



Dr. Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana, former city councillor in Erlangen, research assistant at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany and high school teacher at Ohm-Gymnasium, has initiated the "Black History Weeks", an annual event within the framework of the UN Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024), which has since been organized by the city of Erlangen. She is the initiator of the "International Weeks against Racism in Erlangen"(2009) and in 2013 she was the initiator of "a school without racism. School with courage "of the Ohm Gymnasium.

She is the first African to be elected to a city council in Germany (2005-2019). She is, among other things, a founding member (1998) and was chairperson (2014-2018) of FORWARD-Germany e.V., an association which campaigns for the abolition of female genital mutilation. She spoke on this topic at the UN Commission on Women's Rights in New York in 2013 and 2018 and at the Human Rights Commission in Geneva in 2015 and in the European Parliament in Strasbourg in 2019. She hosted two events on Female Genital Mutilation in Russia in 2020. Dr. Herzberger-Fofana is committed to the empowerment of migrant women and against violence against women and racism.

In 2003 she was awarded the "Grand Prize of the President of Senegal for Research and Science" in Dakar (Senegal) for her book "Littérature Féminine Francophone d'Afrique Noire".

In 2009 she was awarded the "Helene Weber Prize" for her outstanding commitment as a local politician by the Federal Minister for Family Affairs, currently EU- President, Dr. Ursula von der Leyen.

In May 2019, she was elected as a Member of the European Parliament, where she is, among other things, first Vice-Chair of the Development Committee, a member of the Women and Gender Justice Committee and Co-President of the EU Intergroup ARDI (Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup). With her political commitment, she wants to encourage women and migrants in particular to become more involved in society and politics.