

DEAR BERLINERS,

Berlin is not just any city. Berlin is the heart of Europe. Berlin is the German capital with a rich and eventful history. But Berlin is also a city whose façades are not merely losing the lustre of the past; their condition is downright alarming. Berlin is a city in decline.

It is high time to halt this decline. We must make our city strong again. For this to succeed, Berlin urgently needs a political, economic and social turnaround. It needs a fresh start so that Berlin can once again become a thriving and socially inclusive metropolis with a high quality of life, whose splendour shines far beyond national borders.

This is what we, the AfD, stand for with this election manifesto. It is our compass for a strong Berlin and the urgently needed change. In this manifesto, we set out clear priorities. We acknowledge the responsibility that comes with this task and are ready to take it on.

At the heart of our policies are the people of Berlin and their families. We make policy for all those who live, work and pay taxes here. They have a right to a clean and safe city. They have a right to underground and suburban rail services that run smoothly, as well as to roads free of potholes and permanent roadworks that cause kilometres-long traffic jams. They have a right to an efficient public administration and to well-equipped schools that once again meet the educational standards expected of a knowledge-based society.

We will ensure that Berliners can once again find affordable housing. When state-owned and subsidised flats are allocated, they will be given priority over all other applicants. Flats are not asylum accommodation; they are the homes of Berliners who love living here.

We want to put an end to the untenable conditions in our city and make it one of the most liveable cities in Europe. We are campaigning so that Berliners can once again be proud of their city. We do not just talk; we act in the interests of our citizens. For the people of Berlin. For our city.

MAKING BERLIN STRONG.

Yours sincerely

Dr Kristin Brinker

Regional Chair and candidate
for the office of Governing Mayor

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CONSTRUCTION & LIVING



MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR BERLIN

In recent years, the situation on Berlin's housing market has continued to worsen. The population growth caused by uncontrolled migration policy, coupled with difficulties in new-build construction, has driven market rents to an all-time high and multiplied the demand for social housing. As a result of the resulting wide disparity between existing and asking rents, coupled with an insufficient supply of housing, Berliners are staying put in their flats and are hardly moving house even when their housing needs change: the housing market is 'frozen'. The Conservative-Social Democratic Senate, in office since 2023, has also largely failed in its efforts to boost housing construction. It has failed to bring about a radical reduction in building regulations and over-regulation, which would have created a favourable climate for private investment in new-builds and the maintenance of existing stock. Not least because of this, there is a shortage of affordable housing, particularly for low and middle-income earners.

Priority for locals – our demands to make housing affordable for Berliners once again:

Priority for locals – fair and socially just allocation of subsidised housing

For years, the gap has been widening in Berlin between what Berliners – whose lives and work have long been centred on our city – contribute to our city, and their chances of finding affordable housing. We therefore advocate that Berliners who were born here or have lived in our city for many years be given priority when subsidised housing is allocated. This applies to rented flats as well as to the housing stock of state-owned housing associations that is due to be sold off. Those who work here, pay taxes and have built their lives here must no longer be disadvantaged. The allocation of subsidised housing must therefore take place through a transparent, fair and verifiable process that primarily benefits Berliners. To this end, we will introduce a points-based system that combines length of residence with social criteria such as income level, number of children, care responsibilities and employment in systemically important sectors (police, fire service, crane

healthcare, care, childcare, local transport, refuse collection, etc.).

Creating housing for local residents We intend to make full use of the existing legal options for creating housing that gives priority to local residents. To this end, the model for cooperative building land development must be adapted so that the housing created is, as a matter of principle, made available primarily to local residents in accordance with the points-based system.

More rental flats through less regulation – facilitating private investment

The best way to curb rent increases is to ensure a sufficient supply of housing. We therefore intend to remove all obstacles that limit the supply of rental flats. The private housing sector, the largest provider of rental flats in Berlin, should be encouraged, through an investment-friendly climate, to invest more heavily once again in the construction of rental flats. We categorically reject planned-economy instruments and the expropriation of housing companies, as not only do these fail to create a single new flat, but they also deter both companies and private landlords from investing in new-builds and the maintenance of existing stock.

Social housing: Rent subsidies instead of endless waiting lists – support for individuals rather than for properties

We do not want to fob citizens off with promises of new social housing, but rather enable them to rent a flat on the open market themselves by granting them rent subsidies. We are therefore campaigning for housing benefit to be supplemented by rent subsidies for holders of a housing eligibility certificate (WBS).

Reintroduce the misallocation levy

Academic studies show that more than half of social housing tenants are no longer in need of social support. To ensure the allocation of these flats is socially equitable, we want to reintroduce the misallocation levy. To prevent abuse, we are campaigning for a general ban on subletting social housing.

Limiting 'milieu protection'

The designation of residential neighbourhoods as 'social environment protection zones' (Section 172 of the German Building Code (BauGB))

serves the purpose of preserving the composition of the existing residential population, but is also associated with significant side effects. For instance, building alterations are subject to approval, with the result that there is a lack of continuous investment in improving the housing stock. This stands in contrast to the need to respond to an ageing society by making appropriate adjustments to the housing stock. Last but not least, new construction activity is also lacking in neighbourhood conservation areas. We are seeking a change in the law so that structural alterations and new construction can be carried out more easily. Our aim is also to make it easier for tenants to become homeowners.

Special building regulations for Berliners

Section 246 of the BauGB contains comprehensive special provisions for the construction of accommodation for 'refugees' and 'asylum seekers'. This results in urban planning legislation giving preferential treatment to the interests of groups of foreign nationals who are residing in Germany and who are neither citizens of EU Member States nor do they have any other rights to permanent residence. By contrast, the interests of the local population are neglected.

We are therefore campaigning for a revision of Section 246 of the BauGB with the aim of creating special planning rights specifically for local residents in tight housing markets. This is intended to enable the creation of housing for this group of people in a simplified and expedited manner. To this end, in particular, exceptions and exemptions under Section 31(1) and (2) of the BauGB should be made easier to obtain, and the amendment of local development plans via the simplified procedure under Section 13 of the BauGB should be permitted.

Lower ancillary housing costs through transparent heating bills for tenants

The sharp rise in prices for electricity, gas and heating oil, resulting from the failed 'energy transition' and tax burdens, is also affecting the costs of district heating. This has led not only to sometimes drastic additional payments for tenants of state-owned housing associations, without the factors causing these being clearly identifiable in the operating cost statements – particularly in the case of heat supply through so-called 'heat contracting'. We will therefore campaign to ensure that, in future, all cost factors are transparently disclosed to tenants in heating bills, thereby enabling a comparison of costs between different

suppliers. Furthermore, we will oblige the state-owned housing companies to organise the procurement of the energy sources they purchase independently of short-term fluctuations in market prices. We will penalise breaches of this obligation by introducing a statutory cap on additional charges. For unclear bills, we will introduce a reversal of the burden of proof.

Lower service charges through the abolition of property tax

The service charges associated with a property have long since become a 'second rent'. This applies in particular to property tax, as it must be paid not only by the property owners themselves but also by tenants as part of their service charge allocation. To provide long-term relief for owners and tenants, we call on the State of Berlin to advocate in the Bundesrat for the complete abolition of property tax and for the federal government to compensate local authorities for the resulting financial shortfall.

Strengthen support for housing cooperatives

Alongside home ownership, housing co-operatives provide the best form of affordable, high-quality housing. As the co-operative model means that every tenant is also a co-owner, co-operatives have a vested interest in maintaining their housing stock and ensuring rents remain affordable. By providing greater support for the co-operative sector, we will help more citizens to access co-operative housing. To this end, we will give priority to co-operatives when allocating state-owned building plots. This applies in particular to those co-operatives that have already demonstrated their reliability over a long period of time. Co-operatives should also be given priority in the event of the privatisation of public housing stock.

More home ownership for Berliners – Taking Article 28 of the Berlin Constitution seriously

Home ownership protects against poverty in old age, gentrification and rent increases. Those who live in their fully paid-off flat in retirement see a noticeable increase in their disposable income due to the elimination of rent payments. Given the dire state of the state pension system, home ownership is therefore becoming increasingly important. Unlike in the EU, where around 70 per cent of citizens own their own homes, the figure in Berlin is just 15 per cent. According to a study by the ECB, the low home

is the main reason why Germans have the lowest household wealth of all EU citizens. Italians and French people, for example, are two to three times wealthier than Germans. Because Berlin's politicians wish to convince citizens that a low home ownership rate is a good thing, the Berlin Senate intends for the city to remain a city of tenants. However, this policy prevents the accumulation of wealth and thus contravenes Article 28(1) of the Berlin Constitution, which obliges the Senate to promote home ownership.

Promoting home ownership through public guarantees and the abolition of the land transfer tax for owner-occupied property

We will breathe new life into Article 28(1) of the Berlin Constitution by supporting citizens with equity-replacing guarantees when they purchase property. Anyone who has sufficient income to service a mortgage but is unable to obtain one from the banks due to a lack of equity should receive a public guarantee to finance their home.

In addition to granting public guarantees for the purchase of owner-occupied property, we will completely abolish the land transfer tax for local first-time buyers of owner-occupied property, whilst introducing a land transfer tax of 20 per cent for investors resident outside the EU.

Speeding up planning permission procedures by cutting red tape

To ensure that construction in Berlin proceeds more quickly once again, we will streamline and further simplify the extensive regulations of the Berlin Building Code. For example, in the case of an approved new build, the requirement for a demolition permit for the existing structure may be waived. Furthermore, we will advocate for rolling back the current energy efficiency standards for building insulation to the level of the early 2000s, as the associated costs and bureaucratic burden are disproportionate to the energy efficiency gains that can be achieved. We firmly oppose the introduction of additional obligations under state law, such as the retrofitting of photovoltaic systems.

Protection of allotment gardens

The preservation of inner-city allotment gardens is a key state policy priority for the Berlin AfD. To this end, we intend to preserve in the long term the green spaces and allotment gardens designated in the land-use plan as protection category 2 under the Allotment Garden Development Plan, and to further safeguard them through approved development plans. We also intend to effectively safeguard Berlin's weekend allotment settlements. In view of growing social hardship, we aim to establish a permanent right of residence for weekend allotment holders – initially limited to 20 years.

INTERNAL SECURITY, JUSTICE & DATA PROTECTION





Home Security, Justice & Data Protection

Strengthening the police and the judiciary

The current security situation in Berlin has been precarious for years. Under the CDU-SPD coalition government, the security situation has deteriorated further. There are daily reports of stabbings and other violent assaults, often with fatal consequences. In 2025, the Berlin police recorded 3,599 cases involving knife attacks. Police crime statistics have shown for years that non-Germans are represented to a far greater extent than their proportion of the population would suggest amongst the suspects under investigation, particularly in cases of violent and sexual offences. The crime burden in Berlin is thus, to a significant extent, the result of years of uncontrolled migration policy. Lasting security in our city can only be achieved through a consistent policy of remigration. Attacks on police and emergency services have also risen sharply. Since 2001, staffing levels within the Berlin Police have been reduced. Despite improvements made under pressure from the AfD, there is a massive shortage of staff. Furthermore, Berlin is in breach of the principle of performance-based funding. The condition of police, judicial and fire service buildings is nothing short of shameful: the backlog of renovation work on the Berlin Police's properties alone amounts to 2.3 billion euros (as of August 2025). Many of these properties suffer from glaring hygiene deficiencies and health hazards.

We want the police and the judiciary to be capable of acting effectively and performing to the best of their ability. The principle of selecting the best candidates must apply without restriction. We reject quota systems. Adequate and performance-based remuneration for our civil servants must be guaranteed. Good equipment and good working conditions must be guaranteed: the police and the judiciary must be able to work in well-equipped buildings with appropriate digital facilities. Protective gear, firearms and technical equipment for our police must be state-of-the-art. We want to relieve the burden on the police by introducing a district police force based within the public order offices. The powers of public order officers are to be extended to include the authority to take direct action in cases of minor offences (e.g. damage to property). The creation of a district police force will significantly reduce the workload on the state police, and certain administrative procedures can thus be carried out from start to finish by a single body (district police/public order office)

. The following tasks are to be transferred to the district police: establishing identity, searching persons and property, issuing orders to leave the premises, and the use of direct coercion.

Berlin suffers particularly from crime committed by foreign nationals. The migration background of offenders must therefore be clearly identified and recorded. Furthermore, we want the proportion of German suspects with a migration background to be recorded in future when offences are committed. The disproportionately high rate of criminality among foreign suspects and German suspects with a migrant background must neither be obscured in the statistics nor downplayed for political reasons. Similarly, suspected anti-German and anti-Christian motives must be identified and recorded separately.

The AfD calls for:

- The immediate repeal of the State Anti-Discrimination Act and the revision of other security-related laws.
- Comprehensive CCTV surveillance in all high-crime areas.
- The introduction of mobile police stations in problem neighbourhoods, as well as the creation of a denser network of permanent police stations.
- A legal basis for crime-related night-time curfews for young repeat offenders.
- More random police checks in problem neighbourhoods.
- The reintroduction of an absolute ban on face coverings at public gatherings.
- An increase in staffing levels within the police, the judiciary and the fire service, and ensuring adequate training for new recruits.
- No lowering of recruitment standards and no quota systems.
- The continued increase in allowances and performance-related pay for civil servants.
- The creation of special financial incentives for particularly high-risk roles within the police and fire services.
- Improving working conditions and equipment for the police, the judiciary, the prison service and financial investigators, including the refurbishment of dilapidated buildings and the construction of a new building for the Administrative Court.
- The creation of digital infrastructure and, where appropriate, the implementation of AI.
- The introduction of a district police force.

- The clear identification and statistical recording of the migration background of German suspects, as well as the criminal behaviour of foreign suspects.
- The separate statistical recording of anti-Semitic, anti-German and anti-Christian incidents.

Combating organised crime and clan structures With 66 major investigations and 485 suspects in 2023, Berlin is the capital of organised crime. In view of the sharp rise in the number of suspects of foreign nationality, organised crime in particular is predominantly 'imported' crime. Immigrant extended families such as the Abou-Chakers, Miris, Remmos and Al-Zeins have amassed considerable wealth and power through organised crime. The Arab-Lebanese clan structures, which have been established in Berlin for decades, are increasingly confronted with war-hardened and even more brutal rival clans from Syria, Iraq or Chechnya. This further escalation is a direct consequence of the illegal mass migration since 2015. Wars between rival clans are being fought openly in Berlin and are increasingly resulting in fatalities. Criminal family clans, biker gangs and other groups with mafia-like structures are undermining the rule of law; they engage in smuggling, human trafficking, arms trafficking and drug trafficking; they force women, girls and young men into prostitution; and they commit serious theft offences and dangerous assaults, including murder. All measures required under the rule of law must be taken to combat organised crime, in particular clan-based crime. A resolute policy of repatriation is absolutely essential: the consistent deportation of offenders required to leave the country and clan members without the right to remain will weaken existing clan structures in the long term and prevent the formation of new ones. Suspects in organised crime cases must be brought before the duty judge within 48 hours to prepare for a trial. The parallel justice system that has emerged must be combated. There must be no lawless areas. The enforcement of the law must be, and must remain, the responsibility of the state. The seizure and forfeiture of criminally acquired assets must be consistently applied to all clans and structures of organised crime (OC).

The AfD calls for:

- The establishment of a special unit within the Immigration Authority to centralise and expedite the expulsion and deportation of foreign criminals, in particular

those involved in clan-related and organised crime, to be centralised and expedited.

