Dresden, 1\textsuperscript{st} February 2016

DRESDEN-concept is an alliance of 22 research institutions from the world of science and culture, representing cutting-edge research, internationality and cooperation. The board of the umbrella organisation addresses an appeal to all members of the 22 institutions, to take a stance for a peaceful and cosmopolitan Dresden. There are numerous occasions to do so, particularly on 6\textsuperscript{th} and 13\textsuperscript{th} February 2016. The demonstration on 6\textsuperscript{th} of February takes place from 1-3 p.m.

On 6\textsuperscript{th} February, the Pegida movement is planning an all-European gathering in 13 European countries. Initiatives like “Herz statt Hetze” (Heart instead of Hatred) are organising an event on the “Theaterplatz”, to transport a differing message to the world. “Every single individual, be it by attending or staying away, contributes personally to how Dresden is perceived. This responsibility cannot be delegated.” states the Board of DRESDEN-concept.

“Misanthropic comments, agitation and attacks on foreign-looking fellow citizen, journalists and dissidents have been hampering public life in Dresden for over a year now. University staff and students have been and still are being attacked. On a national and international stage, Dresden’s reputation is damaged, with implications for the sciences, the economy and tourism. As members of DRESDEN-concept we would like to represent an image of an open society, anchored in our constitution.”

One week later, on 13\textsuperscript{th} February, a Human Chain will be formed, as a sign of humanity. As in previous years, TU Dresden’s rector will open the event, which was also registered by him. The Human Chain will span from the Dresden “Altstadt” across to the “Neustädter” shore and will come full-circle at 6pm with the ringing of the Dresden church bells. Staff at the partner institutions of DRESDEN-concept can identify themselves by wearing a badge, available at the individual institutions and starting at 5.30pm, take part in forming the Human Chain.
About DRESDEN-concept:

DRESDEN-concept is an alliance of the TU Dresden and research-focused partners from the world of science and culture, with the common goal of making Dresden’s research more publically visible. Alongside the TUD, the following institutions are DRESDEN-concept partners: five Fraunhofer institutes (IWS, IPMS, IKTS, FEP, IVI), three Max-Planck institutes (CBG, PKS, CPFS), four Leibniz institutes (IPF, IFW, IÖR, Senckenberg), two Helmholtz institutes (HZDR, DZNE), the university hospital Carl Gustav Carus, four culture partners (SLUB, SKD, DHMD, MHM) and two associate partners (HTW, LfA). The cooperation within DRESDEN-concept aims to enable the partners to develop and use synergies in the areas of research, education, infrastructure and administration. For this purpose, they coordinate their research strategy and identify areas, where Dresden is at the forefront of international research. The partners work together to acquire for Dresden, global leaders in science and to bind them to this science location.

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