## PROGRAMME FOR GERMANY.

The basic programme of the Alternative for Germany.



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## Preamble.

#### COURAGE FOR GERMANY. FREE CITIZENS, NO SUBJECTS.

#### We are liberals and conservatives. We are free citizens of our country. We are convinced democrats.

We came together as citizens with different histories and experiences, different educational backgrounds and different political careers. We did so in the knowledge that it was time to act together, regardless of our differences, and to do what we felt obliged to do responsibly. We came together in the firm conviction that citizens have a right to a genuine political alternative, an alternative to what the political class believes it can impose on us as "without alternative".

We could no longer and would no longer stand idly by and watch the violation of law and order, the destruction of the rule of law and irresponsible political action against the principles of economic reason. Similarly, we were no longer prepared to accept that the regime of the euro rescue programme would rekindle prejudices and animosities between the peoples of Europe that had long been overcome. We have therefore decided to offer Germany and its citizens a genuine political alternative in all areas.

As free citizens, we stand up for direct democracy, the separation of powers and the rule of law, the social market economy, subsidiarity, federalism, family and the living tradition of German culture. After all, democracy and freedom are based on shared cultural values and historical memories. In the tradition of the two revolutions of 1848 and 1989, we articulate with our civic protest the will to complete national unity in freedom and to create a Europe of sovereign democratic states that are united in peace, self-determination and good neighbourliness.

We are fully committed to fundamentally renewing our country in the spirit of freedom and democracy and to reasserting these very principles. We are open to the world, but we want to be and remain German. We want to permanently preserve human dignity, the family with children, our Western Christian culture, our language and tradition in a peaceful, democratic and sovereign nation state of the German people.

Our goals will become reality by putting the state and its organs back at the service of the citizens, as stipulated in the oath of office taken by all members of government in the Basic Law:

"I swear that I will devote my strength to the welfare of the German people, increase its benefit, avert harm from it, uphold and defend the Basic Law and the laws of the Federation, fulfil my duties conscientiously and do justice to everyone."

With this in mind, we give ourselves the following basic programme. CHAPTER 1

## Democracy and fundamental values

#### <u>DEMOCRACY AND FUNDAMENTAL</u> VALUES

We want to reform Germany and return to the principles and roots that first led to its economic prosperity and then to its decades of social, economic and societal success.

Germany's state apparatus has now developed an unpleasant life of its own. The distribution of power no longer corresponds to the principles of the separation of powers. In addition, the public sector has grown beyond appropriate limits. It is an essential part of our policy to bind the state organs back to their mandate and to remind the state of its core tasks.

At the latest with the Schengen (1985), Maastricht (1992) and Lisbon (2007) treaties, the inviolable sovereignty of the people as the foundation of our state has proved to be a fiction.

The secret sovereign is a small, powerful political leadership group within the parties. It is responsible for the misguided developments of recent decades. A political class of professional politicians has emerged whose primary interest is their power, their status and their material wellbeing. It is a political cartel that holds the levers of state power, insofar as this has not been transferred to the EU, the entire political education and large parts of the supply of political information to the population.

Only the people of the Federal Republic of Germany can put an end to this illegitimate state of affairs.

#### 1.1 Referendums based on the Swiss model

The AfD is in favour of introducing referendums in Germany based on the Swiss model. We want to give the people the right to vote on laws passed by parliament. This right would have a preventive, moderating effect on parliament in a very short space of time and stem the flood of often nonsensical bills in the long term. In addition, the content of regulations would be considered more carefully in order to pass in referendums.

can. Including parliamentary resolutions on its own behalf, for example via diets or other budget allocations, would have moderate content due to the possibility of scrutiny by citizens. Legislative initiatives from the people have their own legislative proposals as their subject matter and can be initiated by voters.

The Basic Law may not be amended and no significant international treaty may be concluded without the consent of the people. The people must have the right to take the initiative in deciding on changes to the constitution itself. In particular, this puts a stop to the transfer of national sovereignty to the EU and other international organisations over the heads of the citizens.

The German people are just as competent as the Swiss to vote directly on any issue without restriction. A natural barrier arises from the principles of international law.

The Swiss experience shows that citizens behave in a more public interest-orientated way than professional politicians, even when this conflicts with their own interests. Power- and interest-driven decisions are more likely to be observed in purely representative democracies.

Voting questions of a financial nature are expressly permitted. Germany is facing fundamental political decisions on a number of social issues. No government can or should assume responsibility for this without directly consulting the citizens. For the AfD, the introduction of referendums based on the Swiss model is therefore a non-negotiable part of any coalition agreement.

#### 1.2 A lean state for free citizens

The state is there for the citizen, not the citizen for the state. Only a lean state can therefore be a good state. What is needed is a regulatory framework guaranteed by the state in which citizens can develop freely.

The constant, often ideology-driven expansion of state tasks is reaching its financial and factual limits. It is now threatening the core content of citizens' fundamental freedoms. The state has become bogged down. It needs to refocus on the four traditional areas: Internal and external security, justice, foreign relations and financial administration.

Tasks beyond these four core areas require special justification. We want to examine the extent to which existing state institutions can be replaced by private or other forms of organisation. The huge demographic problems facing us in Germany will force us to change our understanding of the state.

Our political convictions are based on a differentiated view of humanity that is always aware of the opportunities for freedom, but also of the dangers that human beings face. The AfD is in favour of introducing referendums in Germany along the lines of the Swiss model.

remains. We do not believe in the promises of political ideologies or in the advent of a better, a 'New man'. We consider a philosophy of history that assumes a higher development of individual human morality to be presumptuous and dangerous.

Historical development remains unfinished and open to surprising turns and new beginnings, but also to crises and catastrophes. In this respect, there will never be an 'end of history', i.e. a situation in which politics stops altogether and the struggle for the right political path becomes superfluous. Freedom,

Stability and economic prosperity must be achieved and secured anew in every generation.

A realistic policy should always remain aware of the imperfection and provisional nature of its possible outcomes. It should take into account that no political actor, no matter how clever, can achieve complete knowledge of the conditions and possibilities of their actions. We believe that the lack of alternatives propagated by the established parties in many policy areas due to supposed constraints is highly detrimental to democracy and the rule of law.

We prioritise the rule of law, adherence to treaties and democratic legitimacy over short-term actionism and electoral showmanship. As a 'party of common sense', we rely on the political judgement and the willingness of responsible citizens to take responsibility. Our actions are guided by the fundamental conviction that citizens should be able to determine political events themselves as far as possible.

#### 1.3 Ensuring the separation of powers

In accordance with the German constitutional tradition of 1848, 1871 and 1919, the Federal Republic of Germany was established in the Basic Law of 1949 as a constitutional state with a separation of powers. However, the separation of powers - a basis of every modern democracy in terms of state theory - is significantly impaired by numerous provisions of ordinary law. tion. At its core, it is about the reciprocal control of the legislative, executive and judicial functions of a state. Its aim is to prevent the excessive and uncontrolled exercise of state power. Ministers as members of parliament, who are supposed to control the executive, and former politicians on the bench are not compatible with the original democratic design principle of the separation of powers. The same applies to party-political networks, insofar as these hinder or undermine the reciprocal control of powers through the personal relationships of office-holders and functionaries.

#### 1.4 Separation of office and mandate

The most serious violation of the separation of powers currently takes place in that the executive (executive power) as government is not separated from the legislature (legislative power, parliament) in terms of personnel. The AfD wants to counteract this. Every civil servant must in a German parliament - in accordance with the principle of the separation of powers - can suspend his or her civil servant status. However, this principle has been suspended for the heads of the executive of all people. In future, parliamentarians will no longer be allowed to be part of the executive and vice versa. Parliamentary state secretaries and ministers of state are to be replaced.

to be abolished. Ministers, chancellors and prime ministers should no longer be members of parliament at the same time. The functions of "political civil servants" in the state administration should also be abolished, from ministerial directors to police chiefs. Employees of the public administration must be independent and loyal. Civil servant and judge positions are organised according to professional performance (Article 33 (2) of the Basic Law). The "Party book economy" must be ended. Patronage must be made a criminal offence.

