



# Federal Republic of Germany

## **Germany's Contribution to the EU:**

### **European Parliament:**

There are 96 members of the European Parliament from Germany. In the Council of EU, national ministers meet regularly to adopt EU laws and coordinate policies. Council meetings are regularly attended by representatives from the German government, depending on the policy area being addressed.

### **How much does Germany contribute and receive?**

Member countries' financial contributions to the EU budget are shared fairly, according to means. The larger your country's economy, the more it pays – and vice versa. The EU budget doesn't aim to redistribute wealth, but rather to focus on the needs of all Europeans as a whole.

Breakdown of Germany's finances with the EU in 2017:

- Total EU spending in Germany: € 10.927 billion
- Total EU spending as % of German gross national income (GNI): 0.33 %
- Total German contribution to the EU budget: € 19.587 billion
- German contribution to the EU budget as % of its GNI: 0.59 %

**The Economy of Germany:** is a highly developed social market economy. It has the largest national economy in Europe, the world's fourth largest by nominal GDP, and fifth by GDP (PPP). In 2017, according to the IMF, the country accounted for 28% of the euro area economy. Germany is an EU and Eurozone founding member. Germany recorded the world's highest trade surplus of \$310 billion in 2016, making it the world's largest exporter of capital. With 1,21 trillion euros (\$1,27 trillion) in goods and services exported in 2016, Germany is the world's third largest exporter. The service sector accounts for around 70% of total GDP, 29.1% for industry, and 0.9% for agriculture. Germany's top 10 exports are vehicles, machinery, chemical goods, electronic products, electrical equipment, pharmaceuticals, transportation equipment, basic metals, food products and rubber and plastics. Germany's economy is Europe's largest manufacturing economy and is less likely to be affected by the financial downturn and applied behaviour. The International Monetary Fund gave "still another bill of good health" to the country's economy in July 2017 and some advice on steps it might take to maintain this level in the long run. Germany has a wealth of wood, lignite,

potash and salt. In Lower Saxony, some minor sources of natural gas are being exploited. The German Democratic Republic was mining uranium in the Ore Mountains until reunification. Energy comes mainly from fossil fuels in Germany (50%), followed by nuclear power second, then gas, wind, biomass (wood and biofuels), hydro and solar. Germany is the first major industrialized nation to commit to the Energiewende renewable energy transition. Germany is the world's leading producer of wind turbines. Renewables now generates more than 27% of Germany's electricity consumption. Ninety-nine percent of all German companies belong to the German "Mittelstand," small and medium-sized enterprises mostly owned by their families. Of the world's 2000 largest publicly listed companies, Fortune Global 2000, 53 are based in Germany, with the top 10 being Allianz, Daimler, Volkswagen, Siemens, BMW, Deutsche Telekom, Bayer, BASF, Munich RE and SAP. Germany is the top trade fair location in the world. Approximately two-thirds of the leading trade fairs in Germany take place. In several German cities such as Hanover, Frankfurt, Cologne, Leipzig and Dusseldorf, the largest annual international trade fairs and congresses are held.

### **External threats**

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Germany is not facing a conventional threat to its territory, according to former German Defense Minister Peter Struck. In his own words, "A conventional threat to the German territory is not recognizable at present and in the foreseeable future."

### **Internal threats**

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At the end of 2004, 24 Islamist organizations operating in Germany that pose a security risk or promote extremism were identified by the German Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution. Approximately 31,800 members and followers of these organizations, about 1% of Muslims living in Germany. The largest follower of the Turkish Islamic Society "Milli Görüş" is 26,500. However, it is considered that only a small hard core of fanatics is capable of terrorism. It is believed that the primary targets are American, British, Israeli, and Jewish facilities, although other nations' facilities are also in danger. According to the former interior minister, potential targets include embassies, consulates, nuclear power plants, dams, airports, sewage facilities, subways, skyscrapers, sports stadiums, and churches. The fact that Germany declined to take part in the 2003 invasion of Iraq may somewhat mitigate the risk of terrorism by Islamic extremist groups. German authorities, however, are not complacent. In Germany, too, right-wing and left-wing extremists face an internal threat. By the end of 2004, according to the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, there were 168 right-wing extremist organizations with 40,700 members. There were about 3,800 Neo-Nazis. An estimated 10,000 is a hard core of right-wing extremists capable of violence.

