

## Schmalkalden University for Diversity

### Raise your flag for respect and a fair and non-violent coexistence

Since 4<sup>th</sup> May, the open-air poster exhibition “Better Together” is open for viewing. The exhibition regarding the European month of diversity can be seen along the cafeteria’s glass façade. It marks the beginning of several action days presented by Schmalkalden University for Diversity.

Most programme items will take place between 17<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May, and make a clear point: in favour of diversity, against racism, in favour of exemplary cooperation, against exclusion, in favour of respect, against sexism, and in favour of peaceful dialogue.



**DEUTSCHER DIVERSITY-TAG 2021**

What we do, we do because we’re convinced. Schmalkalden University of Applied Sciences is a colourful and diverse university in the beautiful south of Thuringia. Despite the city’s size, we are an internationally focused university; our students come from all over the world and from different cultural backgrounds. Open-mindedness, willingness to dialogue, interest in the new and unknown make us the academic institution that we are today. At the same time, those are the standards all of the university’s employees set for themselves, to live them and improve daily.

Sounds too good to be true? Of course, reality often is not as we would like it to be: frustration, anger, misunderstandings, disappointment, fear, and disputes are a fact of life. Who doesn’t know it?

Especially the Covid-19 pandemic has been trying us over and over again, for quite some time now. How do we react, if things don’t go as we planned or want them to? Many things simply aren’t possible right now, have to be cancelled or postponed, or take place in a way that misses the best parts. In addition, many great fears: for their health, their social life, financially speaking, and sometimes for their existence as a whole. How will it work out and how will it be in the future?

The silver lining is that especially right now, many people show how great they are, by helping others, being optimistic, or simply shouldering their problems with grace and understanding. They – we – all are deserving of respect. It is the “better together” we all wish for.

It’s what Schmalkalden University of Applied Sciences is all about: a “better together” for all of us.

In this light, the Schmalkalden University for Diversity action days are a waving flag for respect and a fair and non-violent coexistence – or simply put: a “better together”.

Schmalkalden, May 2021

The President of Schmalkalden University of Applied Sciences