

Open Call for Proposals

MEMORIAL on Flensburg's Colonial Past

Colonialism has had a significant impact on the city of Flensburg. Critical discussions and debates on this part of its history have become increasingly important in Flensburg since the end of the 20th century. This process should be continued constructively. Hence, the focus should lie less on Flensburg's past as a trading city or "city of rum" and more on its regional integration into Danish colonialism and should also take into account the perspectives of enslaved people in the Caribbean and their descendants.

In order to find conceptual answers, the city of Flensburg opens a two-stage public call for proposals for the conceptual design of a **memorial site commemorating the colonial ties of Flensburg** (in accordance with the German law RPW 2013, § 3.1).

The **objective is to design a place of remembrance in public space** that

- Addresses and critically conveys Flensburg's colonial past
- Provides space to confront historical responsibilities
- Offers space for dialogue, and
- Takes a stance against racism and for human rights.

The place of remembrance should be located in direct proximity to the harbor as well as the Flensburg Maritime Museum.

Participation: Both individuals as well as multidisciplinary teams from the visual arts, didactics of history, landscape architecture, or architecture are eligible to apply.

Process: In stage 1, a jury reviews the applications based on defined evaluation criteria and makes a first selection (see below). The selected participants or teams will be invited to further develop their draft designs in stage 2, in which the designs will be exhibited to the public in Flensburg. A maximum of three winning designs will be selected in a public election and awarded a prize; a total of €6,000 is available for this purpose.

Deadline for stage 1

30 April 2026

More information

www.schifffahrtsmuseum-flensburg.de

Contact for questions on content and procedure

Flensburger Schifffahrtsmuseum (Flensburg Maritime Museum)

Phone +49 461 851716

eMail schifffahrtsmuseum@flensburg.de

Evaluation criteria

Applications will be selected on the basis of the following clear, non-discriminatory, appropriate, and qualitative criteria. The order does not indicate any weighting.

1. **Impact of the proposal** in relation to the proposed task. The following questions provide a framework for assessment in this regard:
 - Can the proposal stand its ground within the geographical, spatial context?
 - Does the proposal reflect the thematic guidelines?
 - Does it adequately reflect the historical dimension?
 - Is the reflection on historical events of contemporary relevance?
 - Does the proposed project create an intellectual and emotional impact?
 - How convincing is the connection between the artistic and educational aspects of the memorial site? Are both aspects given due consideration?
 - How does the proposed project involve the public?
 - Does the proposed project address different target groups?
2. **Spatial design dimension** in the context of the specific location
3. **Durability, sustainability and longevity** of the artistic elements and the educational elements
4. **Practical feasibility and estimated costs of realization**

Jury Members

Dr. Alexandra Berger, Regional promotor Bündnis Eine Welt Schleswig-Holstein

Axel Böcker, Local Monument Preservation Authority

Myron Jackson, former Senator, St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands

Spokepersons for cultural policy of the political groups of the City Council

Art Commission Representative (TBD)

Prof. Dr. Sybille Bauriedl, Network Flensburg Postcolonial

Prof. Dr. Elahe Haschemi Yekani, Humboldt University Berlin

The decisions of the jury are not legally contestable, legal recourse is excluded.

Application process – stage 1

The application process is digital.

The application must contain the following information:

1. Cover sheet with name, address, contact details
2. CV (or description of project team members), including a list of projects (max. 2 DIN A4 pages)
3. 3 reference examples of prior projects, one example per page with a short explanatory text of max. 500 characters. In addition to completed projects, drafts may also be submitted as references.

4. Draft design. The draft may be presented in visual and/or textual form (max. 3 DIN A4 pages). No artistic requirements or specifications are made. An active engagement with the location and the historical context is expressly required.

The required documents must be submitted in **one PDF file**. Recommendation: Since the file will be presented to the jury on a screen, landscape format is recommended.

The file should be named as follows: **Last nameFirst name_Application_FL.pdf**
The file must not exceed 12 MB in size. The application language is German or English.

Please note: Costs will not be reimbursed. All applications must be submitted in full. Incomplete applications or multiple applications will not be considered. Applications outside of the formal procedure are not permitted.

The applications must arrive by **30 April 2026**, at the latest, at the following email address with the **subject line „Ideenwettbewerb Memorial“**:
kulturbuero@flensburg.de

The receipt will be confirmed by email.

By submitting their application, applicants agree that their personal data relating to the above-mentioned open call may be stored electronically for the duration of the selection process. They agree that the photographs, film recordings, interviews, etc. made in connection with their participation may be distributed and published on radio, television, in print media, etc., as well as in the context of municipal public relations work, on municipal websites, and on social media channels without any claim to remuneration.

Participation in the public competition – stage 2

Based on the evaluation criteria, the jury will make a selection from among the applications. The selected participants will be asked to further develop their draft designs in order to be presented in a public exhibition.

Possible forms include innovative formats such as documentaries and performative works, participatory projects, videos or photos, as well as installations or models.

The designs will be presented to the public both physically at the Flensburg Maritime Museum as well as digitally on the museum's website.

During the exhibition period, the public is invited to vote on the designs online or at the museum. The maximum of three designs that receive the most votes will be awarded prize money at the award ceremony.

Please note: The Flensburg Maritime Museum will provide insurance coverage for the on-site presentation. The applicants will specify a value for this purpose. After the

end of the exhibition, the designs must be collected within one week. They will not be send or shipped.

Provisional schedule

Publication of the public call for proposals	1 February 2026
Submission deadline stage 1	30 April 2026
Jury selection (stage 1)	31 May 2026
Invitation to participate in stage 2	15 June 2026
Submission of detailed designs (stage 2)	16 August 2026
Exhibition and public vote	1 – 30 September 2026
Announcement of winning designs	9 October 2026
Award ceremony	End of October 2026

Please note: This English version does not represent a legally valid translation of the German original text. In case of discrepancies between the German and the English version, the German version shall prevail.