- The establishment of an 'Ident' working group within the police force to ascertain the identity and origin of criminals from the clan milieu, thereby facilitating their deportation.

Reforming the Berlin judiciary

The Berlin judiciary is chronically overburdened. Only one in two crimes is solved in Berlin. Among other things, this overload means that dangerous suspects have to be released from pre-trial detention. The AfD therefore calls for a concerted reform of the judiciary to restore the full operational and decision-making capacity of the Berlin judiciary.

The AfD calls for:

- The reintroduction of the 'old takes precedence over new' rule: cases against repeat offenders should be handled by the same case officer to enable a perpetrator-focused approach and to prevent the fragmentation of proceedings.
- The restructuring of the responsibilities of the Berlin Public Prosecutor's Office: the aim is to achieve comprehensive and efficient cooperation between the Public Prosecutor's Office and the police, including in the general departments, in line with the thematically structured specialist departments, such as those dealing with homicides. Each of the six police headquarters should be assigned to a main department of the Public Prosecutor's Office.
- Regarding youth crime: The age of criminal responsibility is to be lowered from 14 to 12 years, and adult criminal law is to be applied from the age of 18. The expansion of fast-track proceedings in youth criminal law for minor and moderate offences (the Neukölln model) is to be accelerated. 'Warning detention' should be possible for up to three months. It should be possible to impose a youth sentence from as early as three months.
- Tougher penalties for grievous bodily harm involving knife attacks, fast-track proceedings for knife offences, the swift deportation of foreign knife offenders, and the expansion of random checks in areas with high crime rates. We reject knife-free zones as purely symbolic politics.
- Providing information within prisons about the option of chemical castration for sex offenders.
- Improving security within the prison system and consistently combating crime within the prison system.
- No detention of biological men in women's prisons.

- Religious pastoral care for prisoners, to be funded solely by the religious communities.

Abolition of the offence of minor lese-majesty (Section 188 of the German Criminal Code)

Section 188 of the German Criminal Code (StGB) has degenerated from a means of providing politicians with special – and therefore dubious in the first place – protection of their honour into a method of combating critical statements through criminal law. German public prosecutors who mock those they are prosecuting on US television are a cautionary example. For resourceful entrepreneurs, Section 188 of the German Criminal Code (StGB) has long since become a lucrative business model. The purpose of the provision, as it may have been originally intended, has thus been missed and completely perverted. This causes considerable damage to the reputation of the judiciary and democracy. Sections 185 and 187 of the German Criminal Code (StGB) are entirely sufficient for the protection of honour. There is no need for special legal protection for politicians.

The AfD calls for:

- A Bundesrat initiative by Berlin to repeal Section 188 of the German Criminal Code (StGB) without replacement.

Combating political and religious extremism

Berlin is the state with the highest incidence of political violence: homicides, assaults, arson, breach of the peace, unlawful detention and offences of resisting arrest. Most acts of violence linked to a religious ideology are also committed in Berlin. Since Hamas's attack on Israel on 7 October 2023, pro-Palestinian demonstrations and anti-Semitic attacks have been taking place in Berlin almost daily. The number of anti-Jewish and anti-Israeli offences has reached record levels. Berlin has become a stronghold for Salafists and supporters of the Islamic State (IS). The number of violent Salafists in Berlin has multiplied in recent years.

The far-left extremist scene has merged with the Islamist scene, leading to a significant increase in the overall threat level. Berlin has now become a hotspot for crimes targeting Israel. It is intolerable that Jews in our city are no longer safe because of such forces.

Political and religious extremism increasingly threatens our security and our fundamental democratic order. We want to protect our citizens from extremists. Security must be guaranteed.

Every threat posed by extremism must be effectively combated. Our free and democratic constitutional order is non-negotiable.

The AfD calls for:

- An end to all funding programmes for far-left extremist organisations, as well as for left-wing front organisations disguised as NGOs, in order to restore state neutrality.
- Monitoring of far-left extremist campaigns such as 'Switch Off' and their front organisations by the Office for the Protection of the Constitution.
- Tougher penalties for attacks on critical infrastructure (KRITIS).
- Greater surveillance of Islamist extremism.
- The combating of parallel legal structures.
- The consistent deportation of Islamist threats, including to countries of origin such as Syria and Afghanistan.
- The introduction of a general ban on face coverings at demonstrations and the enactment of a law on event security.
- The consistent repatriation of foreign offenders, individuals posing a threat and extremists as an integral part of a resolute remigration policy.

Strengthening the operational capability of the Berlin Fire Brigade

With over 500,000 call-outs in 2024, the Berlin Fire Brigade faces enormous challenges. The serious shortcomings within the fire service have been known for years and have been repeatedly neglected, with the result that an outdated fleet of vehicles, inadequate buildings and a renovation backlog running into millions are now making life difficult for many firefighters. Fewer and fewer young people want to train as firefighters. We want to ensure that emergency response and rescue services are guaranteed in Berlin.

The AfD calls for:

- Massive investment in equipment and buildings for the Berlin fire service, as well as a clear prioritisation in budgetary policy in favour of our emergency and security services.

Expansion of civil protection

The left-wing terrorist attacks on Berlin's electricity supply – particularly in Steglitz-Zehlendorf, but also in Adlershof and elsewhere – have ruthlessly exposed the alarming shortcomings in Berlin's civil protection. Berlin is still not sufficiently prepared for sabotage, blackouts and

prolonged outages of critical infrastructure. An effective civil protection system must ensure that the public is warned, that the authorities remain operational and, above all, that the security of supply to particularly vulnerable facilities is maintained, even during prolonged power cuts. This applies in particular to hospitals and care homes.

The AfD calls for:

- Effective protection of critical infrastructure.
- Mandatory blackout and sabotage preparedness measures, including emergency power, communications and contingency plans for hospitals, care homes and other particularly important public facilities.
- Robust crisis coordination and clear leadership structures at state level in the event of KRITIS failures.
- Mandatory emergency plans for museums, archives and public cultural institutions.
- The expansion of the siren network and a reliable public warning system.

Our vision for a digital Berlin

An efficient administration is the foundation of a sustainable city. Through strategic digitalisation, we aim to improve quality of life and strengthen Berlin as a technology hub. Data protection and privacy are non-negotiable for us. We are committed to cooperation, smart investment, a networked IT infrastructure, partnerships with the private sector and a nationwide digitalisation strategy. We want to reduce the unnecessary burden on small and medium-sized enterprises resulting from the switch to exclusively digital invoices (e-invoices) by 2028 by exempting small businesses from the e-invoicing obligation.

Protecting privacy: No 'chat monitoring' and no AI scanning of private data

The EU plans to scan all citizens' messenger messages using AI. Even private, end-to-end-encrypted chats are to be scanned. This would lead to unprecedented mass surveillance. Even harmless family photos could be mistakenly classified as illegal. The AfD stands for the unrestricted protection of citizens' privacy and firmly rejects mass scanning without reasonable suspicion. We also want to prevent backdoors in messaging services from being used in future to search for politically inconvenient content.

The AfD calls for:

- A commitment from the Berlin Senate to protect privacy and oppose chat monitoring.
- A ban on technical cooperation by all state authorities.
- The enactment of a state data protection regulation prohibiting the use of AI scanning on private devices and providing for sanctions in the event of breaches.

IMMIGRATION ASYLUM & NATIONALITY NATIONALITY



Immigration, asylum & Nationality

Germany is not a country of immigration

Germany is a nation that has developed over time and is not a country that defines itself primarily through immigration. Nevertheless, migration is increasingly being viewed as an end in itself, without being subjected to a rational cost-benefit analysis. In many cases, the individual right to asylum is being misused as a means of immigration to obtain a permanent right of residence. Under the Asylum Act, however, protected status is, in principle, temporary and must not lead to permanent settlement. The consequences of this undesirable trend are increasing social fragmentation and an overburdening of the social welfare systems by 'poverty migrants'.

The AfD calls for:

- A clear distinction between immigration on the one hand (based on qualifications and need) and asylum on the other (temporary protection).
- The consistent prioritisation of the repatriation of those entitled to protection as soon as the situation in their country of origin permits. In particular, the protection status of Syrian and Afghan beneficiaries must be consistently reviewed, and where it is established that the grounds for protection no longer apply, immediate repatriation must be initiated, starting with criminals and those posing a threat.
- Active diplomatic initiatives to create opportunities for return to countries of origin.
- Immigration exclusively into areas of need defined by the state – subject to prior proof of language proficiency, demonstrated willingness to integrate, and recognition of and adherence to Germany's dominant culture.
- Strict control and limitation of immigration to prevent social disintegration and crime committed by foreign nationals.

Quality of life for all Berliners instead of uncontrolled mass migration

For years, the 'concept of the growing city' has relied predominantly on immigration from abroad. The proportion of people with a migrant background rose from 25 per cent to 41 per cent in just ten years. The scale and composition of uncontrolled mass migration are overwhelming Berlin's social welfare systems and leading to the

progressive

disintegration of urban society. The AfD rejects any form of uncontrolled migration. Berlin must return to a consistent immigration policy based on the rule of law, in which integration is the responsibility of the immigrants themselves. Immigration must be a conscious choice to come to our country. This is intrinsically linked to learning the German language, respecting our culture and a willingness to contribute professionally. The following must apply: the right to asylum is not a ticket to permanent immigration. Return to the home country or country of origin is the top priority here, as soon as this is possible.

The AfD pursues a comprehensive policy of remigration, which encompasses both the deportation of those required to leave the country and voluntary return programmes, whilst strengthening readmission agreements and cooperation with third countries.

The AfD calls for:

- An immediate halt to the admission of asylum seekers in Berlin.
- An end to the voluntary admission of migrants who have been smuggled in illegally.
- No winter ban on deportations in Berlin.
- The immediate deportation from Berlin of all up to 20,000 people required to leave the country.
- The abolition of Berlin's Hardship Commission for rejected asylum seekers.
- A binding agenda for remigration: a repatriation drive, voluntary return, robust bilateral readmission agreements and the expansion of cooperation with third countries.
- The transformation of the State Office for Immigration (LEA) into a State Office for Immigration, Asylum and Remigration, with a clear priority on repatriation.
- To complement the Dublin departure centre: the establishment of a sufficiently large Berlin deportation centre to enable deportations to be carried out efficiently.

Removing incentives and preventing asylum abuse

Extensive social programmes, generous cash benefits rather than benefits in kind, and a lack of deportations make Berlin a powerful magnet for migration. Asylum seekers receive financial benefits that far exceed the statutory minimum. It is essential here to reduce these pull factors to a minimum that is justifiable under the rule of law.

The AfD calls for:

- That advice on asylum procedures and the right to remain (Section 12a of the Asylum Act) be restricted exclusively to state authorities.
- The establishment of a Dublin departure centre to facilitate the swift return of asylum seekers to the relevant EU Member States.
- A switch to benefits in kind only.
- The restriction of provision, advice and accommodation to what is strictly necessary.
- The abolition of anonymous medical certificates for undocumented migrants.
- No language or integration courses for asylum seekers who are not entitled to remain.
- Full cost transparency regarding asylum policy at state and district level.
- The abolition of all additional benefits in Berlin.
- A requirement for asylum seekers to undertake community service in accordance with Section 5 of the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act (AsylbLG).
- The review and introduction of a prison system for third-country nationals in safe third countries, modelled on the Danish system, in order to relieve pressure on prison capacity and improve prospects for repatriation.

**No further modular accommodation
for refugees (MUF) – stop the creation of ghettos**

The construction of new MUFs for asylum seekers is counterproductive, as it promotes ghettoisation and ties up housing resources that should benefit all Berliners. The preferential allocation of housing to asylum seekers must also be ended. Existing capacities within the framework of central accommodation facilities must be utilised as a matter of priority.

The AfD calls for:

- That vacant places in existing accommodation facilities be fully occupied.
- No new construction of temporary accommodation facilities and the conversion of existing facilities into flats for all Berliners.
- No preferential treatment for asylum seekers in the allocation of housing.
- Centralised accommodation for rejected asylum seekers and those with little chance of having their claims recognised.

Integration is a duty – preventing parallel societies

Misunderstood tolerance encourages parallel societies and fundamentalism. For us, German mainstream culture serves as the binding benchmark for coexistence in Berlin. Integration remains the responsibility of every immigrant.

The AfD calls for:

- The mandatory requirement to demonstrate integration.
- Clear sanctions for refusal to integrate.
- The expansion and effective embedding of anti-Semitism prevention in school curricula.

Curbing Islamic fundamentalism

Islamism and religious fundamentalism pose an increasing threat to security, freedom and social cohesion in Berlin. In order to better counter this threat, extremist mosque associations must be consistently banned and the foreign funding of religious organisations must be prevented.

The AfD calls for:

- The closure of mosques that are hostile to the constitution and the banning of such organisations.
- A ban on any foreign funding for mosques.
- The prosecution of preachers of hate.
- An end to all cooperation with extremist institutions.

Ensuring neutrality within the police and the judiciary and restoring it in schools

In recent years, the state's requirement for neutrality has been increasingly eroded by case law and legislation. The current version of the Berlin Neutrality Act now restricts the wearing of visible religious or ideological symbols without exception only to the judiciary and the police. A weak neutrality law opens the door to creeping Islamisation in the public sphere and jeopardises citizens' trust in state institutions. The AfD remains fully committed to the duty of neutrality for the judiciary and the police. This is an indispensable foundation for a functioning community and social cohesion. Furthermore, we are committed to creating a legally sound solution that will enable us to once again impose an unrestricted ban on the wearing of headscarves in schools, for the protection of pupils.

The AfD calls for:

- Strict compliance with and consistent enforcement of the Berlin Neutrality Act by the judiciary and the police.
- The reinstatement of the unrestricted requirement for neutrality in schools.
- Disciplinary measures for breaches, up to and including dismissal

from the service.

- The active defence of the principle of neutrality against politically motivated attempts to water it down.

Citizenship only upon successful integration

The nationwide lowering of naturalisation requirements has led, particularly at Berlin's LEA, to a digital fast-track procedure with significant shortcomings, such as a lack of personal vetting of applicants. This permanently jeopardises the necessary and required due diligence in the granting of German citizenship. Consequently, a lucrative black market has emerged where counterfeit versions of the 'Living in Germany' naturalisation test and forged language certificates can be purchased. This facilitates the fraudulent naturalisation of individuals who do not meet the prescribed requirements for successful integration, sufficient language skills or unquestionable loyalty to the constitution.

German citizenship must not be sold off cheaply. It must be the culmination of a successful integration process. It requires verifiable evidence of language proficiency, self-reliance and loyalty to the constitution, and must not become an anonymous administrative formality.

The AfD calls for:

- In Berlin, all ongoing naturalisation procedures and all newly submitted applications must be subject to a moratorium until all naturalisation procedures centralised within the LEA since 1 January 2024 have been reviewed for irregularities – such as forged language and naturalisation tests, as well as suspected corruption – and all unlawful and fraudulently obtained naturalisations have been revoked in accordance with Section 35 of the German Nationality Act (StAG).
- The mandatory requirement for applicants to attend in person and the application of the dual-control principle to verify language proficiency, successful integration and loyalty to the constitution.
- Given the special duty of loyalty to the state and the sovereign responsibility of civil servants, the final decision on naturalisation within the LEA must be taken exclusively by a civil servant.
- The establishment of a central, state-supervised body for German language examinations to ensure quality and enable the monitoring of abuse.

