



Network of European
Museum Organisations

MEP Sabine Verheyen to gain unique insights into museum operations through a NEMO Political Internship

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Sabine Verheyen, Member of the European Parliament (MEP) and Chair of the Committee on Culture and Education (CULT), has been invited by the Network of European Museum Organisations (NEMO), to participate in a NEMO Political Internship on 5 April 2024 at the Suermondt-Ludwig-Museum in Aachen, Germany.

Launched in 2018, the [NEMO Political Internship in Museums](#) initiative aims to promote the visibility and interests of museums by providing EU policy makers with a greater understanding of the diversity of museum work and activities beyond exhibitions. By offering hands-on experiences, the internships seek to underscore the value of museums to their communities and society at large.

During the half-day internship, Sabine Verheyen will engage in various activities aimed at providing her with a comprehensive understanding of museum operations. In addition to the exhibition rooms, she will visit the storage and workshop, get insights into restoration work and do inventory. Verheyen will also be introduced to the museum's outreach initiative that aims to diversify the audience and ensure cultural inclusion. With the initiative and a research fellowship, the museum seeks to position itself as a dynamic and inclusive institution capable of meeting the diverse needs of its community both now and in the future.

About her upcoming visit Sabine Verheyen says: *"I am looking forward to the internship as an exciting insight into the cultural sector, which I consider to be very important in society in order to make different cultural aspects accessible and to get a better understanding of our own history and roots."*

Till-Holger Borchert, Director of the Suermondt-Ludwig-Museum, looks forward to welcoming Verheyen and hopes to *"highlight the significant impact that museums like the Suermondt-Ludwig Museum have on their communities and the importance of politicians that advocate for policies that support museums' growth and sustainability."*

Julia Pagel, Secretary General of NEMO, elaborates on the main goals of the NEMO Political Internship initiative by stating that *"the internships create a hands-on, emotionally strong basis for dialogue and collaboration between museums and political leaders. Ultimately, the internships do not only enrich the political leaders' perspectives, but also contribute to the development of well-informed and culturally aware policies that benefit both the institutions and the broader society."*

Contact for press inquiries

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Network of European Museum Organisations

[The Network of European Museum Organisations \(NEMO\)](#) was founded in 1992 as an independent network of national museum organisations representing the museum community of the member states of the Council of Europe. Together, NEMO's members speak for over 30.000 museums across Europe. NEMO is funded by the EU through the Creative Europe networks strand and acts as voice of museums towards EU institutions.

Sabine Verheyen will be the fourth EU politician to complete a NEMO Political Internship. Previously, [Mariya Gabriel](#), at the time European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, [Luca Jahier](#), at the time President of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), and [Julie Ward](#), former MEP and member of the CULT committee, have participated in the museum advocacy initiative.

Suermondt-Ludwig-Museum

The [Suermondt-Ludwig-Museum](#) features an extensive and encyclopaedic art collection from the Middle Ages to modern times, showcasing various artistic movements. Highlights include medieval sculptures, Dutch and Flemish paintings, and works from the Düsseldorf School, classical modernism, and expressionism. With approximately 1,500 paintings, 700 sculptures, and 10,000 prints, the museum owes its existence to major donors and collectors from Aachen's and is now one of Germany's largest municipal museums.

The Museum recently received a grant from the Ministry of Culture and Science of North Rhine-Westphalia for audience diversification, fostering dialogue among visitors of different cultural backgrounds. The dedicated research fellowship focuses on medieval art in order to enhance the museum's presentation and facilitate cultural participation.