

**Rehabilitation of Wittgenstein's House in Skjolden
– Statement of Support 2015 –**

The Austrian philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein is considered one of the greatest philosophers of the 20th century. He contributed important works, not only in logic and philosophy of language, but also in mathematics and philosophy of mind. His treatises *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* and *Philosophical Investigations* have become an important reference point for two schools of philosophy: logical positivism and analytical philosophy of language. The study of the works of Wittgenstein is today a separate philosophical genre.

At the far end of Sognefjorden in Luster he put up a small house high up on a mountain ledge with a broad view over the beautiful and dramatic local landscape. Here he found peace and tranquility to put his pioneering thoughts on paper. In the book *Great Lives*, The Times 2015, the life of the 124 individuals of the 20th century considered to have had the greatest influence on developments in our time is presented. Wittgenstein is one of them. From the Nordic countries there are no representatives.

We consider the activities, which now have been initiated by the Wittgenstein Foundation in Skjolden aiming at the return of Wittgenstein's house to its original location and disseminate knowledge of Wittgenstein's life and work in Skjolden both important and useful. The project includes both cultural protection, public information and will also be of great interest to the tourism industry.

Luster as well as Norway as a nation will through the completion of these efforts be presented with a new tourist destination with an international cultural value, a worthy supplement to the Urnes Stave Church in Luster. We strongly urge all good forces to contribute to this interesting and important project:

A small house – a great value.

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