#### 1.5 Limiting the power of the parties

Parties should participate in the political system (Art. 21 para. 1 GG), but not dominate it. The omnipotence of the parties and their exploitation of the state jeopardise our democracy. This omnipotence is the cause of the widespread disenchantment with politics and, not least, the root of the socially damaging political correctness and the dictation of opinion in all public discourse. Only direct democratic decisions by the people can reintegrate the parties into the democratic system.

The members of our parliaments have lost their function as mandataries of the citizens. Their loyalty is first and foremost to the political party to which they belong. It is from this party that they get their election chances and their election typically secures their livelihood. This dependence on the party goes hand in hand with alienation from the electorate.

## 1.5.1 Adapt party funding to constitutional law

Party funding must be limited to an appropriate level in line with the constitution. Until 1959, there was no state funding of political parties in the Federal Republic of Germany. From 1959, the institute of the so-called reimbursement of election campaign costs was created. In the meantime, the Political Parties Act has created a financing system under the term "partial state financing". According to this, the parties are legally entitled to annually recurring payments. In 2015, these amounted to 159.2 million EURO. In addition, the members of parliament The parliaments are entitled to staff allowances, for example each member of the Bundestag to 20,000 euros per month. In 2015, this means annual costs of 172 million for around 7,000 employees for the Bundestag alone. In addition, without any legal basis, the parliamentary groups in the Bundestag are provided with funding for so-called scientific advice, totalling EUR 83 million in 2015. Without any direct connection to party activities, there is also the legal construction of so-called party-affiliated foundations. These are associations that are financed through annual direct allocations from the federal budget, with basic funding totalling EUR 95 million in 2015.

Overall, the current system of party funding is a largely concealed system in which the parties receive a multiple of the funds that are actually stipulated as the maximum amount in the Political Parties Act. According to the case law of the Federal Constitutional Court

The form of this funding as well as the amount of the funds flowing must be classified as unconstitutional.

Hidden party funding has got completely out of hand and now amounts to around 600 million euros a year, four times the actual - constitutionally capped - party funding.

The AfD wants the entire state financing of political parties to be placed on a new legal basis. The highest standard for the new regulation is transparent and limited grant funding exclusively to the parties in accordance with the standards of the Federal Constitutional Court. Contrary to current practice, all party funding must be subject to the unrestricted control of the courts of audit. The findings of the Court of Audit must be made accessible to the public. A restrictive and corruption-avoiding reorganisation of donation regulations is also indispensable. Furthermore, German political parties should be prohibited from investing in companies and accepting corporate donations.

#### 1.5.2 Free list election and free mandate

Over the course of time, Germany's political class has exploited and adapted electoral law and procedures in increasingly tricky ways in order to minimise the influence of the people. The personal election declared by the Basic Law and the Federal Election Act is not far behind. Voters are presented with rigid party electoral lists to tick. The first vote has no influence on the concrete personal

This has only a minor effect on the composition of parliament. In reality, the composition of the parliaments is controlled by the parties via the "safe list places".

The AfD is striving for a reorganisation of the electoral system that gives voters back the decision on the composition of parliaments and strengthens the "free mandate" of MPs. We are in favour of the "free list voting" in state and federal elections, with the option of cumulating, panasching and cancelling candidates.

In future, the AfD also wants to link the acquisition of a parliamentary mandate to a fixed target number of votes. In the event of a low voter turnout, this means a reduction in the size of parliaments.

#### 1.5.3 Reduction in the size of the Bundestag

We are also pressing for a significant reduction in the size of the Bundestag and the state parliaments. A reduction in the current number of around 2,500 members of parliament and the associated administration would lead to enormous cost savings and an increase in the quality of work. One member of the Bundestag represents around 128,000 inhabitants, whereas in the USA the ratio is 1:600,000. We consider the number of 471 parliamentarians proposed by the Taxpayers' Association as an upper limit for the Bundestag to be completely sufficient.

The AfD is striving to reorganise the electoral system in order to give voters back the right to decide on the composition of parliaments and to strengthen the "free mandate" of MPs.

## **1.5.4 Against professional politics:** limit the term of office

The continuing trend towards professional politicianism has encouraged the monopolisation of power and has widened the obvious gap between the people and the political establishment.

political class. Cronyism, felt, structures that promote corruption and reprehensible lobbying are the result.

Limiting the term of office of elected representatives can counteract this socially damaging development and curtail the parties' monopoly on power. In this way, we can restore our ideal of the citizen representative.

Specifically, we are calling for a maximum term limit of four legislative periods for members of parliament. This rule does not apply to directly elected MPs.

## 1.5.5 Direct election of the Federal President by the people

Currently, the Federal President is nominated and elected by the Federal Assembly. Half of this is made up of members of the Bundestag and the other half of members elected from the parliaments of the federal states according to the principles of proportional representation. The candidate is selected behind closed doors by agreement between the parties. In order to make the election of the Federal President more transparent and independent of political parties, Article 54 of the Basic Law needs to be amended in favour of direct election by the people.

#### 1.6 Curbing lobbying

We want members of the Bundestag to devote their full working time to parliamentary work. The mandate must not suffer as a result of paid sideline activities. The excessive lobbying in Brussels and Berlin must be curbed.

The sideline activities of members of parliament have reached a level that threatens our democracy.

The extent of the sideline activities of many MPs inevitably leads to compromises in the fulfilment of their parliamentary duties. Many MPs use their political mandate to procure lucrative sideline activities with the aim of personal enrichment.

However, the greatest damage to our democracy is caused by the fact that a large proportion of sideline activities are associated with lobbying or even corruption. For good democratic reasons, we want to significantly tighten the regulations on secondary employment for parliamentarians and on bribery of MPs. Members of parliament may only engage in an activity they have previously performed. to an appropriate extent. The AfD already lays down strict rules for its own members in Section 19 (2) of its statutes. Furthermore, we are in favour of a lobbyist law with concrete rights, obligations and sanctions for elected officials and lobbyists that is similar to the regulations of other democracies. The aim is to control lobbying, ensure the transparency of secondary activities and safeguard the quality of parliamentary work. In this respect, we expressly welcome the work of organisations that have set themselves the goal of controlling lobbying.

▶ In order to make the election of the Federal President more transparent and independent of political parties, we want to make the Federal President directly by the people.

### 14 Programme for Germany | Democracy and fundamental values

#### 1.6.1 Private pension provision for parliamentarians

We also see a need for reform in the pension scheme for members of the Bundestag. They have created a pension system that does not provide for their own contributions. After half a working life (27 years), parliamentarians have already reached the maximum entitlement of currently 6,130 euros; in comparison, a middle-income employee receives a gross pension of less than 1,200 euros after 43 years of work and years of pension contributions. The AfD would like to fundamentally reform the costly pension model for members of parliament, which places an excessive burden on taxpayers, and, for example, refer parliamentarians to a private pension scheme.

## **1.6.2 Introduction of a criminal offence of tax wastage**

While tax evasion is prosecuted and penalised in Germany even for comparatively small amounts, tax wastage - which is just as damaging to the common good - remains unpunished. Scandalous construction cost overruns, nonsensical procurement measures and wasteful prestige projects by public officials and heads of authorities remain largely unpunished due to the current legal situation. The AfD wants a new introduce the criminal offence of budget embezzlement. The regulation is intended to strengthen the rights of taxpayers and enable the punishment of gross cases of waste of taxpayers' money by public servants and officials.

CHAPTER 2

## **Europe and the euro**

#### EUROPE AND EURO

The great diversity of different national and regional cultural traditions is what makes our continent so special.

We are against transforming the EU into a centralised federal state. Instead, we are in favour of returning the EU to an economic and interest community of sovereign, loosely connected individual states in its original sense. We want to live together in friendship and good neighbourliness.

We reject the "United States of Europe" as well as an EU as a federal state from which it is no longer possible to withdraw. Our goal is a sovereign Germany that guarantees the freedom and security of its citizens, promotes their prosperity and contributes to a peaceful and prosperous Europe.