- The abolition of quota and support targets under the Berlin Participation Act.
- The revocation of German citizenship from dual nationals who have been convicted of serious criminal offences, in particular murder and manslaughter, serious sexual offences, terrorism, aggravated robbery or serious drug-related offences, as well as from individuals classified as posing a threat or who have come to the attention of the security authorities or the criminal justice system in connection with a criminal organisation or a criminal clan. Berlin must take appropriate initiatives in the Bundesrat and consistently utilise the scope afforded by state law to revoke unlawful naturalisations.

Integration in schools

Our education system is not designed to accommodate large numbers of pupils from different cultural backgrounds who lack sufficient knowledge of German. Education policy should support the aim of repatriating migrants by providing parallel schooling for refugee children in special classes for foreign nationals, following the curricula of their countries of origin wherever possible. Behaviour by pupils that undermines integration, such as widespread truancy, must be reported to the LEA and, following the example set in Göttingen, taken into account when deciding on applications for residence permits.

Following the example of other European countries, the AfD will introduce a law prohibiting girls under the age of religious maturity (under 14) from wearing headscarves at school, in order to protect their free development. Full-face veils must be banned in Berlin schools, as is already the practice in other federal states. We will also amend the Neutrality Act: as soon as pupils feel that the free development of their personality or their learning is being impeded because their teacher wears a headscarf with religious connotations during lessons, harmony in the school is at risk. We will create a legally sound solution to enable the wearing of headscarves to be prohibited in such specific cases.

Confrontational expressions of religion jeopardise harmony in schools. This also includes visible prayer on school premises. In the interests of harmony in schools, the AfD intends to prohibit the demonstrative practising of religious rites. This does not apply to school events such as school services and religious education lessons. However, participation in religious events in state schools must never be compulsory.

SCHOOL & EDUCATIO N



EDUCATION RATHER THAN IDEOLOGY

Schools are not society's repair shops and must not be misused as a canvas for utopian visions and ideologies. The primary task of teachers is to provide a good education and to create the conditions for their pupils to develop their talents and lead successful professional lives. To make this possible, we advocate strengthening the 'autonomy of education' and oppose the ideologisation of pupils. That is why the ban on indoctrination must also apply in school lessons: controversial topics must be treated controversially. This must also apply to school textbooks in future. In political education, the focus must once again be placed on the fundamentals of the political system and the structure of the state. Ideological campaigns under the guise of political education and the uncontrolled proliferation of funding schemes must be stopped.

Our demands for good education in Berlin:

Curriculum content: Revising the framework curricula

The AfD wants to put basic skills back at the centre: reading, writing and arithmetic. We will revise the framework curricula. The overriding aim must be to ensure that school leavers once again possess genuine readiness for further education or university study. We will make more content in the curricula compulsory, including a compulsory canon of German literary works.

In primary schools, we want to reintroduce the subjects of local history and craft. In secondary schools, we want to strengthen economic education and expand IT lessons. Religious education and ethics should become compulsory elective subjects.

When it comes to career guidance, we support the involvement of businesses and the German Armed Forces. We reject the inclusion in the curriculum of political and ideological lobby groups with their own agendas. We reject proactive 'sexualising sex education', which aims to inform pupils about ways of deriving sexual pleasure, as crossing a line.

Restoring discipline and the will to achieve

Without hard work and effort, there can be no progress in education. Pupils' self-discipline and tolerance of frustration are essential for successful teaching. Under the AfD, the merit principle will be reinstated in schools and self-discipline taught once again. Behaviour marks, as well as school agreements on discipline, can contribute to this. A model in this regard is the school concept developed by Michael Rudolph, the former headteacher of the Friedrich-Bergius-Schule. To foster a love of achievement, we will expand pupil competitions. For disruptive pupils, we will set up 'time-out rooms'.

Education and upbringing require not only a willingness to perform but also mutual respect and social responsibility. Parents share responsibility for teaching children consideration, respectful behaviour and respect for the legitimate interests of others.

School place allocation and a differentiated school system

The AfD is committed to maintaining a differentiated school system and ensuring that classes are composed of pupils of a similar academic ability. The allocation of places at secondary schools must be consistently based on academic results and proximity to the pupil's home, and must include provisions for siblings. We will abolish the practice of allocating 30 per cent of school places by lottery. We remain committed to voluntary entrance exams for grammar schools. It must be possible to transfer out of a grammar school.

The AfD wants to support highly gifted children in line with their potential from as early as nursery school. To provide targeted support for the highly gifted (2 per cent of the population), we intend to develop seven existing grammar schools into elite schools for highly gifted children. We want to remove the cap on places at grammar schools offering the full grammar school curriculum.

We wish to prioritise the expansion of integrated secondary schools that do not have their own upper secondary Gymnasium stream by providing them with workshops. Our long-term goal is the creation of a new type of school: the 'Praxisschule'.

The German language as the key to education

The obligation to assess language proficiency at nursery age and to provide language support must be implemented more consistently. To improve language competence and avoid conflict situations, it is necessary to enshrine German as the language of instruction in the Schools Act

and enforced. The successful pilot scheme 'Differentiated Language Support Concepts' ('German Guarantee Classes') should be expanded: In Berlin primary schools with a high proportion of pupils whose mother tongue is not German (ndH), we intend to set up special classes into which only children who – as demonstrated by a scientifically sound testing procedure – demonstrate a high level of proficiency in the German language will be admitted. Pupils require early corrective feedback; therefore, we rely on the Fibel method and dictation.

We remain committed to teaching cursive handwriting. We will prohibit the use of so-called 'gender-neutral language' in schools.

School as a place of learning and living

There must be no further postponement of planned school refurbishments or new school buildings. Cuts to classroom sizes in school construction are unacceptable and would be regretted later. We want architecturally appealing school buildings that also meet modern educational requirements, rather than hastily erected modular extensions (MEB). School playgrounds must be designed to encourage physical activity and feature plenty of green space. We want school playgrounds that offer a connection with nature, with less paving. We will ensure that school libraries are adequately equipped.

We will ensure that all learning materials are provided free of charge and will maintain free school lunches. We will reverse the directive to almost entirely eliminate meat from the diet on the grounds of climate protection. In schools, we will offer healthy, regional food featuring the full range of our agricultural produce.

The AfD supports school initiatives aimed at strengthening pupils' commitment and sense of responsibility. These include the pupil budget and pupils' involvement in day-to-day school organisation through pupil caretakers, as well as their participation in school cleaning and meal distribution.

The AfD will provide funding to erect flagpoles at all schools on which the German flag can be flown. Schools are places for undisturbed collective learning, where a pupil's background – whether cultural or financial – must not take centre stage. The introduction of school uniforms takes this into account. Parents will receive financial

. Digitalisation in the classroom must not be driven by naïve hope, but must follow pedagogically sound concepts. We will, however, press ahead with digitalisation in school administration.

The AfD wants to keep primary schools screen-free, which includes a ban on the use of smartphones. In secondary schools, too, we will apply more restrictive rules on the use of smartphones, so that pupils' attention in class and their social-emotional development are not compromised.

School quality and learning culture

Massive cancellations of lessons, as well as teaching that is not delivered to a professional standard, reduce our pupils' chances of success. The AfD calls for a 'Guaranteed Teaching Act' and a teacher-to-pupil ratio of 110 per cent. The maximum class size must be enshrined in the Schools Act. To ensure greater control over the quality of teaching, we advocate targeted classroom visits and the strengthening of pupil evaluations.

Pupils from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds are often overwhelmed by the approach of self-organised learning and require direct instruction in teacher-centred lessons. A successful educational journey requires consistent feedback on pupils' individual learning progress. The AfD therefore adheres in principle to the system of grading. Where necessary, pupils must be allowed to repeat a year.

Turning the tide for schools in deprived areas

To ensure the greatest possible transparency in school choice, the AfD is creating an online portal: containing school-specific data on excess and insufficient demand for places, the proportion of pupils whose first language is not German, the number of pupils transferring from other schools, the percentage of teaching staff, and so on.

Instead of costly tokenism, the AfD will implement only those measures at high-needs schools whose positive effects on educational attainment have been scientifically proven. Instead of a high-needs allowance, teachers at high-needs schools should be given a reduction in the number of teaching hours they are required to deliver.

Efforts to tackle absenteeism must begin within the school itself. Pupil attendance must be recorded digitally. If a

pupil is absent without excuse, a call must be made to the parents immediately at the start of the school day. In order to tackle school disengagement at an early stage, we want to introduce a mandatory requirement that the Youth Welfare Office be informed of reports of school absenteeism. To this end, we intend to establish an RSD school disengagement team in structurally disadvantaged districts. We aim to link the school absenteeism report system with the digital class register so that a report of school absenteeism is generated automatically.

Zero-tolerance strategy on violence in schools

The AfD will implement consistent measures against violence in schools. Even aggressive behaviour towards fellow pupils and teachers that falls below the threshold for criminal prosecution must be consistently punished. To strengthen general prevention, we advocate a mandatory reporting procedure and the involvement of the police in cases of violence against teachers by pupils or third parties. The school must also be informed immediately if one of its pupils has been involved in acts of violence outside school. It must be possible to expel a pupil from school if there is a serious risk to other pupils. We will create alternative forms of schooling for children and young people who pose a danger to others.

Alternatives to state schools

We are committed to making it easier to establish independent schools. The waiting period should be limited to one year, with costs to be reimbursed retrospectively. For independent schools, we want an unconditional full-cost model rather than just 93 per cent of comparable staff costs. In future, there must be financial compensation for schools applying the school fees scale. Independent schools should always be able to benefit from special measures and programmes.

Inclusive education with a sense of proportion

The AfD will address the shortage of school places for children with disabilities, particularly for children with special educational needs relating to intellectual development. In accordance with parents' wishes, the AfD will ensure the continued existence of special schools. Mainstream schools should only be obliged to practise inclusion if there is a reasonable prospect that the pupil can achieve the educational objectives of the relevant school type and the class is not unduly disrupted by the pupil's presence. Differentiated teaching should only take place at inclusive specialist schools. Following the Bavarian model, we wish to establish satellite classes (partner classes) from special schools within mainstream schools.

Career guidance and vocational education

We will place greater emphasis on career guidance within the framework curriculum for Economics, Work and Technology (WAT). Career guidance must be practice-oriented, i.e. through practical insights into businesses.

Rather than full-time school-based training, we are committed to strengthening the dual training system. We reject the idea of an apprenticeship levy; instead, we advocate a consensus on apprenticeships with the business community and tax relief for companies providing apprenticeships.

We will strengthen vocational schools by improving their facilities and staffing levels. The 11th year of compulsory schooling for young people without a training place must not be allowed to degenerate into a holding pattern. Following the Hamburg model, we want to establish a state institute for vocational training. Modelled on student halls of residence, we will create accommodation for apprentices.

To provide opportunities for further qualification following vocational training, we will provide financial support for advanced vocational training programmes (e.g. master craftsman or technician training). We also want to support those pursuing further education later in life. Basic education programmes should focus on core skills.

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, ACADEMIC RESEARCH & RESEARCH





Universities, Science & Research

ACADEMIC FREEDOM RATHER THAN IDEOLOGY

Berlin's status as a centre for science and research is one of the key resources for our city's future viability. A fundamental prerequisite for science and research to flourish is the safeguarding of academic freedom. Unfortunately, in recent years – and particularly since Hamas's attack on Israel – a new wave of political intolerance has swept through our universities. Postcolonial theories such as Critical Race Theory and Critical Whiteness are clouding the judgement of many academics and, together with political activism, agenda-driven academia and the politicisation of funding allocation, have led to a significant ideologisation of research and teaching. The result is conformity of opinion and 'cancel culture', where open discourse and critical discussion should actually be encouraged. The AfD is firmly committed to breaking down the narrow corridors of opinion at universities and restoring the freedom of research and teaching.

Our demands for high-quality higher education, academic freedom and effective research in Berlin:

Order and security at universities

Time and again, university life comes under attack from political activists who disrupt the proper running of universities, occupy lecture theatres or even vandalise them. A firm and consistent approach is required to take sustained action against squatters and anti-Semitism at universities. Anyone who causes disorder at universities, destroys property or threatens Jewish life must not expect leniency. In the Berlin Higher Education Act, we will tighten public order legislation to facilitate the eviction of squatters and enable violent troublemakers to be swiftly expelled from the university. The routine allocation of university premises for the purposes of non-academic political agitation must also be consistently prevented. Only in this way can the neutrality of universities be guaranteed.

Curbing 'cancel culture'

The freedom of research and teaching is increasingly being threatened by

cancel culture. We support the 'Network for Academic Freedom' in its endeavour to defend the freedom of research and teaching against ideological restrictions. As a strategy against 'cancel culture', we propose that Berlin's universities be obliged under the Higher Education Act to follow the example of the University of Hamburg, which has adopted a 'Code of Academic Freedom' to better counter attacks on academic freedom.

University autonomy and university administration

We want to strengthen university autonomy and give universities greater scope for action, rather than micromanaging them through excessive detailed regulations in the Higher Education Act. To this end, we wish to expand the scope of the innovation clause (formerly the pilot scheme clause) in the Higher Education Act. We reject the demand for a quarter-parity system; the majority of professors must be preserved.

Knowledge transfer from academia – universities as drivers of the economy Research and academia are an indispensable driver of innovation for Berlin's economy. That is why Berlin needs a forward-looking knowledge transfer strategy. In the same way as the research semester, transfer semesters should facilitate the transfer of scientific knowledge into practical applications. As a contribution to university-wide technology transfer, we wish to strengthen technology scouting and validation research. Furthermore, we propose permanently embedding science transfer in university contracts using a verifiable set of indicators.

Research infrastructure and university buildings, BESSY III

Many buildings at Berlin's universities do not meet academic requirements or are in a state of disrepair. The necessary refurbishment measures must no longer be put on the back burner. We will ensure that the planned new university building authority does not become a means of shifting interest and repayment costs for refurbishment from the state budget onto the universities, or of subjecting university staff to wage dumping.

The AfD advocates a strong research infrastructure. We are committed to creating the conditions necessary for the long-planned BESSY III research facility to finally become operational in the mid-2030s.

University funding: investment in cutting-edge research and subsequent tuition fees

Our aim is for Berlin's universities to operate on an equal footing with the world's leading centres of science and research. To this end, we propose investing an additional billion in science and research. We want to reduce the universities' dependence on third-party funding and therefore increase their core funding.

The AfD supports the introduction of deferred tuition fees because this is socially just and provides universities with additional funds for excellent teaching and research. It is incomprehensible that the costs of educating future high earners should be cross-subsidised through the taxes paid by tradespeople, manual workers and other non-academics. To ensure that taking up a degree course does not entail an incalculable risk, the amount to be repaid should depend on the level of future income. Only those who go on to earn significantly above the average will then be required to give something back.

Continuation of research into communism in Berlin

Following the winding up of the 'SED State Research Network', there is no longer any academic institute in Berlin that deals explicitly with research into communism and the GDR. We are campaigning for the creation of an Institute for Research into Communism on the so-called Campus for Democracy, on the former Stasi site in Lichtenberg, to fill this gap in Berlin's research landscape.

Security and Military Research

Military research is a crucial factor in ensuring the operational capability of our armed forces. Anyone who categorically refuses to conduct security-related research weakens our defence capabilities and thereby endangers human lives. Germany cannot simply be a free-rider on foreign military research when it comes to military innovation. We therefore wish to encourage universities to facilitate military research as a matter of principle.

