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Bavaria page V2/16 / Germany page V2/16 / Munich page V2/16

CAMPUS

Right-wing Professor kills himself

Werner Pfeifenberger, former professor of Political Science at Technical High School Münster, has taken his life near Salzburg. For a number of years Pfeifenberger has been the target of vigorous protests; he was repeatedly accused of spreading anti-Semitic and radical right-wing ideas. In 1995, the Austrian-born man wrote in the Yearbook of the Academy of the Liberal Party of Austria (FPÖ) of Austria that in 1933 Judea had "declared war on all Germany". An Austrian court thereupon found that Pfeifenberger expressed "Nazi ideology" and spoke on "Nazi themes". The Ministry of Science of North Rhein-Westphalia dismissed the right-winger without notice in 1997 and accepted a compromise in the accompanying trial before the Labor Court: Pfeifenberger was transferred to the Technical High School Bielefeld in August 1999; he had not taught for several years because of the frequent boycotts of students. Pfeifenberger's lawyer said the cause of his taking his life was the trial against him for exculpating National Socialism, begun in Vienna on the 26th July. His client had feared an unfair trial and did not wish to undergo the proceeding.

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