

Message from  
Dr Hans-Ulrich Seidt,  
Director-General for Culture and Communication at the Federal Foreign Office,  
for the online photo gallery and international platform  
“Moments – No Stories!”

Focusing on the art and culture of others is a basic tenet of our cultural relations and education policy. This cultural diplomacy can, today more than ever, play a substantial role in fostering openness, mutual understanding and tolerance. With our education, exchange and dialogue instruments which are based on partnership and anchored in mutual respect for other cultures, we want to reach out to people and win them over to our country, our values and our ideas.

That is why I am so happy about the international art and culture project “Moments – No Stories!”. This platform helps spread knowledge and sparks interest in other, different cultures. This bolsters essential elements of our work and fosters mutual understanding and trust. I am sure that, particularly in crises and conflicts, art and culture help to bridge divides and to relaunch dialogue. And at a time of global change, precisely this approach is a sine qua non for stable international relations.

The online photo gallery is to develop into a virtual artistic and cultural platform to promote exchange, partnership and cooperation between people and cultures. I wish the organizers every success for this ambitious goal.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Hans-Ulrich Seidt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'H'.