If our fundamental reform approaches cannot be realised in the current EU system, we will strive for Germany's withdrawal or a democratic dissolution of the European Union and the reestablishment of a European Economic Community.

#### 2.1 A Europe of fatherlands

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We stand for the freedom of European nations from foreign paternalism. The rule of law, economic prosperity and a stable, fair social system are national responsibilities.

We support structural reforms to strengthen the international competitiveness of European countries, but are firmly opposed to a transfer union and centralist tendencies.

Politics in Europe is characterised by a creeping dedemocratisation; the EU has become an undemocratic construct whose policies are shaped by bureaucracies that are not democratically controlled. A fundamental reform of the EU is necessary so that the states of Europe can once again become beacons of freedom and democracy in the world.

## 2.2 Returning competences to the nation states

With the Maastricht Treaty in 1992 and especially with its amendment in Lisbon in 2007, the political elites attempted to develop the EU irreversibly into a state. This happened despite the referendums in France and the Netherlands in 2005, in which the citizens of both countries voted in favour of the so-called constitutional treaty on the creation of an EU state.

European state. However, the political leadership of the major EU countries wants to push this project forward against the obvious majority will of the people in the EU.

and breaking. On the contrary, we call for the principle of subsidiarity to be consistently maintained and for competences to be returned to the nation states.

The vision of a large European state inevitably means that the individual EU states, with the peoples that support them, lose their national sovereignty. But only the national democracies, created by their nations in a painful history, are able to offer their citizens the necessary and desired spaces for identification and protection. Only they enable the greatest possible individual and collective freedoms. Only they can secure these sufficiently. The promise that large multi-national states and international organisations will be a substitute for functioning democratic national states are not being adhered to and cannot be realised. These are old utopias in the history of ideas. Realising them has always brought great suffering to people. Stable democratic nation states are the foundation of a peaceful world order. International organisations without the character of a state, which are based on free agreement, can be helpful here.

For decades (1957 to 1993), the European Economic Community (EEC) played a key role in Western Europe. peace and prosperity. However, over the years, the European Union has acquired competences for which there is no basis in the European treaties. The increasing centralisation of sovereign rights and efforts to create a European federal state are irrational and unsustainable. The Alter- native for Germany strictly rejects these endeavours.

▶ The political leadership of the major EU countries wants to transform the European Union into a unified state at all costs and against the will of the majority of the European people.

Instead, we are calling for the nation states to be preserved and for them to be

more competences.

The EU institutions, in particular the Council of Ministers, the EU Commission and the Parliament, are insufficiently democratically legitimised. This systemic deficiency and the "distance from the citizens" of the office-holders have favoured the emergence of an excessive power and administrative apparatus.

#### 2.3 Pooling common European interests

The AfD is in favour of pooling pan-European interests in foreign policy without restricting the sovereignty, democratic participation and legal form of the nation states. We reject a formal common EU foreign and security policy (CFSP) as well as a common European External Action Service. Instead, we are in favour of intensifying intergovernmental coordination among the European partner countries and, where possible, acting jointly.

We are in favour of a flexible network of European states in which each European state can participate according to its possibilities, as was the case in the Western European Union, for example. Accessions of non-European states should not be considered for cultural and geographical reasons. We therefore also reject Turkey's accession to the EU.

Germany's foreign and security policy interests must be taken into account in its relations with non-European countries

#### 2.4 Referendum on the EURO

We demand an orderly end to the EURO experiment. If the Bundestag does not support this demand, a referendum must be held on whether Germany should remain in the monetary union.

Today's eurozone has always been an area with economic, monetary and cultural differences, long before its political planning in the 1990s. According to all historical experience, it was not suitable for a single supranational monetary union and should not have gone beyond the free trade area of the EEC. The introduction of the EURO was a purely political project from the outset. All warnings from economists and historians were ignored. Since 1999, the EURO exchange rates of the national currencies have been The eurozone's monetary union was thus established and de facto standardised interest rates were introduced. This deprived the countries of these two indispensable corrective factors, which were central to the market economy and had successfully equalised the differences in economic strength between the euro countries for decades until 1998. Since then, the EURO has prevented the necessary equalisation of productivity differences through nominal appreciation and depreciation. This reduces the economic development opportunities of the euro countries. As a result, the eurozone has been lagging behind the global economic growth

average for many years. According to Lisbon's claim, it

zone in the world".

should become the "most dynamic and innovative economic

After seventeen years of systemically enforced, non-market currency regulation, the common currency is no longer viable without constant massive transfers of assets to those EU states that are not up to the task of a monetary union. The common EURO is a fundamentally flawed construction. The tensions caused by it can only be maintained by interventionist, illegal, permanent and largely German credit assistance and assumption of liability or by ECB purchases (ECB = European Central Bank) of government bonds that cannot be sold on the free market since the beginning of the Target balance escalation in 2008 and especially since the beginning of the EURO "permanent rescue" in 2010. However, this aid by means of the EFSF (European Financial Stability Facility), ESM (European Stability Mechanism)

Stability Mechanism), OMT (Out-right Monetary Transactions), Target and the banking union are only treating the symptoms and buying time instead of addressing the causes of the structural and cost-related lack of competitiveness of the economy and the unsustainable debt of many member states. The borrowing countries of the "Rescue activities" are incentivised by interest rates that are far too low to take out loans that they would never receive from private market participants in this amount.

In this way, the debt-bearing capacity of these countries, which is limited in the EU treaties, is being overstretched with unforeseeable consequences. The transfer payments reinforce the economic and political tensions that have already built up between the donor and recipient states, with the result that the costs of maintaining the eurozone now far exceed its benefits and the opportunities for European integration are being jeopardised.

overstretch the possibilities. Even in the medium term, the permanent transfers that are politically real and forced against the will of the majority of citizens cannot be sustained under any circumstances. The loan and liability amounts are too large even for the main guarantor, Germany.

In practice, the supranational EURO rescue policy permanently violates the prohibition of state financing by the ECB and the prohibition of liability for the debts of other member states (Art. 123 and 125 TFEU (Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union)). According to Article 110 of the German Basic Law and the current case law of the Federal Constitutional Court (Lisbon judgement of 30 June 2009), sovereignty over government spending is a "core and inalienable right".

Part of state sovereignty". The EU, ECB and ESM are impermissibly encroaching on these sovereign rights with their rescue policy. This policy also breaches all the political and contractual rights granted to voters since the 1990s. The German government's promise to "never allow Germany to assume liability for foreign debt". This means that the key foundations of Germany's original agreement to the Maastricht Treaty and the introduction of the euro no longer apply.

The EU policy of attaching conditions to aid is implausible because there is no sanction mechanism for non-compliance with the conditions. As the eurozone does not provide for the case of state insolvency, loans are not refused today even if conditions for the granting of loans are not met. This means that the donor countries can always be blackmailed - a serious design flaw in EU treaty policy.

The common EURO is a fundamentally flawed construction. The monetary union inevitably developed into a debt union. We call for an orderly end to the EURO experiment.

If the Bundestag does not support this demand, a referendum must be held on whether Germany should remain in the monetary union.

The EURO is damaging the great good of peaceful coexistence between the nations that the Eurocracy has forced into this community of fate. Its installation has led to resentment and strife between nations. As crisis countries are forced to restore their competitiveness under the umbrella of the single currency through real, "internal devaluations" and the associated energetic austerity policy instead of utilising their own monetary leeway, inner-European tensions are a systemic consequence of the euro.

The EURO and the associated "rescue measures" or even proposals for an "EU economic government" are illegitimate and illegal interventions in the democratic decision-making structures of the participating nation states. The liability risks that have already piled up, totalling hundreds of billions, have never been the subject of national parliaments' budget deliberations. The EURO cannot and must not be continued as a large-scale continental experiment. The legacy of Europe's history is the democratic constitutional state and the peaceful coexistence of sovereign states. The installation of the euro currency area is likely to destroy these cultural achievements. To prevent this, the daring experiment must be cancelled immediately.

The AfD is in favour of ending German participation in the economically and legally incorrect continuation of this "rescue" policy and to leave the eurozone if the partner countries fail to realise this.