### **Terrorism**

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The right-wing extremism is associated with three political parties: the Republicans, the German People's Union, and Germany's National Democratic Party. The far-right German People's Union has six seats in the state parliament of Brandenburg and one seat in the Bürgerschaft of Bremen. The far left, with revolutionary Marxist and anarchist factions, had approximately 30,800 adherents at the end of 2004. Only about 1,000 of the 65,800 Democratic Socialism Party members are supporting a communist platform. About 5,500 extremists from the far-left are considered capable of violence. Terrorism Following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the United States by al-Qaeda, Germans were surprised to learn that the strike's mastermind and several accomplices had previously lived in Hamburg. According to the US, Germany has since been a reliable partner in the U.S.-led War on Terrorism. State Department. German courts have a very high standard of proof, making it difficult for authorities to convict or deport suspects of terrorism. A Hamburg court convicted Mounir el Motassadeq of assisting and encouraging the conspiracy in February 2003 and sentenced him to a maximum period of 15 years. However, in March 2004, due to lack of evidence, the German supreme court overturned this conviction, which was the world's first incident related to the 9/11 incident, and re-tried the case. A Hamburg court finally re-convicted El Motassadeq in August 2005 and sentenced him to seven years in prison. In another case, it took years of procedural maneuvers before the German judiciary finally succeeded in deporting a so-called "Caliph of Cologne" Islamic extremist to Turkey in October 2004. In another case, a Syrian-German terrorist suspect was released from custody in July 2005 after the German supreme court ruled that under an EU arrest warrant he could not be extradited to Spain because this step would violate the Basic Law of Germany. In August 2006, a botched plot was released by the German government to bomb two German trains. The attack was to take place in July 2006, involving a 21-year-old Lebanese man identified only as Youssef Mohammed E. H. Prosecutors said Youssef and another man left on the trains suitcases filled with crude propane-gas bombs. According to the German federal prosecutor, the explosives did not detonate due to a "technical defect." If they had, police said, they would have killed a "high number" of passengers. Prosecutors said it was likely that the would-be bombers did not act alone and might have been motivated by anger over the war in Lebanon, where the German government agreed to play a limited, peacekeeping role. Prosecutors also said the military intelligence agency of Lebanon had offered "decisive" information to German authorities that led to the arrest of Youssef.

### **General Affairs**

The structure of steorage provision reflects the German education and employment system with its shared responsibilities between the federal, the federal states and also the municipalities. A key player within the implementation of steorage provision is that the Bundesagentur für Arbeit (BA) with its quite a hundred and fifty native Employment Agencies (EA) and career info centres (BIZ). additionally to Federal establishments, the native municipalities play a vital role by providing steorage services either through course of study Centres or their financial aid services.

Further, the National steering Forum for Education, Career associated Employment - an freelance network of politically accountable establishments, organisations and consultants - promotes the expertness and quality delivery of steering within the education and employment sector in Germany. In conjunction with members of the Federal Ministry of Education and Analysis (BMBF), the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK) and also the Federal Agency (FEA), it additionally contributes to a method of womb-to-tomb Learning in Germany during which a coherent system of womb-to-tomb steering is an integral element.

Ethical standards play a vital role among German steering counsellors and associations. Whereas there's no national moral guideline, they commit themselves to act in accordance with the moral standards outlined by the IAEVG.

Further, the National steering Forum for Education, Career and Employment, the analysis Quality cluster in steering of the University of Heidelberg (IBW) yet as varied actors and stakeholders of the German steering community have developed the alleged BeQu conception. This quality conception is a component of a professionalisation strategy to market the social and political price hooked up to skilled career steering and direction. It conjointly includes moral standards and aims at turning into benchmark for the steering apply and policy in European country.

### **Home Affairs System**

Germany's interior ministry has given its key points for the new immigration law. However the primary reactions were rather mixed, though the law has long been desired for EURACTIV Deutschland reports. After the SPD placed pressure on the CDU/CSU to settle their dull dispute in early Gregorian calendar month, things went quicker than expected. A draft for immigration laws of the German government was created on the market on Friday (17 August). Interior Minister Christof Seehofer (CSU) given in it the cornerstones of the long run law, that has long been demanded, particularly by the SPD, and was additionally antecedently secure within the coalition agreement. The new law is to reform the present, unwieldy immigration law of 2004 and to finally regulate labour market integration on the far side asylum policy. Refugees area unit mentioned in Seehofer's draft solely with one sentence. The main focus is on another keyword of migration policy: consummate employees.

### **Publicly Financed Health Insurance**

In 2014, total health expenditure was 11.2 percent of GDP, of which 74 percent was public, mainly SHI spending (58% of total). General tax-financed federal spending on "extraneous benefits" provided by SHI, such as coverage for children, amounted to about 4.5 percent of total expenditure in 2014.<sup>2</sup> Sickness funds are financed by compulsory contributions levied

