

BMZ Engagement Award 2026 in the Lifetime Achievement Category for Karin Mlodoch and HAUKARI e.V.

On September 5, 2026, Karin Mlodoch, founding and board member of HAUKARI e.V., received the 2026 Engagement Award from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in the Lifetime Achievement Category.

Federal Minister Ms. Reem Alabali Radovan presented the award to a total of seven recipients “in recognition of their commitment to international solidarity and cooperation – especially in times of increasing nationalism, isolationism, and a growing 'us first' mentality.”

The award recognizes HAUKARI e.V.'s more than 30 years of work strengthening civil society in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and supporting survivors of violence, women, and young people, as well as Karin's personal commitment to the region.

We congratulate Karin and share in her joy at this appreciation of our work.

We thank our Kurdish-Iraqi staff and partners who have shaped the work of HAUKARI e.V. for more than 30 years, the HAUKARI team in Germany. And today we are thinking especially of our co-founder and colleague Susanne Bötte, who passed away last year.

We congratulate the other award winners: Gloria Niiquaye, Batya Blankers , Julius Latzel , Shakil Syed and Nataliia Fiebrig. Political scientist and development activist Jens Martens was posthumously honored. Our respect and condolences go to his family.

In these times of social coldness and militarization, we continue - together with our Kurdish Iraqi partners - our engagement for a world based on solidarity!

Berlin, September 7, 2026

