

## Association of German Cities – the Voice of Germany's Cities

AACHEN | AALEN | AMBERG | ANNABERG-BUCHHOLZ | ANSBACH  
ASCHAFFENBURG | AUERBACH/VOGTLAND | AUGSBURG | BAD KREUZNACH  
BAD REICHENHALL | BADEN-BADEN | BAMBERG | BAUTZEN | BAYREUTH  
BERLIN | BIBERACH AN DER RISS | BIELEFELD | BOCHOLT | BOCHUM  
BONN | BOTTROP | BRANDENBURG AN DER HAVEL | BRAUNSCHWEIG  
BREMEN | BREMERHAVEN | CASTROP-RAUXEL | CELLE | CHEMNITZ | COBURG  
COTTBUS | DARMSTADT | DELITZSCH | DELMENHORST | DESSAU-ROSSLAU  
DORTMUND | DRESDEN | DUISBURG | DÜREN | DÜSSELDORF | EISENACH  
EISENHÜTTENSTADT | EMDEN | ERFURT | ERKNER | ERLANGEN | ESSEN  
ESSLINGEN AM NECKAR | FALKENSEE | FINSTERWALDE | FLENSBURG | FORST  
(LAUSITZ) | FRANKENTHAL (PFALZ) | FRANKFURT (ODER) | FRANKFURT AM MAIN  
FREIBERG | FREIBURG IM BREISGAU | FRIEDRICHSHAFEN | FULDA | FÜRTH  
GELSENKIRCHEN | GERA | GIEßEN | GLADBECK | GLAUCHAU | GOSLAR | GOTHA  
GÖTTINGEN | GRÄFELFING | GREIFSWALD | GÜTERSLOH | HAGEN | HALLE  
(SAALE) | HAMBURG | HAMELN | HAMM | HANAU | HANNOVER | HEIDELBERG  
HEIDENHEIM AN DER BRENZ | HEILBRONN | HENNIGSDORF | HERFORD  
HERNE | HILDESHEIM | HOF | HOYERSWERDA | INGOLSTADT | ISERLOHN  
JENA | KAISERSLAUTERN | KAMENZ | KARLSRUHE | KASSEL  
KAUFBEUREN | KEMPTEN (ALLGÄU) | KIEL | KOBLENZ | KÖLN | KONSTANZ  
KREFELD | LANDAU IN DER PFALZ | LANDSBERG AM LECH | LANDSHUT  
LEINEFELDE-WORBIS | LEIPZIG | LEVERKUSEN | LIMBACH-OBERFROHNA | LINDAU  
(BODENSEE) | LÖRRACH | LÜBECK | LUDWIGSBURG | LUDWIGSHAFEN  
LÜNEBURG | MAGDEBURG | MAINZ | MANNHEIM | MARBURG | MEMMINGEN  
MERSEBURG (SAALE) | MÖNCHENGLADBACH | MÜHLHAUSEN | MÜLHEIM AN DER  
RUHR | MÜNCHEN | MÜNSTER | NEU-ULM | NEUBRANDENBURG | NEUENHAGEN  
NEUMÜNSTER | NEURUPPIN | NEUSS | NEUSTADT AM RÜBENBERGE | NEUSTADT  
AN DER WEINSTRASSE | NEUSTADT BEI COBURG | NEUWIED | NORDHAUSEN  
NÜRNBERG | NÜRTINGEN | OBERHAUSEN | OFFENBACH AM MAIN | OFFENBURG  
OLDENBURG | OSNABRÜCK | PASSAU | PFORZHEIM | PIRMASENS | PIRNA | PLAUE  
POTSDAM | QUEDLINBURG | RECKLINGHAUSEN | REGENSBURG | REMSCHEID  
REUTLINGEN | RIESA | ROSENHEIM | ROSTOCK | SAARBRÜCKEN | SALZGITTER  
SASSNITZ | SCHWABACH | SCHWÄBISCH GMÜND | SCHWEDT/ODER  
SCHWEINFURT | SCHWERIN | SIEGEN | SINDELFINGEN | SOLINGEN | SPEYER  
STENDAL | STRAUBING | STUTTGART | SUHL | TAUCHA | TELTOW  
TETEROW | TRIER | TÜBINGEN | ULM | VELTEN | VIERSEN | VILLINGEN-  
SCHWENNINGEN | WEIDEN IN DER OBERPFALZ | WEIMAR | WIESBADEN  
WILHELMSHAVEN | WISMAR | WITTEN | WITTENBERG | WOLFSBURG  
WOLGAST | WORMS | WUPPERTAL | WÜRZBURG | ZWEIBRÜCKEN | ZWICKAU

## **Association of German Cities**

The Association of German Cities is the voice of Germany's cities. It is also the national association of all the country's autonomous and most of its affiliated cities and towns. A community of solidarity, it acts as the cities' advocate for the idea of local self-government in dealings with the Federal Government, federal states (Bundesländer), the European Union, and governmental and non-governmental organisations. The work and services of the Association of German Cities are primarily geared to the needs and interests of the direct member cities and their citizens.

