

8 May 2017

**HRK Annual Assembly in Bielefeld:
The Role of Science and the Humanities in the Modern World**

At the invitation of the university there, the German Rectors' Conference is holding this year's Annual Assembly in Bielefeld. The General Assembly will take place tomorrow at the same location.

During the opening of the Annual Assembly, HRK President Prof Dr Horst Hippler emphasised that science must deal with the question of where the worldwide trend towards discrediting science-based facts is coming from. This development completely contradicts the concept of the knowledge-based society as a crucial prerequisite of a modern economy.

In order to consider the causes of these diametrically opposite perspectives, the HRK asked Prof Dr Armin Nassehi, Chair of the Faculty of Sociology at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich, to hold the central address of the Annual Assembly.

Nassehi's research focus is on cultural sociology, political sociology, sociology of religion and sociology of knowledge and science. He will speak on "The Role of Science and the Humanities in the Modern World".

The Annual Assembly will end with an evening concert by the Marvin Trio from Leipzig, winners of the first prize at this year's Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Conservatory Competition.

The agenda of tomorrow's closed HRK General Assembly includes the concept for improving and stabilising the financing of universities, as well as the results of a university survey regarding the doctoral training of graduates from universities of applied sciences and cooperative doctoral-training procedures.