**Some information about the song “Die Gedanken sind frei”**

The text of the song „Die Gedanken sind frei“ was written by Hoffmann von Fallersleben (about 1850) – but an older version of it already existed at the end of the 18th century, that means more than 50 years earlier. The melody was composed between 1810 and 1820.

It is a political song; its philosophy is already known from the ancient times.

In times of political oppression and danger this song has often been expressing the desire for freedom and independence.

People say that in the year 1942 Sophie Scholl played this song on her flute in front of the prison, where her father was in prison because of his anti-Hitler statements. Today this song is still current, e.g. in advertising. You can see several performances on you tube, for example.