Enabling research – making animal testing unnecessary

At present, cancer research in Berlin that relies on animal testing is being blocked by protracted authorisation procedures. We want to

review the benefits of this application bureaucracy and the right to bring collective actions. The observed exodus of research abroad is detrimental to patients and to Berlin as a centre of research.

To reduce the still high number of animal experiments as far as possible, we want to strengthen and provide financial backing for recognised 3R research (Replace, Reduce, Refine). We support the call to counteract the duplication of the same experimental series through pre-registration.

Stopping the brain drain: Attractive jobs for scientists Young scientists suffer particularly from being stuck in precarious employment situations and fixed-term contracts for very long periods compared to other professions. We therefore want to increase the number of permanent posts in academia and provide the necessary funding for this through university funding agreements. At the same time, we must ensure that there continue to be sufficient vacancies for the next generation of scientists.

Furthermore, we call for concrete measures to reverse the brain drain of qualified scientists, which is proving disastrous for Germany. We therefore propose a return programme for young German scientists abroad and a recruitment scheme modelled on the 'Rising Stars' programme at LMU Munich, in order to offer early-career researchers better prospects.

Family-friendly universities

Young academics often wait too long to start a family for fear of jeopardising their career prospects. The AfD is committed to ensuring that family commitments do not put young academics at a disadvantage. To this end, greater account must be taken of the time required for childcare when renewing employment contracts and during selection processes. Existing family-friendly measures, such as dual-career services, tenure-track schemes, university crèches and family support offices, must be expanded. When building student halls of residence, we want to take greater account of the needs of students with children than has been the case to date and provide appropriate accommodation.

The internationalisation of universities and German as a language of science

We take a critical view of the increasing dominance of English as a language of science

is a cause for concern. To ensure that academia does not become the preserve of an aloof elite, we want to strengthen German as a language of science.

In line with the practice in Baden-Württemberg, we wish to introduce tuition fees for non-EU citizens. The additional funds raised in this way are to be invested in measures to promote international student exchange.

Higher education and student affairs

Unfortunately, in many cases, a school-leaving certificate with the Abitur no longer demonstrates that school leavers are capable of undertaking higher education. Berlin's universities should therefore be given the right to conduct their own entrance examinations for a proportion of their places.

To improve the student-tutor ratio, we propose revising the capacity regulations and allocating more funding to teaching. Strengthening and ensuring the quality of dual study programmes is also a particular priority for us.

The student representative bodies at Berlin's universities have repeatedly attracted attention due to questionable expenditure and a lack of transparency. Student representatives often pursue the interests of small radical left-wing groups rather than keeping the welfare of all students in mind. With a typical voter turnout of less than 10 per cent, these student bodies also lack political legitimacy. Time and again, they presume to claim a 'general political mandate' to which they are not entitled. With their calls for a boycott of Israeli partner universities, the General Student Committees (Astens) of Berlin's three major universities have shot themselves in the foot. We therefore consider a fundamental reform of the organised student body to be essential. We regard the Bavarian model of an independent student body as a benchmark, which operates without compulsory membership and without the constitutionally questionable compulsory contribution for all students.

Improving and de-ideologising teacher training

In view of the ongoing shortage of teachers, we remain committed to the target of producing a high number of teacher training graduates. To strengthen teacher training in subjects where there is a shortage, we call for a scholarship programme for first-year students who commit to later working as teachers in Berlin.

As reform measures to improve teacher training, we propose a gradual transition to a single-phase teacher training programme in the form of a dual study programme and, in the longer term, the establishment of a university of education in cooperation with the universities.

In the Teacher Training Act, we want to shift the focus away from politically dictated topics such as 'diversity', 'queer' and 'gender' towards those topics which teacher training graduates identified as particularly important in the multi-cohort study: lesson planning, classroom management, stress management and digital media literacy.

TRANSPOR

T



FREEDOM RATHER THAN IDEOLOGY

Berlin needs a transport revolution that propels citizens forward rather than holding them back. We prioritise flexibility over ideology. For us, the freedom to choose how one gets around our city is an expression of a modern urban society. At the same time, we view transport policy as part of urban development: it must create space rather than restrict it.

Our demands for safe and reliable mobility in the capital:

For greater road safety

For the AfD, road safety is a top priority. 37 road deaths and over 1,800 serious injuries on Berlin's roads show that efforts to improve road safety must be significantly stepped up.

The AfD calls for:

- The comprehensive and mandatory implementation of the guidelines for road safety audits (RSAS) across the whole of the State of Berlin.
- To consistently monitor and improve sightlines at junctions, pedestrian crossings, bus stops and in the vicinity of schools.
- The systematic implementation of the findings of the Accident Commission.
- The accelerated removal of identified hazards.
- A state-wide support programme entitled 'Safe Routes to School 2030'.
- The expansion of intelligent traffic management systems.
- A 'Safe Junctions 2030' programme.

For an efficient and attractive public transport system

An efficient local public transport system is the key to comprehensive, affordable mobility. To encourage Berliners to switch to public transport of their own accord, it must be made more attractive.

The AfD calls for:

- A recruitment drive for staff at the BVG and S-Bahn.

- A rapid expansion of the rail network and the use of modern, resource-efficient transport systems such as cable cars.
- To improve accessibility not only for people with mobility impairments, but also for those with cognitive impairments.
- Effective public transport links to be completed before new urban areas are developed.
- Speeding up public transport through optimised priority signalling.
- The rapid introduction of digital train control technology (CBTC) to increase train frequency and ensure a safe separation between the platform and the track.
- Fare schemes that encourage commuters to switch to public transport whilst still in Brandenburg.
- Joint safety and cleanliness patrols on all underground lines and a standardised emergency call system.
- Simplified ticketing through mobility accounts that integrate public transport, car-sharing schemes and micromobility.
- Access restrictions for passengers without a ticket.
- Better integration of regional transport into the overall network.

For non-discriminatory car use

We believe that private motorised transport will remain an indispensable part of urban mobility in the future. The car is not part of the problem, but part of the solution for all those who rely on flexibility.

The AfD calls for:

- Proactive refurbishment of dilapidated bridges to avoid demolition.
- The establishment of an infrastructure monitoring system that systematically assesses the condition of and expansion needs for roads and parking facilities.
- The completion of the 17th construction phase of the A 100 to relieve congestion on the Elsenbrücke and close the gap in the inner motorway ring road.
- Construction site organisation and coordination must be improved and digitised, and the flow of information to road users must become more transparent.
- Create underground traffic routes to free up space at ground level
- Instead of cordoning off residential areas with neighbourhood blocks, the flow of traffic on main roads must be improved.
- Restore removed parking spaces, introduce a digitally networked car park management system and scale back parking space management to the necessary level.

- Resident parking must remain affordable: administrative costs must be reduced through digitalised application processing.
- Park-and-ride facilities on the outskirts of the city must be expanded.

For a functioning urban commercial transport system Functioning commercial mobility and logistics are the lifeblood of our city.

The AfD calls for:

- A logistics strategy for Berlin that focuses not on scarcity but on integration and efficiency.
- The maintenance, expansion and regulation of loading and delivery zones.
- The introduction of digital delivery zone systems where tradespeople and delivery drivers can reserve spaces via an app.
- Neighbourhood-based micro-logistics centres.
- The implementation of a 'parcel delivery by drone' project in a pilot district.

For cycling without ideological bias

Cycling is a key component of urban mobility. The aim must be to expand cycling infrastructure with a sense of proportion, focusing not on displacement but on the coexistence of different modes of transport.

The AfD calls for:

- A needs-based expansion of cycling infrastructure through improved monitoring of cycling patterns.
- Targeted routing on side streets that run adjacent to and parallel with main roads.
- Road marking solutions instead of modal filters.
- Traffic signal systems that minimise red-light violations.
- A '1,000-bike programme' providing for modular, lockable parking facilities.

For accessible pedestrian movement for all generations

Walking is the foundation of urban local mobility. Its appeal depends on the safety, comfort and accessibility of footpaths and pavements.

The AfD calls for:

- A 'Pavement 2030' initiative to ensure that Berlin's pavement infrastructure

. This includes:

- + the removal of trip hazards and uneven paving,
 - + continuous kerb ramps at pedestrian crossings,
 - + a coordinated lighting and safety strategy.
- Preventing bottlenecks caused by parked e-scooters, bicycles or street furniture.
- Only reallocating footpaths for cycle traffic or shared-mobility zones if the remaining width is sufficient.

For new forms of mobility in Berlin

Berlin should become a model city for innovative mobility – open to ideas, but critical when it comes to benefits, acceptance and costs.

The AfD calls for:

- A 'Berlin Mobility Future Fund', financed by earmarked infrastructure funds, to support pilot projects.
- The introduction of a city-wide digital register of roadworks.
- Digitalisation to match availability with demand.
- Modular mobility stations at key transport interchanges.
- Preparing the ground for urban air mobility in terms of planning law.
- A pilot district for the 'parcel delivery by drone' project.
- The introduction of autonomous buses in selected areas.

For a more realistic approach to transport policy – amending Berlin's Mobility Act

Instead of relying on proper needs analyses and technical feasibility, the Mobility Act pursues the goal of a one-sided 'transport revolution'.

The AfD calls for:

- The conversion of the Act into a functional infrastructure Act.
- The complete removal of the priority given to eco-friendly transport in favour of fair coexistence.
- A rejection of blanket traffic-calming measures.
- A reversal of utopian expansion targets for the cycle network that are divorced from reality.

ECONOMY & SOCIAL AFFAIRS



Economy & Social Affairs

‘GREATER FREEDOM ENABLES ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND SOCIAL SECURITY’ – TOWARDS A PROSPEROUS AND SOCIALLY JUST CAPITAL

Berlin stands at a crossroads. Decades of left-wing and Green policies have weakened our city economically and overstretched it in terms of social policy. Bureaucracy, the tax burden and paternalism are stifling entrepreneurial spirit, the drive to succeed and personal responsibility. At the same time, social benefits are becoming less and less linked to actual need, willingness to work and lifetime achievement. Political missteps such as unregulated migration, soaring energy prices and EU policies that harm the economy are placing further pressure on the foundations of the social market economy and must be urgently rectified. Businesses need planning certainty and relief from excessive costs and state interference. ***Our guiding principle is, and remains, the social market economy.***

The AfD is daring to make a fresh start

We stand for economic freedom, a modern, technology-neutral industrial policy and a welfare state that is fair, targeted and free from misguided ideological incentives. The state should concentrate on its core tasks, reliably protect the most vulnerable and create fair framework conditions for citizens and businesses. Berlin should once again become a city where work pays off, entrepreneurship is valued and social mobility is possible.

Daring to embrace greater freedom means:

- + A spirit of enterprise and a willingness to innovate, rather than micromanagement and excessive bureaucracy.
- + Investment rather than ideology.
- + Reducing dependencies and helping people to help themselves, rather than constantly introducing new transfer schemes.
- + Strong families, a strong skilled trades sector, and a strong SME sector.

Our demands for an economically strong Berlin:

Depoliticise the administration – prioritise the economy

The Berlin administration must once again be there for citizens and businesses

. An end to the Greens' clientelist politics in district offices, planning authorities and committees.

A one-stop shop for start-ups and investors: more 'Partners for Berlin'

'Partners for Berlin' should be expanded into a central, digital service provider for start-ups and investors – with a mentoring programme and a comprehensive, one-stop service. This would make it considerably easier to invest in Berlin.

Accelerate the reduction of red tape and repeal Berlin's Public Procurement Act

A special 'Bureaucracy Reduction' committee is to be set up to develop and oversee an effective strategy for cutting through the bureaucratic jungle. The administration is called upon to propose the repeal of unnecessary laws and regulations. Berlin's unique approach of having its own public procurement law must be abandoned.

Reducing taxes and levies

We call for a reduction in business rates and the abolition of ideologically motivated additional burdens such as CO₂ pricing for commercial property. Tax policy must finally become business-friendly and investment-promoting once again.

An investment drive instead of tokenism

The €35 billion investment backlog in schools, transport, administration and public infrastructure must be tackled in a targeted and step-by-step manner. No further climate or gender projects – we are investing in the foundations of this city

Industrial policy with a future – Berlin as a high-tech hub

Berlin must once again become a key industrial hub.

We are specifically promoting the establishment of businesses in the following sectors:

- + aerospace;
- + the healthcare sector;
- + semiconductors, AI;
- + robotics and 3D printing;
- + quantum computing; and
- + IT security.

Commercial and industrial sites – transparent and available

A public register of commercial premises and an active location marketing

are designed to facilitate investment in Berlin. Commercial use must be given clear priority here. The 'Berlin mix' of housing, work and life must be preserved.

Strengthening the skilled trades and apprenticeships

We see the skilled trades as the backbone of small and medium-sized enterprises.

We call for:

- The introduction of a start-up grant for master craftsmen.
- The promotion and simplification of business takeovers.
- The strengthening of in-company vocational training.
- Greater cooperation between schools, chambers of crafts and the Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

Better linking science and business – creating a central hub for Berlin's start-up ecosystem

To strengthen the culture of innovation in our city and drive the transfer of research findings into entrepreneurship, we want to facilitate spin-offs, reduce red tape and integrate universities more closely with the business sector. To this end, we propose creating a central hub for Berlin's start-up ecosystem, modelled on Station F in Paris.

Strengthening tourism, retail and the hospitality sector

Tourism, retail and the hospitality sector are still suffering from the long-term consequences of the excessive COVID-19 measures. Unlike in other European cities, air traffic to and from Berlin remains below pre-pandemic levels.

We therefore call for:

- The abolition of the 'City Tax', the bed tax levied on overnight stays.
- The rollback of the ever-increasing environmental and bureaucratic requirements for the retail and hospitality sectors.
- A reduction in the air passenger tax.

Our demands for a socially just Berlin:

Freedom instead of dependency – rethinking social policy

- Strengthening citizens' personal responsibility

The overstretched welfare state, combined with mass illegal

and poverty-driven migration, leads to an excessive tax and contribution burden, growing public debt, rampant bureaucracy and increasing dependence on state benefits.

This weakens personal initiative, family solidarity and social engagement, whilst discouraging high achievers or driving them abroad. For us, social policy means: promoting personal responsibility, strengthening families and supporting voluntary work. Anyone who finds themselves in need through no fault of their own must receive help from the community based on solidarity – but not as a permanent solution; rather, this must be linked to personal initiative and active participation. At the same time, we will ensure people are left with more take-home pay and put an end to the burden caused by unnecessary bureaucracy.

Shaping an efficient welfare state – reviewing social spending

Many benefits are claimed on a long-term basis even though the recipient is capable of work – this demotivates those affected and places a burden on the community based on solidarity. For us, ‘helping people to help themselves’ means: low-threshold support for those in need, but with clear obligations to participate and strict controls to prevent abuse. Regular means-testing, sanctions for refusing to work and giving priority to taking up employment must be a matter of course.

Part of social spending goes towards inefficient structures or fosters dependency, rather than helping people to help themselves. We demand that state aid must reach those in need – not be siphoned off into overly bureaucratic administrative structures. It is therefore essential to carry out regular effectiveness reviews of programmes and to limit the duration of funding for organisations and associations.

Ensuring the wage gap principle

In quite a few cases, social benefits are at or even above the level of earned income. This demotivates those affected and discourages them from taking up work. Therefore, the following must apply as a matter of principle: those who work must earn noticeably more than those who do not – only this is fair and provides an incentive to take up work.

