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## Fifth covering of the Ringturm draws to a close

This summer **Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein**, the **Vienna Insurance Group's main shareholder**, once again invigorated the Austrian capital's urban landscape with a monumental work of art. The **fifth artistic covering of Vienna's Ringturm**, which is now drawing to an end, came courtesy of prominent Hungarian artist **László Fehér**, whose striking design "**Society**" was the first work from one of Austria's neighbouring countries to adorn the tower.

Fehér's piece was not only intended to emblazon the city's first-ever office block over the summer. It can also be seen as an expression of openness across city and national borders. As the title implies, the piece is symbolic of the close ties between the various regions of Central and Eastern Europe. The artist describes his work as an abstract, yet realistic visual memento which also succeeds in bridging great distances.

*"Fehér's dedication to this project reflects a commitment to promoting cross-border cultural exchange, a commitment shared by our Group. His work is an expression of friendship and togetherness - values that are central to us as insurers,"* commented **Günter Geyer, Chairman of the Managing Board of Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein**.

A particular highlight was the celebration for the unveiling of the transformed Ringturm in mid-June this year, which took place on the 20th floor of the Ringturm in the presence of two prominent European heads of government, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán and Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann. The afternoon underscored the close relationships between the neighbouring countries.

Since a prominent Hungarian artist had been commissioned to create the artwork for the first time, it received broad media coverage there as well as in Austria. Around 35 Hungarian dailies, magazines and TV stations reported on the Ringturm's artistic covering and a large number of Hungarians visited Vienna especially to see László Fehér's monumental work.

As the summer draws to a close, the Ringturm will undergo another transformation as it is restored to its original appearance.

Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein is the main shareholder of the Vienna Insurance Group (VIG) and provides support for the Group's cultural and social activities, with a focus is on enhancing cross-border, intercultural exchange. The emphasis is also on creating an environment in which individual cultures can thrive. Partnerships and initiatives are geared towards supporting the activities of social organisations, especially in the Central and Eastern European countries in which the Vienna Insurance Group has a presence. As the main shareholder, Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein is also concerned with key strategic matters within the Group.

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