As an alternative to the German withdrawal, a joint be offered an orderly resolution. In doing so, the AfD from the following realisation: The correction of an almost 20 years of misguided development will be very painful. But it is unavoidable, because it is irresponsible to remain in a system in which every further guaranteed loan for Greece, for example, will be lost with absolute certainty. is. According to the principle that no one throws good money after bad (because it is lost), this behaviour is urgently required. The one-off costs associated with this exit will be more manageable and lower than those associated with remaining in the eurozone. Any postponement of such a solution increases the risks.

A federal government with AfD participation must claim the right to terminate the agreements on the euro monetary union and invoke the discontinuation of the basis of the contract or frustration of contract. Germany's withdrawal from the monetary union is imperative in the national and European interest. In its Maastricht judgement (1993), the Federal Constitutional Court stated that a There are no institutional precautions to prevent Germany's exit if the goal of a stability community is not achieved. Germany will make it very clear that the exit is not directed against the partner countries, but that the aim is to correct the catastrophic misguided development of the euro for the benefit of all countries in the eurozone.

EURO zone. In general, all agreements in connection with the common currency EURO will then lose their validity for Germany. The ESM will immediately stop granting new loans collateralised by the German share and will be wound up for Germany. The other bailout mechanisms will run for Germany. Payments into the current rescue instruments are limited to the specific commitments made.

## 2.5 No German liability for foreign banks

We oppose the progressive European communitisation of liability risks from banking transactions. Just like the concentration of banking supervision at the ECB, the "banking union" is a further step towards a liability and transfer union over and above the liability mechanisms that already exist in the monetary union.

Efficient countries (such as Germany) should pay even more for the political failures of other EU countries. This means that those states that have already failed to meet their economic and financial policy targets can continue with this policy; they are counting on the EU community, especially Germany, to bear the negative consequences of their policies. Up to now, this has only been the practice in the case of state finances (deficits offset by others). Now the municipal

savings banks, the cooperative banks and the private banking sector will be subject to this redistribution, the liability of all for all. This is planned under the headings of "banking union" and "European deposit insurance".

Supervision of all affected banks has already been created under the umbrella of the ECB. The pretext for this is the claim that standardised assessments will make it easier to ward off financial crises and chain reactions. We see a serious conflict of interest in the dual role of the non-transparent ECB.

creditor and supervisory authority of the commercial banks that depend on it. We are in favour of restoring national sovereignty over banking and financial services; this economic sector is vital for the smooth functioning of our economy.

The AfD is therefore calling for German banks to limit their joint liability scheme to the national level and, as before, to be able to create their own joint solutions that take into account the different profiles of the banks. For the AfD, this demand to limit bank liability to the national level is a non-negotiable part of any coalition agreement.

Banking supervision must remain entirely in national hands, independent of harmonised EU standards. The German banking supervisory authority should be able to establish and enforce standards for the capital adequacy of transactions at any time.

As a party of the social market economy, the AfD wants to ensure that bank insolvencies are ultimately possible without the involvement of taxpayers. Liability for incorrect or excessively risky behaviour by banks must not be undermined by the argument of "systemic relevance". In the event of imminent insolvency, systemically important banks must first be recapitalised by consuming their equity capital and then by converting debt capital into equity capital. The almost non-interest-bearing savings and current account balances must be excluded from this under all circumstances. Lenders, managers and

The AfD demands that
 German banks should not
 be held jointly liable for
 the wrong decisions of
 foreign banks.
 German savings deposits
 may not be used to hedge
 against risks arising abroad.

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Bank shareholders must assume liability before savers or even taxpayers. Action and liability must remain separate.

The current capital requirements for the banking sector will inevitably lead to a further escalation of the banking crisis in the medium term. We therefore demand that banks also hold equity capital as a risk buffer for government bonds in line with the real risk. It is unacceptable that Greek bonds are valued at a lower risk than loans for German SMEs. We also consider a significantly higher equity ratio for banks, hedge funds and "shadow banks" to be essential.

The Target 2 balances, i.e. the balances of the national central banks vis-à-vis the ECB, must be settled once a year until the exit from the euro currency union. Lending to countries will also be backed by collateral. This can also be natural resources or rights to them.

CHAPTER 3

# Internal security and justice

#### INTERNAL SECURITY AND JUSTICE

We want to strengthen the rule of law and help the law to be enforced again. Firstly, citizens must be able to rely on the law and their rights. Secondly, the organs and institutions of the state must once again abide by the law. Citizens are not safe from a state that tramples on the law.

Compliance with the law is the basic prerequisite for ensuring internal security. It is a core task of our state. It guarantees the peaceful coexistence of people in an open and free society, regardless of their origin and religion. It is a prerequisite for our freedom, prosperity and democracy.

Internal security in Germany is on the decline. There are many reasons for this. In order to improve the situation, changes need to be made to the police and judiciary. Their intervention options must also be adapted to the challenges and, last but not least, the causes that have led to increased crime and are likely to continue to do so must be combated.

The AfD is therefore calling for a "security policy liberation strike" in order to prioritise the protection of citizens. Other concerns must be subordinated to this. We want a clear system change towards authorities that are able to maximise the protection of citizens:

Immigration authorities, police and law enforcement. We want to give the security authorities better and modern regulations.

## 3.1 Strengthening the police and improving criminal justice

The police force is emaciated: years of so-called "police reforms" have led to a significant reduction in personnel. This has led to unacceptable and irresponsible shortages in all areas. Therefore, in order to remedy this, the staffing plans must be increased to the necessary extent. and bring the equipment up to the latest standards. Uniform standards should apply at federal and state level, especially in the IT sector. To improve evaluation, crime statistics should be compiled without political guidelines as a true reflection of reality and supplemented by a dark field study.

The AfD is committed to a rapid improvement in the organisation of the judiciary, the restoration of our legal system and effective legal protection for citizens. The justice system must once again work faster and more reliably in all areas.

Against the background of the increasing brutality of juvenile criminals and the serious problem of juvenile prolific offenders, we consider it important and appropriate to apply adult criminal law to adult offenders and to lower the age of criminal responsibility to twelve years. By consistently punishing serious offences, the state must send out signals of warning and prevention and restore the respect that has been lost among these serial juvenile offenders.

We are in favour of making it possible to order pre-trial detention even if there is an urgent suspicion of a crime within the meaning of Section 12 (1) of the Criminal Code.

The criminal justice system currently has to work with a code of criminal procedure that dates back to the 19th century. It needs to be strengthened in terms of personnel and proceedings need to be accelerated by means of suitable procedural measures, but the constitutional requirements for a fair trial must of course be upheld. The possibilities of summary penalty order proceedings and accelerated criminal proceedings must be improved. The appeal system must be designed in such a way that faster decisions are possible, in particular by abolishing the cancellation of judgements and rejections for retrial.

## 3.2 Public prosecutors free from instructions, independent judges and non-partisan audit offices

The AfD wants to put an end to the influence of political parties on the appointment of judges and public prosecutors and rule it out for the future. We also want to change the practice of public prosecutors being bound by instructions and reporting to the Minister of Justice in individual cases. The independence of the third estate must be expanded through the self-administration of the judiciary, as is already common practice in many other European countries. We therefore support the model proposal of the German Association of Judges to establish a Judicial Election Committee and a Judicial Administration Council. The constitutional courts and courts of audit in particular must be protected from party-political influence.

▶ We want to strengthen the police and judiciary to enable them to fight crime more effectively.

In view of the increasing brutality of juvenile criminals, adult criminal law should be applied to adult offenders and the age of criminal responsibility should be lowered to twelve years.

#### 3.3 Tougher penalties for attacks on public officials

The increasing aggression against public officials in the wider sense (police officers, members of the fire brigade and other emergency services) must be countered by penalising physical attacks on this group of people with a prison sentence of at least three months. To this end, we also consider it necessary to create a new offence that provides special protection for police officers even if these attacks are unprovoked.

#### 3.4 Victim protection instead of offender protection

Instead of letting the protection of offenders get out of hand, we want to refocus on improving the protection of victims in an objective manner.