Safeguarding the minimum wage

The statutory minimum wage protects employees from wage dumping and enables them to live above the poverty line. The excessively high Berlin state minimum wage, on the other hand, distorts competition and leads to inflated costs, more complicated procurement procedures

and fewer

investment. That is why the AfD supports the statutory minimum wage but opposes the Berlin state minimum wage. Entrepreneurial freedom and economic rationality must take precedence!

Combating undeclared work

Illegal employment undermines legal employment, deprives the state and social security schemes of funds, and harms honest businesses. The rule of law and the principle of fairness demand clear rules in this area, which must also be consistently enforced. We therefore call for more inspections, effective sanctions and targeted information on the risks and alternatives to illegal employment.

Strengthening vocational training – No to the apprenticeship levy

Youth unemployment and the shortage of skilled workers are both on the rise in Berlin. Many businesses do not offer apprenticeships because there is a lack of suitable candidates or because the bureaucratic and financial hurdles are too high. In particular, there is a shortfall of young people entering the skilled trades. We therefore advocate increased support and improved framework conditions for in-company apprenticeships rather than penalties and monitoring – we reject the apprenticeship levy as counterproductive and demotivating.

To improve both the willingness to provide apprenticeships and the capacity to do so, we call for stronger career guidance in our schools, the expansion of youth employment agencies and targeted support programmes for companies offering apprenticeships. This must be complemented by an increase in the 'Aufstiegs-BAföG' (Master Craftsman BAföG), a start-up grant for master craftsmen and a further training fund modelled on the Dutch system. This is the only way to safeguard vocational training, strengthen the skilled trades and effectively tackle the shortage of skilled workers, rather than imposing bureaucratic constraints on businesses and burdening them with additional costs.

Further training and skilled immigration

Politicians are relying too heavily on migration to secure a skilled workforce, rather than investing in existing potential. We want, first and foremost, to empower those people who already live here – through qualifications and further training. That is why we are committed to promoting vocational qualifications, targeted retraining and lifelong learning.

Accessibility with a sense of proportion

In many cases, accessibility is over-regulated for ideological reasons –

important measures fail because smaller organisations and local authorities are overwhelmed

. That is why we call for the expansion of accessibility to be carried out with a sense of proportion and guided by actual needs. The expansion of accessibility should be prioritised above all in public authorities, local transport and the healthcare sector – but with realistic funding and a clear focus on priorities.

Supporting sheltered workshops

Workshops for people with disabilities have recently come under increasing ideological scrutiny, even though they provide structure and enable participation for many people with disabilities. This stems from a one-sided and unrealistic understanding of inclusion.

We want to preserve the safe space offered by these workshops – as a voluntary service for people who need it. In doing so, we want to invest more in securing and modernising these workshops.

Policy for older people

Many older people in Berlin suffer from digital exclusion, excessive bureaucracy and a lack of accessible and affordable housing. Furthermore, the pensions of many older people are far too low, particularly in cases of interrupted working lives and after taking on family care and child-rearing responsibilities.

Poverty in old age leads not only to material hardship but also to increasing loneliness – a serious problem in Berlin. Many older people feel marginalised, overwhelmed and are losing faith in politics and society.

We are committed to dignity, participation and security in old age, and call for:

- The targeted expansion of age-appropriate and affordable housing.
- The safeguarding of traditional, in-person access to public services and everyday life as a reliable alternative to digitalisation.
- The tackling of loneliness in old age through targeted support for opportunities for participation and voluntary work.

Volunteering remains volunteering

Bureaucracy, political interference and the replacement of regular work with voluntary work jeopardise volunteering. Voluntary work cannot and must not replace public services. We are committed to the fair and non-ideological recognition and promotion of volunteering. In this context, volunteering and public services

must remain clearly separate, bureaucracy must be reduced, and private initiatives must be strengthened.

Effectively tackling homelessness

A significant proportion of homeless people in Berlin do not hold a German passport. Often, they lack long-term prospects of remaining in the country, yet existing opportunities for return are not being utilised sufficiently. At the same time, assistance is frequently concentrated on groups of people with no prospects of integration.

Homelessness must not become a permanent condition – neither for locals nor for immigrants without the right of residence. Assistance must be targeted, humane and realistic.

We therefore call for:

- The promotion of voluntary return programmes.
- Increased support for those genuinely in need of protection.
- A targeted overhaul of support for the homeless – with a clear focus on effective assistance rather than the perpetual management of a lack of prospects.

ALL ENERGY FOR BERLIN





All our energy for Berlin

AFFORDABLE HEATING AND ENERGY INSTEAD OF CLIMATE-DRIVEN SOCIALIST ENERGY TRANSITION

The energy supply in Germany and Berlin is under threat due to a growing dependence on energy sources that cannot provide base load power. The cause of this is climate-ideology-driven 'energy socialism', which squanders immeasurable financial resources and, through energy taxes and CO₂ levies, blithely fleeces the public. This must finally come to an end! We therefore propose a return to a sensible energy mix and a significant reduction in citizens' energy costs.

End ideology, recognise reality: replace the Berlin Climate Protection and Energy Transition Act with a Secure Energy Act. The goal of 'Berlin climate-neutral by 2045' is an ideological prestige project

that has no impact on the global climate. It jeopardises security of supply, drives up energy prices and squanders financial resources that are urgently needed elsewhere in Berlin.

In doing so, the established parties are subjecting citizens, the business community and the public administration alike to a dogmatic climate narrative and jeopardising prosperity and well-being in our city. We want to put an end to this misguided course. The Berlin Climate Protection and Energy Transition Act must therefore be abolished and replaced by a Secure Energy Act that prioritises security of supply, affordability and grid stability.

Making energy affordable again for citizens and businesses

The politically enforced phase-out of nuclear power and, in the foreseeable future, of coal-fired power generation has led to an artificial shortage in the energy supply. The consequences are soaring electricity and heating prices, as well as a dangerous dependence on expensive energy imports. This development is not a natural phenomenon, but the result of poor political decisions. We want to lay the foundations for making electricity and heating affordable again – through a realistic energy mix, the removal of cost-driving regulations and a move away from planned-economy control measures. Through

a Bundesrat initiative, we aim to achieve a significant reduction in energy taxes and the abolition of the CO₂ levy.

Security of supply instead of blackouts – ensuring a diverse energy mix

A secure energy supply is only possible with an energy mix capable of meeting base load demand. Weather-dependent energy sources cannot guarantee security of supply and grid stability. During periods of low wind and low sunlight, they are unable to meet the demand of a city with a population of over a million. That is why Berlin continues to need coal- and gas-fired power stations, as well as imported electricity from various energy sources, to cover peak loads and prevent blackouts. We advocate a technology-neutral energy policy rather than neo-socialist market intervention.

No wind turbines in Berlin's forests

We are firmly opposed to wind turbines in Berlin! Berlin is a densely populated city-state with limited local recreational areas and sensitive natural and recreational spaces. Large wind turbines destroy the landscape, cause harm to people, animals and the environment, and make no contribution to our city's security of supply.

No stable energy supply without nuclear power

Germany's nuclear phase-out is a unique path taken nowhere else in the world and a cardinal error in German energy policy. Even Friedrich Merz and Ursula von der Leyen have now recognised this, though without drawing the necessary political conclusions. For a return to nuclear energy is indispensable if security of supply, grid stability and affordable prices are to be guaranteed.

Modern third- and fourth-generation reactors feature comprehensive safety concepts and enable a stable energy supply capable of meeting base load demand. We want to contribute to the renaissance of nuclear energy and make Berlin a centre for nuclear research once again. At the federal level, we are campaigning for a return to nuclear energy as part of a technology-neutral energy mix.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY





Children, Young People & Family

A FUTURE THROUGH RESPONSIBILITY: STRENGTHENING FAMILIES – PROTECTING CHILDREN

The family, consisting of a father, mother and children, is the building block of our society and must be protected and supported by the state. A stable family offers children a safe haven of love and security. It is a firm anchor through the different stages of life, from birth through school, working life, starting a family of one's own, right up to retirement and the end of life. It is irrelevant whether this shared life encompasses two or more generations. In turbulent times and a society that is falling apart, family means having a firm point of reference, a home. The family stands for security, trust, mutual care, protection and support. A family is a place to share joy, find comfort, recharge one's batteries, and receive and give love. The AfD's family policy is geared towards enabling, supporting and specifically promoting this way of living together.

Unfortunately, the reality is also that not every family lives together harmoniously and that relationships do break down. The AfD also expressly supports all those who are not fortunate enough to live in a lifelong, stable relationship, and all those who have experienced particular hardships within their families. This applies in particular to single mothers and fathers and their children, to blended families, and to foster and adoptive families. The AfD's family policy programme also provides for comprehensive support for these groups.

One of the most important aims of the AfD's family policy is therefore to create the right conditions under which relationships and families can thrive and cope effectively with challenges. Parents devote themselves to their children: in terms of time, personal commitment and financially. Ideally, at least during the early childhood years, the father or mother should, if they so wish, have the option of staying at home or working only part-time without suffering any financial loss. The AfD's family policy includes appropriate funding programmes and support measures that make this possible and thereby strengthen family bonds. In addition to state funding and tax relief, our society needs to

far greater appreciation of the contributions made by mothers, fathers and grandparents.

Children ensure the continued existence of our society because they are the links between successive generations. At the same time, they give life meaning and purpose beyond a purely material focus. Children represent the passing on of their own culture, traditions and the skills of their people. Through a proactive family policy, the AfD aims to increase the birth rate and thereby bring about a demographic turnaround in Germany. This is essential for the continued existence of our social systems.

Our demands for strong families, responsible child-rearing and the protection of life:

Supporting families and easing their financial burden

Since the mid-1970s, the birth rate in Germany has been well below the level required to maintain the population. Berlin ranks last in this regard when compared across the country. This stands in stark contrast to young people's desire to have children, with couples wishing to have between two and three children, depending on the study. This is precisely why a proactive family policy in Berlin is of the utmost importance. Children must not be at risk of poverty. The AfD therefore calls for a wide range of support measures:

The AfD champions the rights of the family across all policy areas. We want to prioritise the interests of families with children in political decision-making. We want to create the right conditions to enable young people to have children at an early stage.

Family-related benefits must be provided by the administration quickly and with minimal red tape. The AfD wants to introduce a tax-based family splitting scheme in addition to child benefit. We will ensure that there is affordable and sufficiently spacious housing for families. We will waive the land transfer tax on owner-occupied housing for families.

The AfD will make it easier to study whilst raising a child – by ensuring childcare is available at universities, by granting up to six semesters' leave per child, and by writing off Bafög loans in the event of

the birth of a child whilst studying.

We will implement quality standards for family centres. We intend to continue supporting the family primary school branches, which are still in their infancy but whose funding is under threat.

For low-income families, we will safeguard subsidised family holiday schemes. For families with a disabled family member, we want to provide support services and fund them adequately. This also includes the establishment of the 'Eine-Pause-Haus' (short-term accommodation for young people requiring intensive care).

Childcare without early sexualisation

Sensitivity and a sense of pedagogical responsibility are increasingly being lost in the educational approach to the personal development and privacy of children and young people. 'Sexual education based on diversity' violates children's natural sense of modesty and thereby facilitates sexual abuse.

The AfD calls for a ban on any form of inappropriate discussion of sexuality in nurseries and schools. We reject early sexualisation, 'exploration rooms', 'Original Play' and drag queen readings. The content of the 'Berlin Education Programme' and the KitaFöG must be consistently geared towards child-appropriate development and must not be subordinated to considerations unrelated to the subject matter.

Responsible childcare

Families today face not only material but also emotional pressures. The transgender hype, early sexualisation and the pitting of young people and children against their parents are jeopardising family cohesion. Household work is greatly devalued, and the value of family life and child-rearing is completely underestimated. In 'woke' society, mothers only count if they are in paid employment and place their children in state-run all-day childcare, ideally from infancy.

To give parents greater freedom of choice between looking after their under-3s themselves or using external childcare, we want to introduce a state childcare allowance equivalent to the comparable cost of a nursery place.

We remain committed to free nursery care. Fees for additional

services should remain an option, but this must not lead to a two-tier system within a nursery.

We will maintain the current provision of nursery places and expand it in line with demand. In doing so, we aim to increase the staff-to-child ratio and provide longer opening hours for parents with irregular working hours. We will establish a 'blue-light' nursery for the police, fire service and emergency services. We will support small and medium-sized nursery providers as well as in-company nurseries.

German must be enforced as the compulsory language in nurseries. To ensure children are ready for school, we want to amend the Education Act to reintroduce traditional pre-school programmes at primary schools. School entry examinations must once again be carried out more consistently.

Equality of rights rather than gender equality

The reality of the two sexes must not be sacrificed on the altar of trans ideology. Femininity and masculinity, with their different potentials, are positive qualities. This enables women and men to complement one another perfectly.

We advocate genuine equality of opportunity rather than enforced equality of outcome. Every person, regardless of gender, origin or background, should be given the same opportunities to pursue their path according to their ability and talent.

The bloated system of special commissioners – such as equality and anti-discrimination commissioners – not only gobbles up vast sums of taxpayers' money, but also promotes one-sided clientelism and leads to excessive bureaucracy.

The AfD stands for equality of opportunity rather than equality of outcome. We reject quotas that undermine merit and are discriminatory. We want to abolish the system of commissioners. We will use the money currently spent on these unnecessary commissioners, their staff and operational resources to support families.

Preventing separations – mitigating the consequences of separation

Unfortunately, parental separations are playing an ever-greater role in children's everyday lives. They often feel powerless and abandoned. One third of all children affected by separation lose contact with one

one parent. Yet every child needs both a father and a mother throughout their childhood.

The AfD aims to create the right conditions for stable marriages and partnerships, so that separations do not occur in the first place. In the event of a separation, both parents should share the responsibility of caring for their children; the bond with both father and mother must be maintained. Should one parent be unable to fulfil their parenting responsibilities, the single parent must receive the necessary support. We will strengthen the family care service and flexible childcare, on which single parents rely to a particular extent.

Through the services offered by family counselling centres, we aim to encourage separated families to find a positive arrangement for their children's contact. We intend to link maintenance obligations directly to the amount of time spent caring for the children, thereby distributing costs and burdens more fairly. Cutting off contact with the father or mother and obstructing contact are unlawful and must be prevented.

We want to make stable marriages and partnerships, starting a family and taking responsibility for the family compulsory topics in school curricula. The ability to take personal responsibility is the most effective measure against child and family poverty.

At the federal level, we are campaigning to ensure that unmarried fathers also automatically receive joint custody of their child with the mother, provided that paternity has been acknowledged and there is no domestic violence.

Keeping children within their families

Unfortunately, the number of families in Berlin who are severely overwhelmed by their parenting and care responsibilities and therefore require external support is also rising. In some cases, taking a child into care is the only immediately effective measure to protect the children from harm. Yet time and again, misguided decisions destroy even largely intact families, which sometimes come under the scrutiny of the relevant youth welfare office for questionable reasons. Partly due to the rise in mass migration, youth welfare offices often face a precarious staffing situation. This strain contributes to staff ordering the removal of children from their families without sufficient scrutiny. The considerable power held by youth welfare offices, as well as the lack of binding quality standards for expert reports, further increases the

further increases the risk of a wrongful court decision.

To avoid children being taken into care, we rely on outpatient child and youth welfare services that aim to encourage families to take responsibility for themselves. These include, amongst other things, family care, family councils and, above all, parenting and family counselling (EFB). The right to choose and request services from the youth welfare office under Section 16 of Book VIII of the Social Code (SGB VIII) must be consistently applied.

