gedächtnisstiftung** joined the first mayor of the free Hanseatic city of Hamburg, Olaf Scholz as laudator of the “Fairness and Courage” category in congratulating the **“Heroes of Barmbek!”**.

The 19th award ceremony for the “Hamburger des Jahres 2017” took place in the Hotel Atlantic Kempinski on 11 December 2017 and as **official sponsor** of the event, the **Karin und Walter Blüchert Gedächtnisstiftung** presented the “Fairness & Courage” category. This commitment was a matter of great importance to the **Karin und Walter Blüchert Gedächtnisstiftung** as it was these very **values** that **drove and motivated** Walter Blüchert during his life and shaped his legacy as a founder.

This year’s winners in the “Fairness & Courage” category are the **“Heroes of Barmbek”** (Sönke Weber, Toufia Arab, Ömer Ünlü, Ekow Maxwell, Mohamed Wali, Mohamed Bousbia, Jamel Chraiet und Saifallah Chourabi) who confronted the Islamist-motivated perpetrator in the Barmbek knife attack last July, ultimately disarming him to prevent the loss of further lives.

This is the 19th time that the “Hamburger des Jahres” has been part of the prestigious gala held at the Hotel Atlantic Kempinski and which features a total of **six categories**. The award in the “Fairness & Courage” category is always of particular importance, as it distinguishes those people who go above and beyond for the Hanseatic city. The laudatory speech is traditionally held by Hamburg's first mayor.

“An ever-changing world needs a society that holds together. Only together can we achieve our goals. The “Hamburger des Jahres” honours those people who take a bold step forward and show us, the people of Hamburg, the way. That is exactly why the **Karin und Walter Blüchert Gedächtnisstiftung**, is delighted to be this year’s sponsor of the “Hamburger des Jahres” event, says **Magdalena Blüchert**, the foundation’s CEO.

The Karin und Walter Blüchert Gedächtnisstiftung has been providing direct assistance to people in need since November 2017. The first Hamburg institutions to receive funding include the **phönikks Stiftung** as well as **the Zentrum für Kinder und Jugendliche in Trauer e.V.**. The **Right Livelihood Award Foundation (the alternative Nobel Prize)** is also supported on a national level.

For more information, funding guidelines and forms, please visit www.kwb-stiftung.de

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