Non-treatable alcohol and drug addicts and mentally ill offenders who pose a significant risk to the general public should not be placed in psychiatric hospitals but in preventive detention.

Relaxation periods and holidays in prison may only be possible with the consent of the public prosecutor's office.

The considerable proportion of foreigners involved in violent and drug-related crime is currently only met with half-hearted measures under immigration law; in particular, foreign criminals can very often invoke obstacles to deportation and are thus safe from deportation. The conditions for deportation should be lowered and the deportation procedure should be

The criminal courts can tighten up the criminal justice system by issuing a deportation order at the same time as the criminal conviction.

Furthermore, legal obstacles to deportation must be minimised. In addition, reception capacities for persons outside Germany who would otherwise not be deportable must be created through agreements with foreign countries, and it must be possible to impose preventive detention on dangerous criminals. We demand that the naturalisation of criminals be reliably prevented, that the right to naturalisation be abolished, that the former status quo of the principle of descent (which applied until 2000) be reintroduced and that the loss of citizenship for certain offences be enforced within the framework of current law.

#### 3.5 Weapons law does not need to be tightened

A liberal constitutional state must trust its citizens. It must not only be able to tolerate citizens legally acquiring and possessing weapons, but must also preserve the freedom of action of its citizens and minimise interventions that restrict freedom.

The AfD opposes any restriction of citizens' rights by tightening gun laws. The criminalisation of gun ownership does not deter perpetrators, but makes victims more defenceless. Tightening gun laws will not prevent terrorists and other criminals from illegally acquiring, trading and using weapons. Stricter gun laws would be a further step towards the criminalisation of innocent citizens and towards a comprehensive surveillance and paternalistic state.

Foreign offenders must be deported much faster than before.

#### 3.6 No data protection for offenders

The right to informational self-determination is an important asset for us. The principles of data protection must be guaranteed. At the same time, it is important to check whether the security of citizens and of business and industry against espionage is given due consideration in this issue. In case of doubt, the citizens' right to security must be valued higher than that of a criminal offender to informational self-determination. When implementing data protection measures, the additional workload f o r investigators and the judiciary must always be taken into account and weighed up sensibly. The aim must be to improve living conditions for the majority of citizens. In the past, an ideologically motivated, excessive level of data protection measures has paralysed the security authorities and disproportionately bureaucratised them. The result is a lack of security for law-abiding citizens and data protection for offenders. The principles of the right to refuse to give evidence for professional and personal reasons remain unaffected.

## 3.7 Fighting organised crime sustainably

Organised crime (OC) must be combated more sustainably. This includes better skimming off the profits from criminal offences and consequently making better use of the existing legal instruments of forfeiture and confiscation. The majority of perpetrators of organised crime are foreigners. Deporting them must be simplified. For this reason, organised crime affiliation should be introduced as a reason for deportation for this group of people in the event of suspicion.

## 3.8 Civil and specialised courts are a location factor

An efficient judiciary in civil and labour law as well as in other specialist jurisdictions (e.g. administrative and financial jurisdiction) is an important locational advantage for the decisions of the private sector. Quickly and efficiently established legal certainty makes Germany attractive as a business location. Better staffing and material resources in the courts are essential for this and must therefore be strengthened. The AfD demands that the prohibition of retroactivity be adhered to and consistently opposes real and unreal retroactivity.

#### 3.9 Protecting German borders

The Alternative for Germany considers the mere protection of Europe's external borders to be insufficient and calls for the establishment of comprehensive German border protection under the umbrella of the Federal Police.

Operational border crossing points should once again be available at Germany's external borders, which can be put into operation at any time depending on the threat situation. In order to protect the green border, it should be possible to deploy members of the German armed forces based on the Austrian model and, if necessary, erect protective fences or similar barriers.

 Operational border crossing points are to be available again at Germany's external borders. CHAPTER 4

# Foreign and security policy

#### FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY

The Federal Republic of Germany is pursuing a disorientated policy of adaptation. As a result, other states and institutions are increasingly influencing and controlling German foreign and security policy. The ability to make security policy decisions and act in Germany and Europe has eroded. As a result, Germany is increasingly dependent on the protection and support of allies, especially the USA, and is unable to adequately represent its own interests.

The AfD is therefore in favour of developing and implementing a long-term interdepartmental overall strategy for German foreign and security policy. The national interests and the well-being of the German people must be at the centre of this strategy.

As one of the major economic nations, it is in Germany's interest to develop and maintain good relations with all countries. Participation in international alliances and organisations is a cornerstone of German foreign and security policy. This cooperation is complemented by intergovernmental cooperation.

#### 4.1 Reforming the United Nations

The United Nations is indispensable for issues of security and peace in the world. The AfD is committed to ensuring that Germany, as an active member of the United Nations, plays an active and constructive role in resolving and managing international conflicts. The aim must be to defuse international trouble spots diplomatically in order to prevent humanitarian catastrophes and the loss of the homeland of population groups, and also to counteract uncontrolled migration movements towards Europe. We are in favour of not interfering in the internal affairs of other states. Organisations and internationally active corporations that influence the internal politics of other countries or their elites in order to assert their political or economic

interests must be restricted.

The AfD is in favour of strengthening and reforming the United Nations, including the Security Council. The changed weightings in the world should be taken into account. As a globally recognised nation and the third largest contributor to the UN, we demand a permanent seat for Germany on the UN Security Council. Due to customary international law and in agreement with the former victorious powers, the basic features of the enemy states clause have changed fundamentally. The task now remains to abolish it once and for all.

The AfD affirms that Germany has a duty of care for the German minorities living abroad.

#### 4.2 Nato as a defence alliance

Membership of NATO is in line with Germany's foreign and security policy interests, insofar as NATO limits itself to its role as a defence alliance. We are in favour of significantly strengthening the European part of the Atlantic Alliance. In order to achieve this goal, it is essential to restore the military capabilities of the German armed forces in order to catch up with strategic and operational requirements. This restoration demanded by the AfD should not only ensure national defence as a central task of the Bundeswehr, but also enable the German armed forces to the extent necessary for alliance defence and crisis preparedness. The AfD sees the endeavour to predictably fulfil obligations towards NATO allies as an important task of German foreign and security policy in order to develop more creative power and influence in this way. We are in favour of ensuring that any involvement in NATO is in line with German interests and corresponds to a targeted strategy. NATO must be reformed and the armed forces of the European partner states must be restructured in such a way that they can guarantee security in Europe and on its periphery.

NATO missions outside the Alliance area in which German armed forces participate should in principle be take place under a UN mandate and only if German security interests are taken into account.

The alliance partners and Germany work together on an equal footing and with mutual respect and support each other.

► Membership of NATO corresponds to the Germany's foreign and security policy interests, insofar as NATO limits itself to its role as a defence alliance.

are emerging on important international issues. Against this backdrop, 70 years after the end of the Second World War and 25 years after the end of the division of Europe, the renegotiation of the status of Allied troops in Germany is on the agenda. This must be adapted to the regained German sovereignty. The AfD is in favour of the withdrawal of all Allied troops stationed on German soil, in particular their nuclear weapons.

#### 4.3 OSCE and European security structure

The OSCE is an indispensable instrument of the European peace order. We want to see its role in European conflicts strengthened and expanded. The aim is to stabilise crisis regions.

The relationship with Russia is of crucial importance for Germany, Europe and NATO, as security in and for Europe cannot succeed without Russia's involvement. We are therefore in favour of settling conflicts in Europe peacefully and taking the respective interests into account.

The AfD represents a foreign policy that is committed to safeguarding Germany's foreign and security policy, economic and cultural interests.

We are in favour of the freedom of trade routes, international communication (such as the Internet), the protection of natural resources and the equal and fair use of global resources.

#### 4.4 Strengthening the Bundeswehr

The German armed forces are currently only partially operational. They have been neglected for almost three decades due to bad political decisions and gross mismanagement. They must be fully restored to a position where they can fulfil their tasks effectively and sustainably. This is the prerequisite for NATO, the EU and the international community to recognise Germany as an equal partner.