In cases where children are taken into care because their parents or guardians are overwhelmed, the aim must remain to return the child to the family. A permanent placement order should only be issued in cases of physical or psychological abuse or where the parents or guardians have voluntarily reported the situation.

Counselling and the imposition of sanctions should be kept separate within the Youth Welfare Office in order to build trust and encourage cooperation. Youth Welfare Offices, independent organisations and experts must be subject to independent scrutiny. The AfD will support affected parents who wish to challenge questionable placements. This also includes granting immediate access to case files. We want parents to be informed of their rights (right of objection, right of access) in cases of children being taken into care, and for legal advice and support for affected parents to be expanded. To this end, we will strengthen the Youth Welfare Ombudsman's Office.

Valuing life – a culture of welcome for children

The AfD stands for a culture of life and, in line with German case law, believes that the protection of life begins with the embryo. A year-on-year decline in the number of births in Berlin is accompanied by rising abortion figures. Official statistics for Berlin for the year 2024 recorded just under 34,000 births and 9,700 abortions.

Through our family-support measures, we aim to offer expectant parents in need financial support and practical assistance so that they choose to have their child. In this way, the AfD seeks to significantly reduce the high number of abortions. We are committed to providing comprehensive support during pregnancy and in everyday family life, particularly in difficult circumstances. To this end, we are safeguarding the 'Early Support' services. At the same time, we oppose all attempts to trivialise abortions, to promote them through state funding, or even to declare them a human right. To protect

unborn life, we want to show women viable alternatives to abortion. Adoption as an alternative to abortion must also be made easier.

Making spaces safer for children and young people

The ongoing deterioration caused by drug dealing, street prostitution and littering in Berlin is also affecting our children. We want to offer our children a safe environment and positive prospects.

Following the scandal at the Wutzkyallee youth centre, where the rape of a girl was to be covered up out of deference to the perpetrators' migrant background, the safety of children and young people must be made a top priority. Criminal prosecution must not be allowed to fail due to political and cultural considerations. We will ensure that youth centres once again become safe places for children and young people.

Youth leisure facilities should be welcoming to all young people. Youth centres that have been occupied by radical left-wingers need a fresh start in terms of their concept.

SPORT



SPORT PROMOTES HEALTH AND SOCIAL COHESION

In a society increasingly characterised by social isolation and a lack of physical activity, sport plays a vital role in fostering social cohesion and promoting health. Sport helps to forge a sense of identity and fosters connections across social divides. It must therefore remain free from politics and ideology. Sport improves physical and mental wellbeing, and strengthens personal responsibility and self-confidence as a constant companion throughout all stages of life.

The rise in violence in amateur football and at outdoor swimming pools is a cause for concern; this has been exacerbated in particular by mass migration. The AfD is calling for clear rules and a rigorous approach to dealing with perpetrators of violence.

A focus on success and performance is an integral part of sport. In the new state youth games to be established, genuine comparisons of performance must once again take place, and winners' and honour certificates must be awarded. The competition must once again take centre stage.

Our demands for attractive grassroots sport and high-performance elite sport:

More sports facilities for grassroots sport

Berlin has far too few sports facilities. Sports grounds for athletics, football and outdoor sports are suffering from a significant maintenance backlog. The small number and poor condition of sports halls in Berlin are a cause for concern. The demand for school and leisure sport cannot be met. Many children who would like to take part in sport end up on waiting lists at clubs. In winter, the situation worsens as clubs have to move from outdoor sports facilities into indoor halls. Only a few Berlin districts have ice rinks, which leads to major restrictions on what clubs can offer.

Any further loss of sports facilities is unacceptable. The backlog of renovation work on sports facilities must be addressed through

massive investment and an

emergency programme. New construction projects must take into account the need for additional sports facilities. Our aim is to ensure a needs-based provision of high-quality sports facilities for all sports. The AfD supports the demands set out by the Berlin State Sports Federation in its 14-point catalogue for more and better sports facilities and is committed to their implementation.

Placing greater emphasis on sport for people with disabilities

Greater attention must be paid to ensuring that sports facilities are accessible to people with disabilities when constructing new facilities or refurbishing existing ones. Inclusive sport involving people with and without disabilities promotes social and societal acceptance. In the inclusive redevelopment of the Friedrich-Ludwig-Jahn Sports Park, there must be no compromises at the expense of sport for people with disabilities.

By promoting elite sport to medal-winning levels, competitive athletes serve as role models for grassroots sport and foster a sense of identification with Berlin and Germany. An effective talent identification system in schools should ensure that talented individuals are recognised and nurtured at an early stage. Attracting outstanding coaches and ensuring they are paid appropriately forms the basis for future success and must be guaranteed.

All three elite sports schools and the Olympic training centres in Berlin must be maintained and provided with the resources commensurate with this ambition. We support a Berlin bid for the Olympic Games as an important catalyst for both elite and grassroots sport in our city. As a prerequisite for a bid, complete cost transparency and the post-Games use of the sports facilities built for the Olympics must be guaranteed.

Sport in schools

The AfD calls for physical education in all Berlin primary and secondary schools to be increased to four lessons per week and taught in double lessons. For school physical education, access to sports facilities close to the school must be ensured.

A number of boroughs suffer from a significant shortage of indoor swimming pools. This results in longer journeys for school sports, at the expense of swimming time, and leads to capacity constraints at swimming clubs. The AfD will enshrine in the Schools Act a legally binding entitlement to transport

for school swimming lessons (swimming bus). We want to gradually bring forward school swimming lessons from Year 3 to Year 2. Every child in Berlin should be able to learn to swim.

The AfD will step up the integration of physical activity, play and sport into the all-day school programme. The aim is for sports clubs to be offered as part of the all-day programme at all Berlin schools and to achieve a wide variety of sports on offer. For pupils with delays in motor development, we will introduce specialised sports support lessons.

HEALTH



A FUNCTIONING HEALTHCARE SYSTEM – THE FOUNDATION FOR A SELF-DETERMINED LIFE

Effective, locally accessible healthcare and compassionate care are of paramount importance to the AfD. Personal responsibility, prevention, and private and state-provided essential services form the basis for a healthy, long and self-determined life. The current healthcare system is plagued by serious shortcomings, which we intend to rectify.

Our demands for patient-centred and high-performing healthcare:

Safeguarding modern hospitals

Our city's hospitals are threatened by insolvency and closure. Inadequate state funding and reimbursement from health insurance funds are at the expense of investment in buildings and modern technology, as well as at the expense of staff. This further exacerbates the existing shortage of skilled workers.

The inadequate investment subsidies must be adjusted to reflect actual needs and significantly increased. The gap between stagnating income and rising expenditure must finally be closed. The system of flat-rate per-case payments must be replaced by a performance-based system with minimal bureaucracy. Every patient wants to be treated according to their specific needs. In Berlin, remuneration agreements must be concluded between the respective hospitals and the social security providers. These agreements must take into account treatment requirements, specialisations and key financial indicators. The increasing workload and high stress levels faced by staff in our hospitals must be reduced through standardised work processes and digitalisation. In this context, digitalisation must no longer serve the purposes of excessive documentation requirements and an obsession with control. Instead, it must create the breathing space that doctors and nurses need to work with their patients. We call for comprehensive hospital capacity for inpatient and outpatient care, particularly for infants and young children.

A doctor's appointment? – Improving outpatient care

Many GP practices are no longer accepting new patients. Waiting times – particularly for appointments with specialists – are continuing to rise. Furthermore, bureaucratic government regulations and the shortage of skilled staff are putting the very existence of GP practices under strain. Fewer and fewer trainee doctors are willing to set up in private practice.

The obligation to provide treatment without entitlement to remuneration when the budget is exceeded must be brought to an end. We can only safeguard the continued existence of local medical practices across all specialisms through fair, itemised remuneration for meaningful services provided. To ensure an even distribution of medical practices, licence areas aligned with Berlin's city districts must be re-established.

The AfD advocates the creation of one emergency practice per district, operated by the Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians (KV), to ensure adequate outpatient care for acute but not potentially life-threatening conditions, thereby also relieving the pressure on hospital A&E departments. We are also tackling long waiting times for doctor's appointments by increasing the number of university places. These were recently reduced at the Charité. We believe this is wrong.

Instead of poaching medical professionals from abroad, we want to increase the number of university places for doctors and pharmacists here.

We firmly reject any restriction on freedom of treatment, for example by setting a vaccination quota for doctors.

Ensuring the supply of medicines

Pharmacies in many places are on the brink of closure. There are not enough young people coming through to take over. Billing procedures that are now almost impossible to keep track of are jeopardising the economic foundations of local neighbourhood pharmacies. Many patients are unable to obtain their essential medicines on time due to shortages. Furthermore, mail-order sales of prescription medicines are undermining pharmacies.

We want to see a significant shift in pharmaceutical production back to Germany and to safe countries of origin. In this way, we will become more independent and ensure security of supply and quality. Pharmaceutical wholesalers must be obliged to

hold at least the equivalent of two months' average demand for medicines essential to healthcare provision. We will reduce bureaucracy and simplify the billing system. Remuneration must also take account of patients' growing need for advice and enable pharmacies to develop in a sustainable and future-proof manner.

Priority for home care

Due to demographic trends, the number of people in need of care is rising steadily. Care provided by family members and relatives forms the backbone of care for the elderly. Many people in need of care wish to receive care in familiar surroundings. The current level of the care allowance is not keeping pace with inflation-driven costs. Support services for family carers are confusing.

We want to bring the care allowance for family members and carers into line with the rates paid to outpatient care services. Inflation over recent years must result in a 23 per cent increase in the care allowance. We will present the options for respite care in a clear and transparent manner to make it easier to access support. In future, care services must notify eligible claimants of whether their application for care support has been approved or rejected by the social services authorities within one month of the application being submitted at the latest. Social services must be equipped to handle this. In this way, the conditions for efficient care services can be placed on a reasonable economic footing. Overall, our planned measures will ensure that people in need of care, family carers, relatives and care staff in outpatient services are given greater recognition.

Putting residential care on a financially sustainable footing

Sometimes, admission to a care home is unavoidable. Places are scarce. Personal contributions and care insurance premiums are rising steadily.

In line with the state subsidies provided in other federal states for newly established care homes, we intend to subsidise every newly created place that meets modern standards with 40,000 euros. In addition, we will increase the State of Berlin's investment cost subsidy to 300 euros per person requiring care per month. This will help ease the burden on those in need of care and their families. This will create new, attractive care options in an ageing society.

Reducing bureaucracy in the healthcare system

Bureaucracy has reached absurd proportions. It increasingly hinders treatment and incurs considerable costs. It is the result of an excessive need for security and control. The cost-benefit ratio is completely out of proportion. All of this reflects a lack of trust on the part of politicians towards service providers and patients. The AfD is committed to a culture of trust, personal responsibility and lean administration.

Reviewing the Covid-19 response

The Covid-19 measures have caused people harm in terms of their health, social well-being and economic circumstances. The far too belated publication of the Robert Koch Institute's minutes suggests, in some instances, that measures were deliberately misguided. They were frequently implemented against the advice of scientists. People were misled and coerced into getting vaccinated, even though the vaccines had only been authorised following a fast-track approval process with dubious results.

The Covid-19 period must be properly addressed. Decision-makers must be held to account. Opponents of the Covid-19 measures who were wrongfully condemned must be fully exonerated. The laws and guidelines enacted in connection with the so-called Covid-19 crisis must be reviewed, repealed where necessary, and incorporated into a realistic disaster plan. We reject compulsory vaccination. The physical integrity and personal responsibility of the individual are our top priority. The right to self-determination, enshrined in the Basic Law, must not be infringed upon. There must be no exclusion or discrimination against people who refuse vaccination.

We take a very critical view of the WHO's role during the coronavirus pandemic. It bears some responsibility for the measures that were, for the most part, misguided and disproportionate. We reject its now even greater influence over our healthcare system, with powers to intervene in the lives of every citizen. This also applies to corresponding efforts by the EU. We want to restore national sovereignty over our healthcare system. ***After all, we know best what is good for us!***

Patient data is a private matter

Adequate data protection is not guaranteed for electronic patient records. Their implementation and usability are flawed.

Digitalisation in medical facilities can bring benefits. There is a great need for medical data to avoid duplicate tests and for research purposes. However, the risk of becoming a 'transparent patient' is also very real. Patients must be in control of their own data and be free to decide whether and to whom their data is disclosed. We reject a centralised database. Instead, we advocate storing an emergency data record and a living will on the health insurance card.

Unrestricted German standards for staff from abroad The demographic crisis caused by a low birth rate and an increasingly ageing population is leading to a noticeable shortage of skilled workers.

To ensure a consistently high standard of medical and nursing care, as well as clear communication between all those involved, our German standards are indispensable. This applies not only to comparable qualifications, but also to a high level of linguistic proficiency and the ability to integrate into the workplace and society.

Making the public health service fit for purpose Public health authorities are on the verge of collapse due to increasing staff shortages and an excessive workload. The so-called 'model public health authority' fails to take account of the authorities' capabilities and actual needs.

There must be a focus on achievable tasks. Priorities must be services that primarily serve the general public and cannot be provided by individual citizens on their own. These include disaster management, disease control, social psychiatric services and the monitoring of food and water hygiene.

DEMOCRACY & LAW & RULE OF LAW





Democracy & the Rule of Law

STRENGTHENING CITIZEN PARTICIPATION THROUGH MORE DIRECT DEMOCRACY

The AfD stands for self-determination, love of one's homeland and the revitalisation of democratic traditions in Germany. Instead of placing ever less trust in citizens and sidelining them for five years after a House of Representatives election, we will ensure that citizens' opportunities to influence and scrutinise politics are expanded through instruments of direct democracy. Furthermore, we wish to respond to the wishes of Berliners to be able to elect the Governing Mayor directly – as is the case in other major cities.

Our demands for a vibrant democracy:

Dare to embrace more democracy – enable citizens' initiatives

Strengthening direct democracy is a matter close to our hearts. We want to carefully expand the existing instruments of direct legislation. We therefore propose that, as in other federal states, any constitutional amendment passed by the House of Representatives must be put to the people for a final decision in a referendum. In this way, Berliners will have the final say on all fundamental political decisions in our city.

Furthermore, we call for the instruments of Berlin's direct democracy to be supplemented by the option of optional referendums within the framework of what is known as a 'popular objection'. As in Switzerland, it should also be possible in Berlin to have laws passed by the House of Representatives repealed within a specified period by means of a popular objection. We therefore propose that a referendum should be held on a law passed by the House of Representatives if, within 100 days of the law's adoption by the House of Representatives, half the number of signatures required to initiate a referendum through a citizens' petition is collected in support of the 'citizens' objection'. The quorum for a referendum under the 'people's objection' procedure should then also be half that required for a referendum under a

referendum. In this way, Berliners are given the opportunity to block controversial laws through direct democracy. If the quorum is not reached, the law comes into force as passed by the House of Representatives. The Budget Act is not to be subject to a popular objection, as budgetary authority is one of the parliament's most fundamental powers.

Direct election of the Governing Mayor

In response to the wishes of many citizens, we are campaigning for the direct election of the Governing Mayor. As in other major cities, Berliners should be able to decide directly on their head of city government. The election of the Governing Mayor should take place at the same time as the election to the House of Representatives. If none of the candidates secures an absolute majority, a run-off election between the two top-placed candidates will take place 14 days later. If the House of Representatives is dissolved early or the election is repeated, a new election for the Governing Mayor shall take place at the same time. The House of Representatives may, by a two-thirds majority of its members, call a new election for the Governing Mayor. The term of office of the Governing Mayor shall in any case end with the conclusion of the legislative term and the election of a new Governing Mayor.

