



Frankfurt, 13. Januar 2015

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## **Resolution adopted by the board of the IG Metall**

# **In favour of a free and social-minded society that is open to the world**

The hateful attacks in Paris have shocked the world. Our deep sympathy goes out to the families of the victims. These inhuman attacks and hostage-taking are attacks on our democratic freedom of the press and freedom of speech. They challenge our free, democratic society. We take people's fears seriously and are aware that we have to defend our democracy as a tolerant, open society. That is why we are working to ensure that respect, tolerance and integration are practiced and that fear and distrust are not fomented. We want a tolerant Germany that is open to the world, in which people of different origins, lifestyles and affirmations of belief can work and live together with respect for one another.

This attack on our fundamental democratic values call for level-headed reactions reflecting value-based policies. Walling off the nation to the outside world and xenophobic movements like PEGIDA and their religious spin-off groups are seeking to turn back the wheel of history. They thus have a highly negative impact on life together in our society and tarnish the image of Germany. IG Metall has no understanding for anyone who plays with anxieties, preaches intolerance or fans the flames of xenophobia.

Only an open, democratic society that ascribes to the standards of social justice is in tune with the times. We expressly welcome Germany's having opened itself more to immigration over the last few years. Immigration is of paramount importance to our future if only due to the demographic shift. We have values that stand in stark opposition to hate, fundamentalism and violence. People that want to live here must adhere to these values.

Many members of IG Metall work for cultural coexistence, against xenophobia and for respect. IG Metall supports all democratic forces that stand up to the enemies of freedom and democracy. It works for everyone in Germany to have the opportunity to live a good life, regardless of their origin, lifestyle or religion. It will always act to promote and foster the vision of a free, open and socially just Germany.