#### 4.4.1 No European army

The AfD rejects joint European armed forces and maintains a fully capable Bundeswehr as the cornerstone of German sovereignty. This includes permanent cooperation between German armed forces and those of its allies.

As a result, Germany needs armed forces whose leadership, strength and equipment are geared towards the challenges of future conflicts and meet the highest international standards, which are thoroughly trained in line with modern operational requirements and which have an administration that is orientated towards the welfare of the troops with significantly reduced bureaucracy.

Closely linked to this are indispensable national defence technology capabilities in order to remain nationally independent in key technologies, keep pace with world leaders and secure jobs in Germany. ► The AfD rejects joint
European armed forces
and maintains a fully
capable Bundeswehr as
the cornerstone of German
sovereignty.

The security and freedom of Germany and its allies must be given greater consideration in the financial budget than is the case today. The size and equipment of the armed forces must be based on their tasks and the requirements of foreign and security policy.

It is also necessary to comprehensively reorganise and reform the intelligence services. They are an important means of recognising and warding off threats at home and abroad. The AfD rejects the cash-based financing practised to date.

#### 4.4.2 Reinstate compulsory military service

Article 87a of the Basic Law states: "The Federal Government shall establish armed forces for defence." National defence is a task for the state as a whole. It concerns the core

existence of the state and our liberal-democratic basic order. The Bundeswehr's mission is therefore an obligation for every citizen. We recognise the exceptional case of the right to conscientious objection to military service, but see the military service of young men from all social classes in the armed forces as the norm.

The return to compulsory military service will create we have the prerequisites for this,

- ▶ that the population identifies with "their soldiers" and "their Bundeswehr", with armed forces that are firmly anchored in the population,
- that the awareness of the defence

Democracy revitalised,

- ▶ that young people from all walks of life are recruited on a sustainable basis, thus enabling a more intelligent army,
- ▶ that a broad potential of reserve service providers is created.

The AfD is therefore in favour of reinstating basic military service for all male German citizens between the ages of 18 and 25. The duration of military service depends on what is necessary for the security of the country.

is necessary. It must enable thorough military training. Conscientious objectors perform military service. Women should have the opportunity to serve voluntarily in the armed forces.

#### 4.5 Development aid

Development aid should always be "help for self-help". Humanitarian aid, so-called transfers, must be separated from this. It is in Germany's interest if people in developing countries are given the prospect of a decent life in their home country. The emigration of people in economic need to Germany does not solve the problems on the ground.

In view of the huge need for support in developing countries on the one hand and the limited resources on the other, it is advisable to concentrate the measures. Only those projects should be supported that the recipient country or the local companies can continue independently after the end of the project period without outside help. In this context, helping people to help themselves must

The AfD is in favour of this,

for all male German citizens between the ages of 18 and 25 to return to basic military service. Germany's security policy and foreign trade interests to a greater extent than before.

In order to integrate development aid into the overall foreign policy strategy, it should be incorporated into the Federal Foreign Office in future. The development aid organisations in Germany (GIZ, KfW Kapitalhilfe, etc.) should be streamlined and better coordinated.

Priority in development aid is given to measures that can be supported locally by private companies in terms of investment and organisation.

The causes of flight in the countries of origin must be tackled, even if this is detrimental to the Western economy.

CHAPTER 5

# Labour market and social policy

#### LABOUR MARKET AND <u>SOCIAL</u> POLICY

The world of work should enable all citizens to lead a self-determined life in relative prosperity. Because this aspiration is not necessarily congruent with the goals of the economy, the state must create an appropriate regulatory framework.

This framework must not place too many restrictions on those who can and want to achieve a great deal, and at the same time must not leave out those who are unable to provide for themselves. The political organisation of the conditions of working life and all systems that guarantee the unemployed sufficient living conditions is therefore one of the most important political fields of modern statehood.

## 5.1 Freeing the labour market from unnecessary bureaucracy

Current labour law is split into numerous individual laws that have to be brought together into a system by judges. This situation lasts

for many years and has been recognised with principles of legislation. In addition, countless individual questions are the subject of a confusing and regionally varying case law, which makes it almost impossible to adequately predict the legal situation. It is therefore urgently necessary to create a labour code that both brings the individual laws together systematically and puts an end to the excessive and inconsistent case law.

## **5.2 Federal Employment Agency** dissolve and upgrade municipal job centres

The AfD wants to dissolve the Federal Employment Agency and transfer its tasks primarily to municipal job centres. This would leave only one public service provider in the labour market: the municipal job centre. This corresponds to a nationwide expansion of the already practised

model" for benefits under SGB II.

Benefits under the Federal Child Benefit Act should be paid out by the tax authorities. In any case, this is a tax-based family allowance that is only paid to the Federal Employment Agency in accordance with the Federal Child Benefit Act.

§ Section 368 para. 3 SGB II. The municipally organised job centres look after all recipients of public benefits due to unemployment.

They also look after people starting work. All matters relating to "unemployment and wage replacement benefits" are dealt with by an administrative authority, the municipal job centre.

#### 5.3 Maintain minimum wage

The statutory minimum wage is closely linked to the nature of the social market economy. In the area of remuneration, it corrects the position of low-wage earners as weak market participants in relation to the interests of employers as comparatively strong market participants. It also protects them from the wage pressure to be expected as a result of the current mass migration. In particular, the minimum wage allows people to live above the poverty line and to finance an old-age pension, albeit a modest one, which would otherwise have to be borne by society through state support. Minimum wages thus prevent the privatisation of profits while at the same time socialising the costs. The Alternative for Germany is therefore in favour of retaining the statutory minimum wage.

#### 5.4 Reform of the social security systems

Our guiding principle is the family, for which we work in the social want fairness in taxes and social security. The AfD wants to recognise the achievements of parents through the birth, care and upbringing of children not only ideally, but also materially. The Federal Constitutional Court has already called on the legislator to do so. We want to correct the current financial disadvantages of families with children compared to those without children.

► The AfD wants to dissolve the Federal Labour Agency and transfer its tasks primarily to local authorities.

"Job centre" transferred. After that, there will only be one public service provider on the

labour market: the

municipal "job centres".

## 5.4.1 Eliminating financial disadvantages for families

Families are at a dramatic financial disadvantage compared to those without children. Family poverty and a persistently low birth rate are the result. Children are portrayed in politics and the media as ballast that hinders careers. It is time to recognise the financial and non-material contribution of parents.

Germany has the lowest birth rate in the whole of Europe.

ropa. One reason for this is an increase in the number of childless people,

Secondly, a decline in the number of multi-child families. If we do not counteract this demographic trend, our pension, health and long-term care insurance systems will collapse.

The AfD is in favour of fundamental reforms for the good of Germany. This also applies to the social security system. Only in this way can the systems remain efficient in the future. The high levies have a negative impact on employees' incomes. Germany's economic success also suffers as a result

## 5.4.2 "Activating basic security" - work that pays off

The AfD wants an "activating basic income support" as an alternative to unemployment benefit II (so-called "Hartz IV"). This means that the amount of state support for basic income support decreases as income increases until income tax has to be paid above a certain level instead of a state support programme.

amount. The income earned is not to be offset in full against the amount of support, as was previously the case. Instead, the person in employment will always retain a noticeable proportion of their own earnings. This creates an incentive to work. Anyone who works will always have more money available than someone who does not work but is able to work (wage gap principle). The possibility of abuse must be ruled out.

# 5.4.3 Taking children and educational achievements into account for pensions

A reformed pension and tax system should ensure that large families from lower and middle income groups no longer have to live on the edge of the minimum subsistence level and build up sufficient pension entitlements of their own. For this reason, we want to take the number of children and child-rearing achievements into account more than before when calculating pensions. The AfD would also like to encourage people to have more children by providing special support for families with more children.

#### 5.4.4 Valorising care by relatives

Care for older people by a service or in a care home is paid more than care provided by a relative. Family carers are often left alone with organisational and financial problems. We want to strengthen care for family members in need of care in a familiar family environment.

In Germany, more than 70 per cent of people in need of care are currently cared for at home. The care rates for care services are twice as high in all care levels

Those who have had to cut back on their careers due to bringing up children are at a disadvantage when it comes to retirement. We therefore want to take the number of children and child-rearing achievements into account more than before when calculating pensions. take into account.

as for care provided by relatives.