Direct election of district mayors and strengthening of the districts

Like the Governing Mayor, the district mayors are also to be directly elected by voters in their respective districts on the day of the elections for the House of Representatives and the district councils. If none of the candidates secures an absolute majority, a run-off election between the two highest-placed candidates takes place 14 days later. Furthermore, we advocate strengthening the legal status of the boroughs, for example through their own sources of revenue and their own right to bring legal action. The principle of allocating a lump sum alone leads to dependence and a lack of autonomy on the part of the boroughs.

Preventing dual mandates and the Parity Act

Members of the House of Representatives should not be permitted to serve simultaneously as members of the Bundestag or the European Parliament. After the election, they should be required to choose which parliament to serve in. Furthermore, we call for the separation of office and mandate. No Member of the House of Representatives may simultaneously be a member of the government.

We reject any constitutional amendment that would oblige parties to ensure

of men and women on their candidate lists. The freedom of choice and the freedom of each party to nominate women or men at its own discretion must not be infringed upon.

Set up a Corona inquiry committee and implement a Corona amnesty

Criminal proceedings are still ongoing against hundreds of doctors who, during the Covid-19 pandemic, followed their conscience and refused to comply with government measures. Others have been convicted and are, in some cases, in prison or have lost their medical licence. Participants in demonstrations have been sentenced to fines or prison terms. The AfD calls for the establishment of a 'Covid-19' committee of inquiry in the House of Representatives. The circumstances surrounding unlawful actions by the authorities must be investigated and, where appropriate, punished. Furthermore, we intend to launch a Bundesrat initiative calling for an amnesty for all convictions relating to Covid-19 measures.

Cut tax funding for far-left NGOs and put an end to the abuse of reporting centres

Every year, Berlin allocates large sums of money to radical left-wing NGOs and associations that pursue a questionable ideological agenda and denigrate civic patriotism. This must finally come to an end. We will ensure that, in future, such organisations are funded exclusively through private donations and membership fees.

Furthermore, Berlin funds reporting centres such as the Berliner Register or CLAIM, which operate in a legal grey area and often compile unconfirmed reports and expressions of opinion that fall below the threshold for criminal prosecution into a politically biased narrative. This leads to a distortion of public perception, systematic intimidation and a restriction of freedom of expression. We will therefore put an end to public funding of these reporting centres, so that these organisations, too, will in future have to rely exclusively on private funding.

NATURE

&



ENVIRO NMENT





Nature & Environment

BERLIN – OUR HOME, OUR ENVIRONMENT

Our environment is part of our home in Berlin and makes life in the city worth living and full of vitality. Green spaces, forests, rivers and bodies of water are places for relaxation, wonder and connecting with nature. For us, environmental and nature conservation means practical action rather than ideological bans. It is about taking responsibility, striking a balance and using nature in harmony with the city and its people. Everyone can play their part, whether in their own garden, by looking after green spaces in their neighbourhood, or through the mindful use and protection of public spaces. Even small actions count: reducing waste, respecting trees and plants, saving water and getting actively involved in the neighbourhood.

We focus on personal responsibility, nature-friendly use and technical solutions that are effective, practical and citizen-centred. In this way, we protect our home, safeguard our quality of life and preserve our natural environment for future generations. Our aim is a green, clean and vibrant city of which we can be proud.

Our demands for a liveable city in harmony with nature:

Safeguarding urban green spaces and recreational areas

– Prevent wind turbines in Berlin's forests

Berlin thrives on its parks, allotments and woods. They are the city's green lungs and vital places for recreation. However, many of these spaces are neglected because the Senate has been cutting funding for the parks and green spaces departments for years. Under our leadership, the maintenance of green spaces will once again be a priority. We will ensure that the boroughs receive sufficient funding, qualified staff and clear maintenance plans that are actually put into practice.

Time and again, roadside trees are felled without being replaced by equivalent trees. In future, the rule must be: every tree felled in Berlin must be replanted. We will enforce the replanting obligation more consistently and monitor it through transparent tree inventories.

Berlin's forests are also suffering as a result of political neglect. Pressure from land use, soil sealing and a lack of maintenance are jeopardising their function as local recreational areas. We will preserve the forests for the long term and manage and develop them in line with natural forestry principles. The plan to erect wind turbines in Berlin's forests is completely misguided. This will destroy nature, recreational spaces and the cityscape. Under our government's leadership, there will be no wind turbines in the forest. We categorically reject the land-use target of 0.5 per cent for wind power in Berlin. Berlin must no longer be forced by federal laws to install wind turbines in its forests.

Stop land consumption – preserve near-natural spaces

Berlin is a growing city, but every new instance of land sealing costs habitat for plants, animals and recreational use. The Senate has so far done too little to protect valuable land and continues to allow too much new construction in ecologically sensitive areas. Under our leadership, this will change.

We want to consistently reduce land consumption and preserve near-natural areas. Both unused natural areas and partially sealed areas must be systematically recorded. Some areas can be developed sensibly, whilst others should be restored to a near-natural state through de-sealing, so that rainwater can seep away and urban habitats are ecologically enhanced.

New construction projects must not be allowed to take place on existing green spaces, woodland or water bodies. The Senate has set the wrong priorities in this regard. We, on the other hand, are focusing on land-saving programmes and mandatory de-sealing where this is sensible and can be achieved with minimal effort. Private landowners should be offered targeted incentives to partially de-seal their land. This includes, for example, the installation of rainwater collection tanks, which make the water usable for flushing toilets or for watering gardens and urban green spaces. In this way, near-natural habitats can be preserved and restored without disproportionately restricting the use of land.

Clean water for Berlin

Clean drinking water is a vital resource for the city, yet Berlin faces difficult challenges in this regard. Historical pollution, new pollutants and a lack of near-natural riverbanks are jeopardising the quality of rivers, lakes and streams. The Senate has so far failed to tackle these problems

problems consistently. Under our leadership, that will change.

We are committed to ensuring that drinking water and water bodies are comprehensively protected and ecologically enhanced. Drinking water treatment must be modernised and geared towards additional sources. This includes the protection and maintenance of spring areas, small water bodies, lakes, rivers and streams. Modern sewage treatment works with a fourth treatment stage should reliably remove pollutants such as residues of medicines and hormones.

In the long term, the wastewater and rainwater systems must be converted to a separate system so that rainwater and wastewater flow separately. At the same time, the pipes will be gradually replaced to ensure quality and security of supply. Substances that pollute the environment and water, such as heavy metals, electronic waste and so-called 'forever chemicals', should be avoided and removed.

Possible prolonged dry spells or extreme rainfall also require forward-looking planning to ensure that Berlin's water supply remains reliable. In addition, we are focusing on the restoration of riparian zones and the development of new water supply sources to be prepared for changes in inflows from the River Spree. In this way, we ensure that Berlin is prepared for all scenarios and will continue to have clean, high-quality water available to all citizens in the future.

Preserving biodiversity – controlling invasive species

Berlin faces a growing challenge from invasive animal and plant species. These species displace native animals, damage ecosystems and can become veritable pests. The Senate has so far failed to control these developments effectively and to protect biodiversity. Under our government's leadership, this issue will be tackled systematically.

We are committed to ensuring that invasive species are identified at an early stage and effectively controlled. To this end, a sufficient number of qualified staff must be recruited, trained and deployed in a targeted manner. Species that were not originally native to the area, such as the Chinese mitten crab, the red swamp crayfish, the raccoon or the raccoon dog, must be controlled professionally and effectively. Furthermore,

widely distributed species such as the brown rat must be specifically regulated in order to limit damage to ecosystems and urban infrastructure.

Furthermore, we call for a reassessment of species that were formerly endangered but have since become extremely widespread, such as the hooded crow. Through its aggressive behaviour, this species has largely displaced other bird species such as the jackdaw and the rook. The Senate has so far failed to develop a viable strategy. Under our leadership, their populations will be reduced in a manner appropriate to the animals and their species wherever ecologically necessary. Non-lethal measures for controlling invasive species will always be given due consideration. In this way, we will protect native biodiversity, preserve near-natural habitats and ensure that Berlin remains ecologically resilient.

We also aim to strengthen species knowledge and the practical monitoring of Berlin's urban nature by volunteer citizens and specialist societies. Much valuable data on plants and animals comes from the commitment of Berliners on the ground – not from bureaucratic bodies. We support networks such as the Berlin Network for Species Knowledge (BerNA), facilitate mapping by granting exemptions and access permits for protected areas to volunteers, and thus ensure the continuation of tried-and-tested programmes. This data must serve the genuine protection of near-natural areas, not the fulfilment of ideological reporting obligations or the preparation of new bans. Bureaucratic hurdles for citizens and experts must be removed so that more knowledge about our local environment can be generated and thus used for the practical protection of species.

Strengthening animal welfare in Berlin

Animal welfare is a public responsibility. Berlin is currently failing to fulfil this responsibility. The Berlin Animal Shelter in Hohenschönhausen is run on a voluntary basis by the Tierschutzverein für Berlin und Umgebung Corporation e. V. and is chronically overcrowded. The district veterinary offices are understaffed and are unable to adequately fulfil their duties in the areas of animal welfare, animal disease surveillance and food hygiene. The illegal trade in puppies is prosecuted across twelve separate district structures, which are unable to effectively track down networks of offenders operating across district boundaries. We want to institutionally elevate animal welfare in Berlin to a public responsibility and underpin it with clear measures.

The AfD calls for:

- The abolition of the dog licence fee.
- The creation of a second, state-run animal shelter.
- A state subsidy for the energy costs of the Berlin animal shelter.
- An increase in staffing levels at veterinary offices.
- The centralisation of efforts to combat the illegal trade in puppies.
- The conversion of the post of animal welfare officer into an honorary position independent of the Senate.

A clean and liveable city

Berlin is suffering from increasing littering, graffiti and neglect in parks, green spaces and public areas. What many dismiss as a harmless or even charming 'grungy image' is in reality a sign of an alarming state of affairs: ever-widening neglect, growing indifference and the oppressive feeling that nobody is seriously committed to cleanliness, order and safety any more. The Senate has so far done too little to tackle this, or is even driving these developments.

We are committed to ensuring that public order offices operate round the clock and consistently penalise those responsible. Mobile task forces will remove illegal rubbish, graffiti and other signs of neglect. Abandoned cars must become more costly for those responsible and be removed more quickly. Homeless encampments should be cleared in accordance with clear rules. CCTV surveillance can be deployed specifically at known rubbish hotspots. Sufficient litter bins will be provided everywhere. The infrastructure for rapid rubbish clearance will be supported in practice by 'rubbish sheriffs' and 'waste watchers'.

To achieve long-term results, environmental education in schools will be stepped up. At the same time, we want to strengthen civic engagement: through sponsorship schemes, local initiatives and the active upkeep of public spaces. Those who get involved should not only help out, but also be allowed to have a say in shaping the process. Refugees who are able to work but are not in employment should be actively involved in rubbish clearance.

The AfD calls for:

- Public order offices must operate round the clock to enable the consistent prosecution of those responsible for littering.
- CCTV surveillance at litter hotspots.
- A combination of mobile response teams, 'litter sheriffs' and

waste watchers to ensure the rapid removal of litter, graffiti and neglect.

- The rapid removal of abandoned cars and homeless encampments.
- Sufficient litter bins and a functioning waste management infrastructure, including through the expansion and further development of existing BSR recycling centres.
- The involvement of citizens and educational institutions in environmental and cleanliness initiatives.

Reform of Berlin's winter maintenance service

Berlin's winter maintenance service must finally prioritise the safety of pedestrians, particularly older people and those with reduced mobility. In extreme conditions of black ice and freezing rain, the use of road salt on pavements – limited in time and area – must no longer be prohibited on ideological grounds or delayed by complicated procedures. We will further amend the Berlin Street Cleaning Act in line with this. The focus will be on clear, automatic trigger criteria for the use of road salt on pavements, direct authorisation for the BSR, and the removal of bureaucratic hurdles. The safety of pedestrians must no longer depend on discretionary decisions on a case-by-case basis or on ideological restrictions.

At the same time, a scientifically monitored pilot project must test environmentally and animal-friendly alternatives so that, in the long term, we can switch to modern, chloride-free de-icing agents. Should this pilot project prove successful, the use of environmentally friendly de-icing agents must, as a matter of principle, also be permitted for private households.

ART, CULTURE, MEDIA & MEMORY POLICY





Art, Culture, Media & Politics of Remembrance

FOSTERING CULTURAL IDENTITY AND PRESERVING CULTURAL HERITAGE

Culture is not merely an expression of human creativity; it also shapes our daily lives together and social cohesion. As heirs to Western Christian culture, we see it as our duty to preserve our cultural heritage and to develop it further with care. This includes a healthy sense of patriotism and a reflective awareness of history. We resolutely oppose the lack of appreciation – indeed, the contempt – shown towards our own traditions and values. We are committed to our German homeland.

Our demands for a liberal arts, cultural and media landscape:

To preserve and promote our mother tongue, which shapes our identity

The German language is a prerequisite, a result and an essential component of our culture; preserving, nurturing and promoting it is the foremost task of responsible cultural policy. For our history, our traditions and our identity are reflected in our language. We reject gender-neutral language, which contravenes standard spelling rules, as a political re-education project aimed at politically manipulating the natural and historically evolved development of language and sowing ideological division within society.

Berlin as a liberal cultural capital

We stand unreservedly for the freedom of art and culture. We resolutely oppose the threat to artistic freedom posed by political and religious extremism. At the same time, art must not itself incite extremism and violence under the guise of artistic freedom. Cultural funding bodies must therefore be obliged not to finance any projects that are directed against the free and democratic basic order or that promote anti-Semitism. We also advocate that the federal government, through its Capital City Culture Fund, should play an even greater role in the funding of cultural institutions of national significance in Berlin.

Protection of cultural property, listed buildings and street names

We are committed to Berlin's diverse cultural and historical heritage. To ensure that our rich heritage remains accessible and can be experienced by future generations, we support the preservation and promotion of Berlin's wide-ranging museum landscape. The preservation of cultural heritage is the primary duty and classic core task of cultural policy. In order to preserve, restore and expand collections, adequate funding for the collection and conservation capabilities of archives and museums must be given budgetary priority over support for creative artists.

Time and again, buildings of historical and architectural value are demolished despite public protests because the historic preservation authorities lack the staff to carry out a thorough assessment. In line with the recommendations of the State Council for the Preservation of Historic Monuments, the AfD therefore calls for an increase in staffing levels within the historic preservation sector.

The preservation of our tangible cultural heritage requires traditional craftspeople such as stonemasons, plasterers and conservators, who are difficult to replace with modern technologies. We want Berlin to strengthen the relevant training and procurement structures and to revitalise traditional crafts. We will ensure the long-term future of the degree programme in Conservation and Restoration/Excavation Techniques at HTW Berlin – the only one of its kind in Germany – whose continued existence is under threat. We will also strengthen the Jugendbauhütte.

In view of the increasing damage to historic monuments and the desecration of valuable works of art, the AfD calls for better protection of the testimonies to our culture and history. Security and precautionary measures must be improved both in public spaces and in museums. To this end, we call for a Cultural Heritage Protection Act at state level and better regulation of measures for cultural heritage in the event of a disaster.

