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Who was a Nazi? German and Austrian Neurologists During the „Third Reich“

When the German Neurological Society was re-established in 1950, 6 of 7 founding fathers were former members of NSDAP. 10 of the first 13 incumbent presidents (1950—1976) had joined the NSDAP, SA, or SS, two thirds of the German and Austrian honorary members had been related to the NS-system of the NS-ideology (1952—1982). The talk will discuss their formal involvement in NS health politics, but also their attitude towards eugenics and “euthanasia”. In Germany, research-based suggestions by medical historians are needed now to decide how to face up to a difficult past, how to deal with awards and lectures bearing a “tainted” eponym and how to take prudent political decisions at large.

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