The AfD would like to shape the framework conditions in such a way that adult children can make a conscious decision in favour of caring for their parents. As a basis for home care, the counselling services for relatives willing to provide care should be improved in the form of a comprehensive care network and the care rates should be aligned with the services provided by care service providers.

The AfD wants to socially recognise family care work as a contribution to the common good. Individual home care must become a main component of social security systems.

CHAPTER 6

## **Families and children**

#### FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

It is important to the AfD to protect established cultural and regional traditions and tried and tested institutions. They give people stability and a sense of belonging.

As the nuclei of civil society, marriage and the family in particular guarantee the social cohesion that has grown over generations and therefore rightly enjoy the special protection of the state.

## 6.1 Commitment to the traditional family as a model

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Appreciation for the traditional family is increasingly being lost in Germany. Meeting the needs of children and parents must once again become the focal point of family policy.

The increasing takeover of the educational task by state institutions such as crèches and all-day schools, the implementation of the "gender mainstreaming" project and the general emphasis on individuality are undermining the family as a basic value-giving social unit. The economy wants women as a labour force. A misconceived form of feminism focusses one-sidedly on women in the workforce, but not on women who are "only" mothers and housewives. They are often less recognised and financially disadvantaged.

The Alternative for Germany is committed to the traditional family as a model. Marriage and family are under the special protection of the Basic Law. In the family, mother and father take permanent joint responsibility for their children. The original needs of the children, who need time and attention from their parents, take centre stage.

It should once again be desirable to enter into a marriage, raise children and spend as much time as possible with them. The AfD would like to initiate a social discussion on values to strengthen the role of parents and against the stigmatisation of traditional gender roles propagated by "gender mainstreaming". Children are not a careerinhibiting burden, but our future.

If one parent has to take on the parenting duties alone, special support is required.

#### **6.2 More children instead of mass immigration**

The undesirable demographic trends in Germany must be counteracted. Mass immigration, which is not economically viable and is a source of conflict, is not a suitable means of achieving this. Instead, an activating family policy must be implemented to achieve a higher birth rate among the native population as the only viable solution in the medium and long term.

The birth rate in Germany has remained relatively constant at 1.4 for over forty years, well below the level required to maintain the population. Today, one in five women remains childless; among female academics, the figure was one in three in 2012. Families with more than two children are predominantly found in the socially weaker classes, while in the middle class, the age at which women start having

in the middle class, the age at which women start having children continues to rise and the number of families with many children is falling. There are also around 100,000 abortions every year according to the counselling rule (social indication). At the same time, life expectancy is continuously increasing, resulting in serious changes to the population structure. According to forecasts by the Federal Statistical Office, there will only be 65 to 70 million people living in Germany in 2060, compared to 81 million in 2015.

If the shift in the age pyramid and the lack of orientation of immigration towards the needs of the labour market continue to increase, this will result in falling pensions, an overburdening of the working age groups with taxes and duties and reduced economic output. The social security systems will find themselves in a financial imbalance.

The Alternative for Germany is committed to the traditional family as a model.

According to the Basic Law, marriage and family are rightly under the special protection of the state.

The attempt to compensate for these developments through even more immigration harbours the risk of further parallel societies forming due to a lack of integration and chain migration, especially in large cities. The spread of conflict-prone multi-minority societies is eroding social cohesion, mutual trust and public safety as indispensable elements of a stable community. The average level of education will continue to fall.

Through a greater appreciation of parental labour and an education and family policy that is geared towards the needs of families and encourages young people to start a family, the birth rate should return to a sustainable level in the medium to long term. The gap between the desire to have children, which 90 per cent of young Germans still harbour, and the number of births should be closed.

We see it as a central political task to close the gap to children as far as possible.

#### **6.3 More support for families**

An alternative family policy must strengthen the family financially and ideally as a value-giving basic unit. The current financial disadvantages that families with children suffer compared to those without children must be corrected. In particular, there must also be more financial support in the educational

It should once again be possible for middle-income earners to provide for a large family in a future-oriented manner without exposing themselves to the risk of poverty. A suitable means of achieving this would be, for example, the provision of interest-free loans for parents to purchase residential property, the amount of which decreases with each newborn child. We want to remove the many obstacles for female academics to decide to have a child during their studies or in the first few years of their career. Students who become parents during or shortly after completing their studies should be exempted from repaying Bafög loans. Through special support for multi-child families

The AfD would like to encourage young people to decide in favour of having more children.

#### 6.4 Economic future despite demographic crisis

At the same time as raising the birth rate, the existing potential in Germany must be better utilised. This can be achieved by optimising education and training as well as flexible models that extend working life in parallel with the increase in life expectancy. In addition to the extent of the physical strain of the respective occupation, the number of children for whom a pensioner has been responsible during their working life should also be taken into account when determining the date of retirement without deductions.

Those who have raised one or more children should be allowed to retire earlier than those in employment who were unwilling or unable to take on this social responsibility.

be decisive. The millions of people who are still unemployed and the willingness of an increasingly active older population to perform must not be neglected. In shortage occupations, adequate working conditions and fair market wages are required. Finally, the continued emigration of the country's own (highly) qualified workers must be avoided. Germans who have already emigrated should be motivated to return with initiatives specifically tailored to their needs.

As one of the most densely populated countries in the world, a gradual decline in the population should not be a taboo in Germany. New automation and digitalisation technologies offer Germany the opportunity to maintain its economic strength without any serious loss of prosperity, even with a declining workforce.

The family and migration policy measures outlined above are intended to prevent a crisis-like escalation of demographic trends and to bring about a more stable population structure in the long term.

### 6.5 Stopping discrimination against full-time mothers

The needs of our children for individualised care must be taken into account again. Parents of young children must be relieved of the social, financial and labour market pressure to work two jobs. We need real freedom of choice without discriminating against parental care.

The current family policy in Germany is determined by the political model of the fully employed woman, so that the number of young children cared for outside the family is constantly increasing. increases. However, a secure attachment to a reliable caregiver is the prerequisite for the healthy psychological development of young children and forms the basis for later bonding and relationship skills. The AfD therefore calls for childcare that enables attachment to be prioritised for children under the age of three. Crèche care must not be unilaterally favoured by the state. Instead, home education and external childcare should be on an equal footing. Genuine freedom of choice includes parental and family-based care by grandparents, nannies and childminders, whereby all forms of care must be financially feasible.

The quality of childcare centres must be based on internationally required standards, particularly with regard to the childcare ratio.

Parents should not be permanently overburdened by work or lead to conflicts of conscience. Family and career are only compatible if young parents have sufficient time to fulfil their role as parents and their duty to raise children. The AfD therefore considers a rethink in the world of work to be beneficial. Neither family-related career breaks nor part-time work should have a negative impact on professional status and career development.

## **6.6 Supporting single parents.** Strengthening families

The Alternative for Germany wants to correct the financial burdens placed on single parents and those obliged to pay maintenance. After the dissolution of a couple's relationship, there are currently many difficulties in the joint exercise of parenting rights. After a separation, there must be Children need both parents:
After a separation, both
parents should be
guaranteed equal
participation in parental care
and contact in the best
interests of the child.

In the best interests of the child, it must be ensured that both parents continue to participate equally in parental care and contact.

The number of single parents with underage children is steadily increasing in Germany, although this living arrangement generally entails serious disadvantages for everyone involved, especially for the children concerned. In addition to the emotionally stressful situation, both the single parents and those responsible for maintenance are exposed to an increased risk of poverty.

The AfD strives for greater recognition of parents' contributions in tax, social security and pension law. In addition to families living together, this will also better protect single parents and breadwinners from poverty.

We strongly oppose attempts by organisations, the media and politicians to propagate single-parent families as a progressive or even desirable lifestyle. Instead, the state should strengthen the cohabitation of father, mother and children by providing financial and other support in crisis situations.