The names of distinguished figures and dignitaries are an integral part of Berlin's established cityscape. We reject the indiscriminate, ahistorical and predominantly ideologically motivated removal of namesakes from streets and squares in our boroughs. Even when renaming streets and squares, ideological considerations often take precedence over objective arguments. By contrast, the practical interests and views of local residents are rarely taken into account

. The decisive criteria for naming new streets and squares should be historical and cultural relevance, social achievement and the local connection of the person to be honoured. Ultimately, it is not only a matter of honouring deserving individuals but also of representing our cultural heritage as a whole.

Urban cultural policy

The cityscape and identity are inextricably intertwined. The AfD calls for a culture of remembrance that is not limited to memorials, but which fosters identity by reclaiming lost urban spaces and brings historical Berlin back to life wherever possible. We are therefore committed to the faithful reconstruction of buildings that shape the cityscape. This applies in particular to Schinkel's Bauakademie and the redevelopment of Berlin's Old Town at Molkenmarkt, but also to the re-erection of the Berolina. The Neptune Fountain and the Horse Tamer must be returned to the palace to create a setting faithful to the original. We will also examine the possibility of re-erecting the Luther Monument on a faithful replica of its original plinth and the statues on Siegesallee (as replicas). We reject purely functional, ahistorical and ideologically motivated urban planning and call for the continuity of our history to be made visible, rather than emphasising modern breaks.

Reconstruction should be permitted where reliable historical documentation is available and where urban planning benefits can be achieved – for example, in places where the city's urban fabric has been damaged over decades by war damage and demolition. Projects involving sensitive urban restoration can restore a sense of identity and orientation, strengthen the culture of craftsmanship, enhance public spaces and make history visible without distorting it. Key factors include transparent criteria, a sober assessment of costs and benefits, and adherence to the traditional model and the scale appropriate to the location.

To implement significant cultural construction projects, we rely on innovative financing and participation models: private patronage and targeted donations for the restoration of historic buildings and cultural heritage. Following the example of the Berlin Palace, civic engagement thus becomes the driving force behind the preservation of the cityscape, relieves the strain on the public purse and realises cultural participation as creative participation.

Provide greater support for state music and art schools

Early musical and artistic education for children is a vital component of a sustainable cultural landscape. In line with the call from the State Music Council and the Round Table on Musical Education, we will develop a state programme on 'Musical Education' and put it into practice. As part of our efforts to promote cooperation between schools and music schools, we will implement the 'JeKiMus – every child's access to music' concept within all-day schooling. At music schools, we will create a range of courses tailored to demand and reduce the long waiting lists. To clarify the defined scope of provision at music schools, we will pass a Music Schools Act, thereby improving the framework conditions for music school teaching, particularly with regard to the availability of teaching spaces.

The AfD calls for an increase in the proportion of permanent posts at music schools from the current 24 per cent to at least 80 per cent, in line with the national average. Existing fee-based contracts must be converted into employment contracts in a legally secure manner. When converting fee-based contracts into permanent posts, priority must be given to current fee-based teachers. In this context, no fixed-term contracts without objective grounds may be imposed when converting a fee-based contract into an employment relationship. Experience as a fee-based teacher must be taken into account when determining pay grades. To safeguard the training of music school teachers, we intend to strengthen preparatory training for higher education (SVA) in consultation with the conservatoires.

Cultural beacons and popular culture

Alongside our cultural beacons such as the opera houses, we must not lose sight of popular culture. In particular, we wish to improve cultural provision in the outlying districts. A key aspect of this is the provision of premises. Cultural participation should aim to foster people's creative autonomy rather than merely promoting the consumption of culture. Our aim is to foster the diverse artistic and aesthetic abilities of broad sections of the population.

Through cultural education in early childhood, we aim to nurture young people into the art enthusiasts and culture lovers of tomorrow. We must not cut back on cultural provision for children and young people – from children's theatre to youth art schools.

Cultural policy and cultural funding

In addition to promoting popular culture, it is also the role of cultural policy to support significant high-culture institutions that could not survive in the market. For art and culture must not become the privilege of a select few.

In doing so, we want to work towards defining the guidelines for public cultural funding in such a way that successes are more clearly reflected in the budget. Political affiliation must not be a criterion when approving funding applications.

Cultural and Creative Industries

In order to better harness the enormous potential of the cultural and creative industries, we intend to make targeted use of innovative forms of financing such as venture capital and microloans, and to expand advisory services on starting a business and self-employment in the creative sector. When it comes to strengthening and developing the skills of the workforce in the cultural and creative industries, we are committed to high-quality training programmes at art colleges.

Art Fair in Berlin

Berlin is an art metropolis, but not a reliable venue for art fairs. Major events have either moved elsewhere or failed. Artists and galleries need a stable marketplace with international visibility. The AfD therefore intends to create the conditions necessary for Berlin to have a permanently internationally competitive art fair.

Terminate the State Broadcasting Treaty and abolish the compulsory licence fee

We call for the termination of the State Broadcasting Treaty and the exemption of all citizens from compulsory licence fees. In future, public service broadcasters must be funded through voluntary contributions based on the pay-per-view principle or a subscription system. Should a state-run

'basic broadcasting' service providing basic television and radio coverage is established, it must adhere to objective and balanced reporting. To achieve this, new structures must be put in place, as the current system has not proved effective.

Defending freedom of expression on the internet and on social media

The AfD is firmly committed to freedom of broadcasting, freedom of the press and freedom of expression. Government bodies and institutions funded by taxpayers' money must not block citizens on social media because of unwelcome

and thereby exclude them from debates. We defend freedom of expression at all levels and categorically reject any attempts at censorship directed at independent media. Nor should the state require successful internet companies to hold licences, as stipulated by the State Media Treaty. The state media authorities should confine themselves to their core tasks, in particular the allocation of frequencies and the protection of minors.

AI and Culture

The use of AI in art and culture presents both opportunities and risks. Artists who work primarily without AI must be protected against plagiarism and other unintended consequences of AI's use. Human-created art can benefit from AI, but should not be replaced by it. We reject the use of AI-generated images and video material without clear labelling. Where art and media projects are funded by public money, the use of artificial intelligence must be made transparent.

Politics of Remembrance

Berlin is a city steeped in history. We encounter historical artefacts everywhere, not only in the city centre but also in the outlying districts. They bear witness to the richness of German and Berlin history, but also shed light on the failures and crimes of previous generations. A responsible policy of remembrance has the task of portraying Germany's historical experiences in a comprehensive and nuanced manner. This includes remembering the cornerstones and achievements of German history, as well as coming to terms with the Nazi tyranny and the communist dictatorship.

Berlin suffered under the Wall and barbed wire more than any other city. That is why coming to terms with the injustices committed by the SED is a matter of particular concern to us. We are committed to ensuring that the former police prison on Keibelstraße is swiftly developed into another key site of remembrance, complementing the Hohenschönhausen Memorial and the 'Campus for Democracy', the former Stasi compound between Frankfurter Allee and Normannenstraße. We expressly support the idea of establishing an Institute for the Study of Communism on the Campus for Democracy and call for the swift realisation of the planned 'Forum on Opposition and Resistance 1945–1990'. We take a critical view, however, of the federal government's plans to build an archive centre on the

former Stasi site, as the construction of this massive archive block would lead to the demolition of listed buildings and irrevocably destroy the historical character of the complex. With a view to the 75th anniversary of the popular uprising of 17 June 1953, we call for the long-neglected memorial at the Kleeblatt motorway junction in Zehlendorf to be refurbished as part of a new concept, featuring additional information facilities and improved access.

In recent years, the spread of postcolonial theories has posed a major threat to a balanced policy of remembrance. The disastrous renaming of Mohrenstraße, as well as the unmistakable anti-Semitism displayed by numerous proponents of postcolonial theories, has shown that postcolonialism threatens social cohesion. The AfD therefore rejects the ideology of postcolonialism. We call for an end to public funding of postcolonial initiatives and a return to a nuanced view of the colonial era.

BUDGET & FINANCE



KEEPING BERLIN FUNCTIONING – ESTABLISHING BUDGETARY TRANSPARENCY, LIMITING DEBT, SETTING PRIORITIES

Berlin is facing a budget crisis. The pressure on public finances is considerable. The risks stem not only from the state's explicit debt. Implicit liabilities and transfers are equally dangerous: future pension and social security burdens; guarantees; capital measures; borrowing and liabilities of state-owned enterprises; off-balance-sheet accounts and special arrangements.

If these risks are not disclosed, a false picture of the budgetary situation emerges – leading to corresponding misguided decisions. Our aim is a sound, transparent and manageable budget that safeguards the state's ability to act. Our guiding principles are budgetary integrity, cost-effectiveness, intergenerational fairness and a clear focus on the state's core responsibilities. A growing budget is not a mark of quality. What matters is whether responsibilities are reliably fulfilled without overburdening future budgets.

Our demands for sound budgetary policy:

Budgetary clarity and transparency: the big picture rather than piecemeal accounts Political governance requires complete information. Berlin therefore needs a budget presentation that does not view the core budget in isolation, but rather reflects the entire financial situation.

We call for a comprehensive review of the city's finances:

- Consolidate all ancillary budgets, special funds and reserve schemes;
- Record the liabilities and debts of state-owned enterprises;
- include future payment and pension obligations;
- draw up a consolidated balance sheet to provide an honest and robust picture of the situation.

We call for financial transactions to be presented transparently:

- Disclose loans, shareholder contributions and capital increases;
- state the purpose, repayment profile, risk and budgetary impact.

Transparency is not a formal end in itself. It is a prerequisite for parliamentary scrutiny and the basis for setting priorities in a responsible manner.

Halt the expansion of debt and reactivate the debt brake

Berlin must return to rule-based budgetary management. Debt financing is permissible in exceptional circumstances, but must not become routine. Particularly problematic are arrangements that allow debt to be incurred outside the core budget or shift the associated risk to it. This conceals financial burdens without increasing the state's economic capacity.

We advocate the following measures:

- Reinstatement of the debt brake and application of it consistently;
- enshrine the debt brake in the Berlin Constitution so that it has a permanent and binding effect;
- Refrain from utilising the additional borrowing scope for Berlin, permitted under the Basic Law, amounting to 0.35 per cent of gross national product;
- Introduce a binding debt repayment and consolidation plan.

Short-term relief must not be financed permanently through borrowing. Drawing down reserves is no substitute for structural reform. A sound debt rule protects taxpayers, limits interest rate risks and ensures that investments can be planned on the basis of sustainable budgets.

Focus expenditure on core tasks

Berlin does not have a primary revenue problem, but rather a problem with expenditure and priorities. Expenditure must therefore be managed according to clear criteria: necessity, effectiveness, cost-effectiveness and follow-on costs. Programmes with no demonstrable benefit, with overlapping structures or a lack of clearly defined objectives must be discontinued or fundamentally overhauled.

We call for:

- A systematic review of tasks and expenditure (spending review) across all departments;
- the consistent application of the principle of cost-effectiveness;
- Cost-benefit analyses and estimates of follow-on costs must be mandatory.

The funding of politically active front organisations from the public purse must be stopped:

- Tax revenue must be withdrawn from organisations operating as NGOs but which, in reality, engage in political campaigning;
- State neutrality must be restored.

Austerity is not 'cutting for the sake of cutting'. It is the necessary prerequisite for reliably fulfilling core tasks and enabling investment without incurring new debt.

No outsourcing of core state functions

The state's core functions must be reflected in the core budget – including funding, accountability and parliamentary scrutiny. Outsourcing to state-owned enterprises or special-purpose vehicles must not be used to circumvent budgetary rules or shift debt. Debt cascades are particularly problematic: the state injects loan-financed equity into state-owned enterprises to enable them to take on further borrowing. This shifts risks and undermines budgetary transparency. The core tasks of the State of Berlin must not be outsourced to state-owned enterprises in order to circumvent budgetary limits or leverage loans.

We call for uniform transparency standards for shareholdings:

- No debt cascades via state-owned enterprises;
- no loan-financed capital injections used as leverage for additional debt for ideologically motivated investments;
- Disclose loans, sureties, guarantees and shareholder contributions;
- Investment programmes and follow-on costs must be disclosed.

Berlin needs state-owned enterprises where they can carry out tasks efficiently. Berlin does not need them as a means of circumventing core budgetary rules.

Ensuring necessary investments remain affordable

Berlin has a considerable need for modernisation and refurbishment. The public sector's investment backlog now amounts to well over 100 billion euros. Investment is required, particularly in: infrastructure; the modernisation of public administration; the digitalisation of critical systems; security and emergency services; and the maintenance of public buildings. However, investment must remain financially viable. It must not be replaced by large-scale, debt-driven programmes that

place a permanent strain on the budget and restrict future financial flexibility.

We call for investment priorities to be focused on maintaining the physical condition and operational capability of infrastructure:

Priority tasks include maintenance, refurbishment, IT security, the digitisation of public administration, the police, the fire service and civil protection. Special funds and federal resources must only be used in accordance with clear rules, compliance with which is mandatory:

- Use them only where genuine additionality can be demonstrated;
- the refinancing of core tasks already planned does not replace an investment policy;
- a clear demarcation, robust project lists and transparent evidence are required.

We call for clear criteria for major projects:

Benefits, costs, feasibility, follow-on costs and risk must be assessed before a decision is taken – not after the project has begun. At the same time, a cost policy is needed that prevents ideological cost increases at the expense of Berlin's residents. Investments must be embedded in a sustainable financing plan.

Keeping district heating and public transport reliable and affordable

The public sector must not burden citizens and the economy with permanently rising costs if projects are primarily ideologically motivated and can only be realised through additional borrowing. This applies in particular to projects planned under the banner of 'climate neutrality' on a scale that places a structural strain on the budget.

We call for:

- An end to the process of decarbonising Berlin's heating supply on the scale envisaged, which is to be debt-financed. Debt financing of up to 10 billion euros exceeds any responsible limit;
- No price increases for Berliners resulting from nonsensical climate policy measures;
- that pricing and ticketing measures in public transport be strictly linked to funding and follow-on costs.

We demand the following for all investments in energy and transport policy:

- A mandatory calculation of follow-on costs (operation, maintenance, replacement investments);

→ a transparent presentation of the budgetary implications.

Policy must remain affordable. The benchmark is not a programme's label, but its financial viability and its impact.

With the younger generation in mind

Intergenerational justice means not passing on today's decisions to the future in the form of hidden liabilities. Of particular relevance are social security and pension liabilities, as well as long-term commitments that constrain future budgets. Berlin needs regulatory frameworks, transparency and a clear path to reducing these liabilities.

We call for regular, transparent monitoring of implicit debt:

- regularly calculating and updating pension liabilities;
- build up adequate reserves.

Anyone who takes intergenerational justice seriously must treat implicit debt in exactly the same way as explicit debt.

A balanced budget within four years, followed by debt reduction

Berlin's budgetary policy must once again be geared towards stability. The aim is to achieve a balanced budget without a deficit within four years, followed by the reduction of liabilities. Only such a course of action will ensure resilience to crises and create scope for relief.

Our objective is:

- To achieve a balanced budget without a budget deficit within four years;
- then systematically reduce debt;
- to implement relief measures and tax cuts only on the basis of sound budgets.

A sustainable budget is essential for providing long-term relief to citizens and the economy without creating new risks. Berlin needs a location policy that combines budgetary discipline, targeted investment and relief – not by shifting burdens, but through prioritisation, efficiency and transparency. Berlin has a future – but only with sound financial management, predictability and a budget that reliably funds core tasks, discloses risks and avoids new debt.