

# HAMBURG FOUNDATION

— for politically persecuted persons

Chairman: Dr. Peter Tschentscher Executive director:

Dr. Carsten Brosda Honorary Chair : Dr. Klaus von Dohnanyi

## Press Release

### **The Hamburg Foundation for the Politically Persecuted welcomes two new guests – Rana, filmmaker and Nazanin, musician and composer from the Middle East**

Today, two new guests of the Foundation arrived at Hamburg Airport at the same time.

The scriptwriter and filmmaker Rana (pseudonym) produces each of her films under high stress and says she always has to expend a lot of energy to avoid thinking about the consequences threatened in her country. She cannot get past the censorship board with her films that are classified as politically undesirable. Rana feels tired and drained and asks for a time off from the daily struggle. She dreams of “taking a deep breath for a year”, the author and filmmaker wrote in her application letter to the foundation, so that she can then start again with new motivation and strength. In Germany, she would like to think about a new screenplay.

As a contemporary composer and musician, Nazanin (pseudonym) also faces major problems in her country. Although she is considered a great talent in her field, public performances in her home country remain forbidden to her. For the artist, a 12-month scholarship means a break from the daily political oppression. She wants to get to know the work of her European colleagues, make new contacts and be able to work “without scissors in her head” for once.

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