The Association of German Cities is the country's largest national federation of municipalities, comprising about 3400 cities and towns with nearly 52 million inhabitants. 195 cities are direct members, including all autonomous German cities such as the city-states of Berlin, Hamburg and Bremen.

## **Responsibilities**

- The Association of German Cities actively represents the cause of local self-government. It upholds the interests of the cities and towns in their dealings with the Federal Government, the Federal Parliament and the Federal Council (Bundesrat), the European Union, and numerous other organisations.
- The Association of German Cities advises its members and keeps them informed on all matters and developments of importance to local government.
- The Association of German Cities facilitates the exchange of experience between its members and promotes it in numerous official bodies.

## History

- 1905 The Association of German Cities is founded in Berlin
- 1933 Forced to merge with other national organisations involved in local government to form the Deutscher Gemeindetag (German Local Authorities Association)
- 1945 The Association of German Cities is resuscitated, headed by Dr. Herrmann Pünder, Lord Mayor of Cologne at that time

### **Subsequent Presidents of the Association of German Cities have included:**

Prof. Dr. Ernst Reuter, Berlin

Willy Brandt, Berlin

Hans Koschnick, Bremen

Manfred Rommel, Stuttgart

Petra Roth, Frankfurt am Main

Christian Ude, Munich

## Members

- 195 cities are direct members, including all autonomous German cities and three city states, and 16 state local government associations with about 3200 indirect member cities and towns
- 13 special members: regional groupings of local authorities, regional associations, professional associations

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## How we work

Article 28 paragraph 2 of the German Constitution guarantees local self-government. The Association of German Cities devotes itself to ensuring that the federal and state governments and the European Union respect and implement this guarantee in their work.

## Main objectives of the Association

Cities and towns must remain effective actors, because it is they who provide most public services for citizens. To cope with the growing challenges, federal and state governments need to see cities as partners. And if new tasks are delegated to local authorities, then the relevant funds must also be provided.

The Association of German Cities

- influences lawmaking by stating its position on draft legislation, by holding discussions with the parliament and the government and through public-relations work,
- promotes modern public administration that is responsive to the needs of citizens,
- collaborates with the cities and towns to develop ideas to meet new challenges of local politics.

## Organisation

President **Markus Lewe**  
Mayor of the City of Münster

Vice-President **Dr. Ulrich Maly**  
Mayor of the City of Nürnberg

Executive Director **Helmut Dedy**

- The Association of German Cities relies on the unpaid work of innumerable representatives in the General Assembly, and on the Executive Committee and the Board. It is led by its President, who chairs these decision-taking bodies.
- Council members and full-time experts on urban administration meet on professional committees, in working groups, at conferences and on advisory boards. This is where opinions are formed within the Association of German Cities.
- We also employ a total of around 120 full-time staff at our two head offices in Berlin and Cologne, and our European office in Brussels. This workforce is organised into seven departments, headed by the Executive Director.

## **Areas of Activity**

- finance
- school, culture, sports and equality
- work, youth, health and social affairs
- urban development, building, housing and transports
- environment and economy, energy, fire and civil protection
- law and administration
- Europe and international relations
- integration, demographic change, city and citizens
- press- and PR-work

## Executive bodies

### General Assembly

Between 750 and 800 delegates from direct member cities, indirect member cities and special members

meets every two years

### Executive Committee

around 135 members

meets three times a year

### Board

around 40 mayors, Executive Director and permanent representative

meets five times a year

### President Executive Director

## Further information

Detailed information on the work of the Association of German Cities is available on our website:

**[www.staedtetag.de](http://www.staedtetag.de)**.

 @staedtetag

## Contact

Head Office Berlin

Hausvogteiplatz 1, 10117 Berlin, Germany  
phone: +49 30 37711-0, fax: +49 30 37711-999  
e-mail: [post@staedtetag.de](mailto:post@staedtetag.de)

Head Office Cologne

Gereonstraße 18-32, 50670 Cologne, Germany  
phone: +49 221 3771-0, fax: +49 221 3771-128  
e-mail: [post@staedtetag.de](mailto:post@staedtetag.de)