

German Aviation Key News and Political Impacts

Examining Aviation Developments and their Political Context in Germany



By Marcel Riwalsky, CEO, Aviation-Event

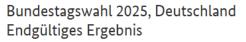


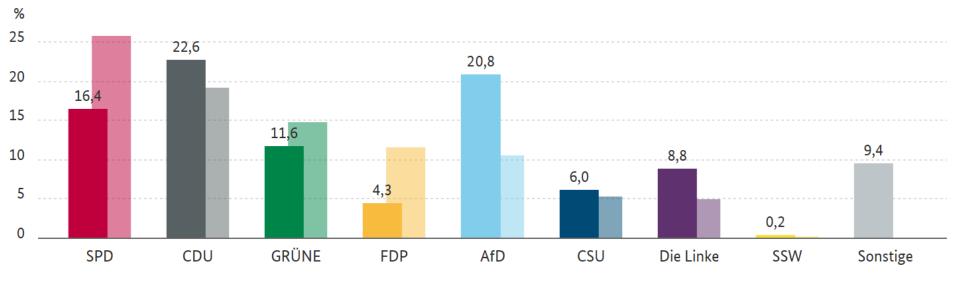




Election results

Zweitstimmen





Bundestagswahl 2025
Bundestagswahl 2021

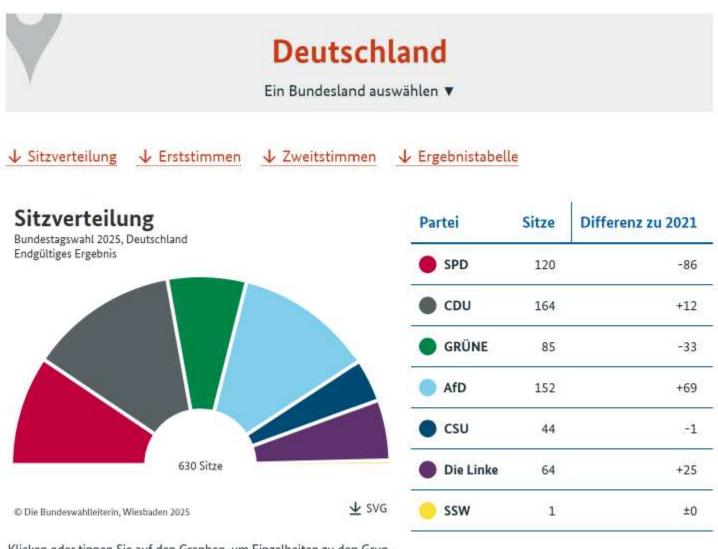
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⊻ SVG





German Federal Parliament



Klicken oder tippen Sie auf den Graphen, um Einzelheiten zu den Grup-

pen anzusehen.





German Federal Government

Chancellor Friedrich Merz (CDU)

- Lars Klingbeil (SPD, Federal Minister of Finance, Vice Chancellor),
- Alexander Dobrindt (CSU, Federal Minister of the Interior),
- Dr. Johann David Wadephul (CDU, Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs),
- Boris Pistorius (SPD, Federal Minister of Defense),
- Katherina Reiche (CDU, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy),
- Dorothee Bär (CSU, Federal Minister for Research, Technology and Space),
- Dr. Stefanie Hubig (SPD, Federal Minister of Justice and Consumer Protection),
- Karin Prien (CDU, Federal Minister for Education, Family, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth),
- Bärbel Bas (SPD, Federal Minister of Labor and Social Affairs),
- Dr. Karsten Wildberger (independent, Federal Minister for Digitalization and State Modernization),

Patrick Schnieder (CDU, Federal Minister of Transport),

- Carsten Schneider (SPD, Federal Minister for the Environment, Climate Protection, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety), Nina Warken (CDU, Federal Minister of Health),
- Alois Rainer (CSU, Federal Minister of Food, Agriculture and Home Affairs),
- Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development),
- Verena Hubertz (SPD, Federal Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Construction),
- Thorsten Frei (CDU, Federal Minister for Special Tasks and Head of the Federal Chancellery).





Friedrich Merz, Federal Chancellor







Chancellor as pilot



Foto: Michael Kappeler / dpa / picture alliance





Alexander Dobrindt, Interior







Patrick Schnieder, Transport







Transport related topics of the coalition agreement CDU/SPD

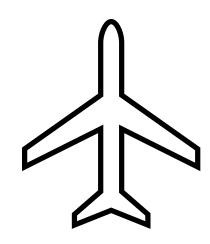
- The planned reversal of the increase in the air transport tax from 2024 is a first necessary but not yet sufficient step
- Germany need to at least halve government-generated costs, or reduce the levy and tax burden by approximately €10 per passenger. Only that will bring significant air traffic back to Germany and become competitive again
- planned abolition of the national PtL quota, which is contrary to European law. Airlines face fines for not refueling – for a fuel that doesn't exist
- German government intends to advocate for fair framework conditions at the EU level, so that European airlines are not disadvantaged than non-European airlines when it comes to the SAF quota. Current legislation distorts competition to the detriment of European airlines and leads to the pure displacement of CO2 emissions ("carbon leakage").





Transport related topics of the coalition agreement CDU/SPD

- Attention
 - Budget reservation!!!







Transport related topics of the coalition agreement CDU/SPD

- Also forward-looking: thinking about civil and military aviation together in the future and developing the necessary strategies.
- Restricted flight corridors, hybrid attacks on civilian flights, or the handling of new aircraft such as drones are only a brief description of the issues that politics, the military, and aviation must address in the coming years.





Air defense related challenges of the coalition of CDU/SPD

- US Airforce Bases
 - Ramstein incl. nuclear weapons
 - Spangdahlem incl. nuclear weapons
 - Additional Airforce Bases, partially shared with German Luftwaffe
- NATO command Airforce Bases (AWACS, ...)
- German Luftwaffe
 - Around 15 Airforce Bases of German Luftwaffe incl. Rapid Intervention Forces
 - Lithuania: The German Luftwaffe is operating in Lithuania as part of the NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) and Baltic Air Policing (VAPB) missions.
 - Panavia Tornado, Eurofighter Typhoon and 2026 Lockheed Martin F35A (?)





Air defense related challenges of the coalition of CDU/SPD

- In 2011, Germany decided to abandon air defense. Since then, the civilian population has no longer been protected against air attacks.
- Air Defense Systems:
 - Patriot MIM-104
 - IRIS-T SLM
 - Arrow 3 (starting from end of 2025)
 - Covers all USA, NATO and Luftwaffe Airbases and Greater Berlin
 - The rest of the country (80 million civilians) are unprotected





Conclusion

• High probability of all public budgtes will be directly be allocated in Air Defense

- And: 2 big players will have new CEOs in 2026/2027
 - Lufthansa CEO Carsten Spohr will not get another extension of his mandate
 - Fraport CEO Stefan Schulte will be retiring
 - Next Airbus CEO will probably be German... 2030+