

## Press Release

**German Book Prize 2020: 187 novels submitted, 120 publishers participate**

*More submissions and participating publishers than ever before /  
187 submissions / 120 publishers from Germany, Austria and Switzerland /  
Hanna Engelmeier is appointed speaker of the jury*

The German Book Prize 2020 has set a new record: 120 German-language publishers recommended a total of 187 titles to compete for the best German-language novel of the year. That's 13 more titles and 10 more publishers than in the previous record years. Of this year's publishers, 82 are based in Germany, 20 in Switzerland and 18 in Austria.

Of the titles submitted, 88 are from the publishers' current spring catalogues, 78 will become available in the autumn and 21 were already published in autumn 2019. Each publisher was allowed to submit a maximum of two titles published (or to be published) between October 2019 and 15 September 2020, when the shortlist will be announced. In addition, they were each allowed to recommend up to five further titles. This year, 96 novels were added to the list of recommendations, from which jurors may request additional titles to compete in the selection process.

The first joint meeting of the jury was held via videoconference. The members of the jury appointed Hanna Engelmeier (research assistant, Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen / Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities) as their speaker. The other members of the jury are: Katharina Borchardt (literature editor, SWR2), David Hugendick (literature editor, *Zeit Online*), Chris Möller (propagator of literature at Kabeljau & Dorsch), Maria-Christina Piwowarski ("ocelot" bookstore), Felix Stephan (literature editor, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*) and Denise Zumbrunnen ("Never Stop Reading" bookstore).

The jury will select the novel of the year through a multiple-stage process. On 18 August 2020, the longlist of 20 titles will be announced. From this list, the jurors will then select six titles for the shortlist, which will be revealed on 15 September 2020. The authors of these six novels will only find out which of them has won the German Book Prize on the evening of the award ceremony.

The German Book Prize is awarded by the Stiftung Buchkultur und Leseförderung des Börsenvereins des Deutschen Buchhandels (Foundation for Book Culture and the Promotion of Reading of the German Publishers and

Booksellers Association). It receives funding from the Deutsche Bank Stiftung (Deutsche Bank Foundation), and additional partners include Frankfurter Buchmesse and the city of Frankfurt am Main. The television network Deutsche Welle supports the German Book Prize in its media activities both at home and abroad.

For more information about the German Book Prize 2020 please visit [www.deutscher-buchpreis.de/en/](http://www.deutscher-buchpreis.de/en/).

The hashtag for the German Book Prize 2020 is #dbp20

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