as a percentage of gross wages up to a ceiling. Coverage is universal for all legal residents. All employed citizens (and other groups such as pensioners) earning less than EUR56,250 (USD71,564) per year as of 2016 are mandatorily covered by SHI, and their nonearning dependents are covered free of charge.<sup>3</sup> Individuals whose gross wages exceed the threshold and the previously SHI-insured self-employed can remain in the publicly financed scheme on a voluntary basis (as 75% do) or purchase substitutive PHI, which also covers civil servants. About 86 percent of the population receive their primary coverage through SHI and 11 percent through substitutive PHI. Military members, police, and other public-sector employees are covered under special programs. Visitors are not covered through German SHI. Refugees and undocumented immigrants are covered by social security in case of acute illness and pain, as well as pregnancy and childbirth. As of 2016, the legally set uniform contribution rate is 14.6 percent of gross wages, shared equally by the employer and employees. A previous legally fixed additional contribution rate for employees (0.9%) and supplementary per capita premiums set by sickness funds have been abolished and replaced by a supplementary income-dependent contribution rate determined individually by each sickness fund.<sup>4</sup> In 2015, the supplementary contribution rate was, on average, 0.83 percent—that is, most of the SHI-insured paid less than previously, with rates ranging between 0 and 1.3 percent. For 2016, the average supplementary contribution rate is estimated at 1.1 percent. This contribution also covers dependents (nonearning spouses and children). Earnings above EUR50,850 (USD64,994) per year (as of 2016) are exempt from contribution. The sickness funds' contributions are centrally pooled and then reallocated to individual sickness funds using a risk-adjusted capitation formula, taking into account age, sex, and morbidity from 80 chronic and/or serious illnesses. That Deutschland with its ageing population suffers a shortage of craftsmen, nurses and technicians may be a well-known however pressing drawback. Around 1.6 million qualified employees area unit missing within Deutschland, per a study by the German Chamber of trade and Commerce. virtually each third company cannot fill its vacant positions.

## **Health System**

Health insurance is mandatory for all citizens and permanent residents of Germany. It is provided by two systems, namely: 1) competing, not-for-profit, non-governmental health insurance funds (“sickness funds”—there were 118 as of January 2016<sup>1</sup>) in the statutory health insurance (SHI) system; and 2) substitutive private health insurance (PHI). States own most university hospitals, while municipalities play a role in public health activities and own about half of all hospital beds. However, the various levels of government have virtually no role in the direct financing or delivery of healthcare. To a large degree, regulation is delegated to self-governing associations within sickness funds and provider associations, which are together represented by the most important body, the Federal Joint Committee.

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### **National Developments**

Germany embraced its first feasible advancement technique in 2002. From that point forward it has been refreshed at ordinary interims. The latest procedure decides the course of economic improvement in Germany. Maintainability implies just chopping down as much timber as can develop once more. It implies living from the yield and not from the substance. As far as society it implies that every age must determination the difficulties confronting it as opposed to passing them on to the ages to come. Everybody chooses with regards to supportability. Choices on maintainability influence the individuals who contribute, make and expend. It isn't just an issue of the morals of managing with less. Creative energy, imagination and specialized skill are called for so as to move forward with ecologically stable generation and utilization that utilizes characteristic assets. On the off chance that this is to work, everyone – the workforce and organizations, worker's guilds and

business leagues, colleges and research offices, must do their bit to effectively shape basic change.

### **The Core Values for Maintainability**

The core values on which the National Sustainability Strategy are based are between generational value, personal satisfaction, social attachment and worldwide obligation. Markers are spread out in the technique with medium-and-long haul targets to be accomplished. By method for instance, discharges of ozone harming substances are to be cut by 40 percent by 2020. By 2050 renewables are to represent 60 percent of the vitality blend, while natural cultivating is to represent one-fifth of all rural movement in the coming years. Germany is on the correct way. We as of now produce 33% of our power from renewables. That essentially diminishes outflows of ozone harming substances. In contrast with 1990, these emanations have been decreased by 27.7 percent in 2014.

### **Points of View**

In 1992 the United Nations confirmed its promise to the core value of practical improvement. In Rio de Janeiro the UN received a worldwide activity program. In its "Plan 21" every one of the more than 170 signatory states announced itself prepared and willing to make an interpretation of the core value into all approach fields at national dimension with the inclusion of common society and the private segment. Germany was one of the signatory states. In 2002 the German government along these lines introduced its national economical improvement methodology "Points of view for Germany – Our Strategy for Sustainable Development". A program of measures received in 2010 determined the assignments ahead and the destinations to be accomplished so as to achieve the objectives inside the dispatch of the German government. The technique and the individual measures are routinely refreshed. At ordinary interims (like clockwork) the German government distributes advance reports. At regular intervals marker reports give point by point data about improvements in the center zones of maintainability approach inside Germany. In 2016 the German government drastically updated the procedure to adjust it to the 17 manageable improvement objectives spread out in the 2030 Agenda, embraced by the United Nations in September 2015. Since Germany's National Sustainable Development Strategy is subsequently altogether progressively worldwide in heading, the new refreshed form likewise grasps new point zones and destinations.

### **Program of Measures and Reports**

Practical improvement implies molding the future with vision, creative energy and inventiveness. It implies having the bravery to break new ground and take a stab at something new. It is about how we need to live in future, and how we plan to respond to the inquiries our globalized world stances as far as our social orders and the manner in which we work together. The technique is in this manner exceptionally sweeping as far as topic and is intended to be overhauled and further created. It is an establishment for political changes

and for changes in the manner organizations and buyers act. Well past the ecological difficulties, the idea gives rules to suitable strategies for the future no matter how you look at it. It is tied in with all-encompassing duty regarding monetarily, naturally and socially feasible advancement for all ages.

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