

Words that remain.

Graz start-up presents digital end-of-life planning platform for personal farewell messages

The Austrian start-up Lebensstimmen combines end-of-life planning, grief support and responsible AI to create a new digital culture of farewell – with investor Dr. Helmut Marko, Cathedral Pastor Toni Faber and strong partners on board.

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Vienna, 20 October 2026. Today, at a high-profile kick-off press conference at the Hotel Mandarin Oriental in Vienna, the Graz-based company Lebensstimmen GmbH presented its AI-based platform for the first time, together with Cathedral Pastor Toni Faber and Dr. Helmut Marko: a provision product that is taken out during one's lifetime and takes effect at death and beyond. It enables people to leave personal farewell messages for themselves and their loved ones – with dignity, transparency and fully digitised in compliance with the law. Bereaved relatives can create their own last words with novel digital support. Nothing that already exists is meant to be replaced; rather, new possibilities are to be created that complement the existing offering. The idea was born in Austria and is being rolled out and implemented globally from Austria by the founders Mag. (FH) Dr. Philipp Berkessy, Dr. Markus Pinter and Lukas Stern.

Lebensstimmen GmbH is officially online as of today at www.lebensstimmen.com and, for its international presence, as Words that Remain at www.wordsthatremain.com.

A topic that concerns everyone

Farewell is one of the few experiences that all people share. And yet the most important words often remain unspoken. This is exactly where Lebensstimmen comes in: users create their messages on their own terms during their lifetime. The platform ensures that these words reliably reach the right people after death, in the setting they have chosen. Artificial intelligence creates and supports within a secure framework and according to clear ethical principles.

Strong partners, prominent support, the “Fabertar” as a new kind of offering

Dr. Helmut Marko, one of the most influential figures in international motorsport and a successful entrepreneur, has been won as an investor in Lebensstimmen. In addition, Cathedral Pastor Toni Faber, one of Austria's best-known voices on matters of grief and farewell, supports the project with a new kind of offering. With the “Fabertar”, Lebensstimmen presents an AI eulogist developed together with Toni Faber

and clearly labelled as AI. It is not intended to replace pastoral care, but to offer words where they are wanted or where no speaker is available.

Legal certainty and technology as the foundation

The legal architecture of the platform was developed together with ScherbaumSeebacher Rechtsanwälte. The technology partner is BLCKs AI. As a result, Lebensstimmen meets the requirements of applicable data protection, the law and the responsible use of AI from the very outset.

Next steps: roll-out and international market entry

Following today's kick-off and the official presentation of the platform, the associated Lebensstimmen products and the launch of the website, the next step is the market launch in Q1 2027, which is planned globally as well as in Austria.

VOICES FROM THE PODIUM

"Motorsport was never left to chance; it was improved through the courage to consistently use new technologies for the benefit of people. That is exactly the attitude I recognise in Lebensstimmen."

Dr. Helmut Marko — Motorsport legend, entrepreneur & investor

"I accompany many people in their farewells. Often, what remains unsaid is the hardest part. When technology helps to preserve loving words, it serves people and brings comfort. That is exactly the idea behind the Fabertar: it is not meant to replace anyone. It is a modern offering, a dignified eulogist clearly labelled as AI, that finds words where they are needed and wanted, and also where no pastor or speaker is available."

Toni Faber — Cathedral Pastor of St. Stephen's, Vienna

"Every person has words that should remain. With Lebensstimmen, we are making end-of-life planning personal, digital and legally secure for the first time. Today, a new culture of farewell begins, and it begins in Austria."

Mag. (FH) Dr. Philipp Berkessy — Founder & Managing Director, Lebensstimmen GmbH

"Farewell concerns us all, yet hardly anyone prepares for it. We give people the opportunity to decide for themselves what remains of them or their loved ones."

Dr. Markus Pinter — Founder, Lebensstimmen GmbH

"Our aim is to create a platform that gives AI a secure framework without restricting us from working at the highest technical level."

Lukas Stern — Founder & Managing Director, Lebensstimmen GmbH

"Styria thrives on people who have the courage to try something new. Lebensstimmen is a prime example: the idea was born in Graz and is being implemented exclusively with Styrian partners. It proves that you can change the world from Styria."

Christoph Ludwig — Managing Director, SFG – Styrian Business Promotion Agency

"Especially with such a sensitive topic, legal certainty is not an option but a prerequisite. Lebensstimmen was designed from the very beginning to be legally compliant, with a focus on data protection."

FH-Hon.Prof. Mag. Sascha Verovnik — ScherbaumSeebacher Rechtsanwälte, legal partner

"At Lebensstimmen, artificial intelligence is a tool, not an author. Every message is based on the input of real people, is reviewed by humans and is clearly labelled as AI-assisted."

Philipp Fuchs — BLACKs AI

"Green Encoded ensures that, in future, every message will be stored securely in a private, encrypted family archive for memories using tokenisation and blockchain technology, and will remain unchanged and protected over the long term."

Michael Kien — Green Encoded GmbH

ABOUT LEBENSSTIMMEN

Lebensstimmen GmbH, based in Graz, combines end-of-life planning, grief support and responsible artificial intelligence to create a new digital culture of farewell. The platform makes it possible to create personal farewell messages during one's lifetime for death and beyond, and to deliver them to the chosen recipients in a legally compliant manner after death. The founders are Mag. (FH) Dr. Philipp Berkessy, Dr. Markus Pinter and Lukas Stern. The investor is Dr. Helmut Marko. The legal partner is ScherbaumSeebacher Rechtsanwälte with FH-Hon.Prof. Mag. Sascha Verovnik, the technology partner is Philipp Fuchs of BLACKs AI, and the tokenisation partner is Mag. Michael Kien of Green Encoded.

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Dignified farewell messages. Ethical. Digital. Personal.