#### **6.7 Welcoming culture for newborns and unborn babies**

The Alternative for Germany is in favour of a culture of willingness for newborn and unborn children. In Germany, there are a r o u n d 100,000 abortions for every 700,000 live births per year. In only three to four per cent of these cases is there a medical or criminological indication; in all other cases, the pregnant woman is issued with a certificate after counselling, which is then used to terminate the pregnancy.

This allows her to have an abortion without being penalised for "social reasons". Abortion is a drastic experience for those affected and can lead to long-lasting feelings of guilt, psychosomatic complaints or depressive reactions.

The AfD stands for a culture of life and, in line with German case law, is of the opinion that the protection of life begins with the embryo. We therefore call for the protection of unborn life to be the primary goal of pregnancy conflict counselling. Expectant parents and single women in need must be offered financial and other assistance before and after the birth so that they can decide in favour of their child. Adoption procedures must be simplified in this context.

The AfD opposes all attempts to trivialise abortion, to promote it on the part of the state or even to declare it a human right.

The Alternative for Germany stands for a culture of life and

In line with German case law, the Federal Council is of the opinion that the protection of life begins with the embryo. CHAPTER 7

# Culture, language and identity

#### CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND I D E N T I T Y

Germany is one of the great European cultural nations. German writers and philosophers, German musicians, visual artists and architects, and more recently also German designers and filmmakers, have made significant contributions to their respective disciplines on a global scale.

Culture is also the central bracket in which a new understanding of politics must also see itself. The identity of all of us is primarily culturally determined. It cannot be left to the free play of forces. Rather, an awareness should be strengthened that recognises, promotes and protects cultural unity.

For the AfD, the connection between education, culture and identity is of central importance for the development of society.

#### 7.1 Preserving German culture, language and identity

The AfD considers it one of its primary political goals not only to preserve this great cultural heritage for future generations, but also to develop it further in the age of globalisation and digitalisation and to maintain its distinctive characteristics. Germany is also recognised worldwide for its unique theatre and orchestral landscape. The AfD is in favour of declaring culture to be a mandatory task of the state at the federal and state levels.

#### 7.2 German Leitkultur instead of multiculturalism

The Alternative for Germany is committed to the leading German culture, which is essentially fed by three sources: firstly, the religious tradition of Christianity, secondly, the scientific-humanistic tradition, whose ancient roots were renewed in the Renaissance and Enlightenment, and thirdly, Roman law, on which our constitutional state is based. Together, these traditions not only underlie our liberaldemocratic constitutional order, but also shape people's everyday dealings with each other, the relationship between the sexes and the behaviour of parents towards their children. The AfD considers the ideology of multiculturalism, which equates imported cultural currents with the native culture in a way that is blind to history and thus deeply relativises its values, to be a serious threat to social peace and the continued existence of the nation as a cultural entity. The state and civil society must confidently defend German cultural identity as a guiding culture against this.

## 7.3 The German language as the centre of our identity

Our culture is inextricably linked to the German language, which has evolved over the centuries. It reflects in many ways the intellectual history, the self-image of this region in the centre of Europe and the values of the Germans, which are constantly changing but nevertheless have a unique core. The bond of language must be kept in the public consciousness and protected. As a central element of German identity, the German language must be enshrined in the Basic Law as the national language, following the example of many other countries.

In addition, the AfD is calling for an action plan to preserve and strengthen the German standard language and the historically evolved regional dialects as an intangible cultural heritage of humanity in the long term. This should include the Goethe-Institut and other cultural policy instruments to promote the learning of German worldwide and to promote this to the best of our ability through bilateral agreements, study support programmes, etc.

At EU level, the AfD wants to ensure that German is treated equally to English and French in everyday practice.

Domestically, the AfD is concerned to see how the German language is being replaced or "gendered" by English in the sense of a misunderstood "internationalisation". We firmly reject politically "correct" language requirements.

As a central element of German identity, the German language must be recognised as the national language, following the example of many other countries.

be enshrined in the Basic Law.

## 7.4 Freeing culture and art from the influence of political parties

The AfD wants to reduce the influence of political parties on cultural life, strengthen non-profit private cultural foundations and civic cultural initiatives and generally orientate cultural policy towards professional quality criteria and economic rationality instead of political opportunism. The current narrowing of the German culture of remembrance to the National Socialist era must be abandoned in favour of a broader view of history. which also encompasses the positive, identity-forming aspects of German history. According to the AfD, cultural policy in the narrower sense should remain the responsibility of the federal states. The preservation and promotion of the diverse cultural landscape and the strengthening of the economic viability of cultural institutions are concerns of the AfD.

### 7.5 For a modern media policy: abolish the licence fee

The Alternative for Germany stands for a media policy based on fundamental rights. The idea of freedom of communication, enabling as many people as possible to operate media and, in particular, to report through the media and thus generate natural diversity, is at the centre of our approach. We want to promote this and remove restrictions and obstacles.

Consequently, the AfD sees a fundamental need for reform with regard to public broadcasting in

Germany. Its compulsory funding must be abolished immediately and converted into pay-TV. An opt-out regulation should enable existing contributors to cancel their subscription in full or in part on a specific date. Reception will be encrypted or password-protected so that only voluntary payers will have access. Public service broadcasting thus becomes a citizens' broadcaster that is exclusively dependent on its paying viewers and no longer on politics. Broadcasting control must be adapted accordingly. Similar to a parish council or the supervisory board of a public limited company, its supervisory bodies should be elected by the viewers. Only then is the label "non-governmental" justified.

Furthermore, public service broadcasting must concentrate on valuable content such as high-quality reporting, education, art and culture and may only offer expensive entertainment if it also generates the necessary revenue for this.

## 7.6 Islam in tension with our system of values

The AfD is fully committed to freedom of faith, conscience and confession. However, it demands that state laws, human rights and our values place limits on the practice of religion. The AfD clearly opposes Islamic religious practice that is directed against the free democratic basic order, our laws and the Judeo-Christian and humanistic foundations of our culture. The legal provisions of Sharia law are incompatible with our legal system and our culture.

The compulsory financing of public service broadcasting must be abolished immediately and converted into pay-TV.

incompatible with our values. This is also documented by the Cairo Declaration of 4 August 1990, which is the most important for the Islamic world.

#### 7.6.1 Islam does not belong to Germany

Islam does not belong to Germany. The AfD sees its expansion and the presence of a constantly growing number of Muslims as a major threat to our state, our society and our values. An Islam that does not respect or even opposes our legal system and claims to be the only valid religion is incompatible with our legal system and culture. Many Muslims are law-abiding and integrated and are accepted and valued members of our society. However, the AfD wants to prevent Islamic parallel societies with Sharia judges from forming and becoming increasingly segregated. It wants to prevent Muslims from becoming religiously radicalised to the point of violent Salafism and terror.

#### 7.6.2 Criticism of Islam must be allowed

Criticism of religion, including criticism of Islam, is lawful within the framework of general laws as part of the fundamental right to freedom of expression. Religious satire and cartoons are also protected by freedom of expression and artistic freedom. The AfD opposes the defamation of criticism of Islam as "Islamophobia" or "racism".

## 7.6.3 End foreign financing of mosques

Constitution list a number of organisations whose activities are against the liberal constitutional state and its laws and which must be banned as extremist. The spectrum of such organisations ranges from "legalistic" Islam, which exploits our laws for its unconstitutional aims, to Salafism. Both the internal security of our state and the integration of Muslims are specifically jeopardised by such associations.

The reports of the Offices for the Protection of the

The AfD is calling for anti-constitutional associations to be prohibited from building and operating mosques due to the danger that the teachings spread there violate the Basic Law and our legal system and lead to political and religious radicalisation.

The financing of the construction and operation of mosques by Islamic states or foreign donors or their intermediaries should be prevented. Islamic states want to spread Islam in Germany and increase their power by building and operating mosques. The growing influence of Islamic foreign countries is not compatible with the liberal constitutional state and the integration of Muslims living here.

Imams who wish to preach in Germany require state authorisation. They must commit themselves unconditionally to

They must profess their faith in our constitutional order and must preach in German, apart from reciting the Koran. Imams who attract attention through anti-constitutional agitation,

Many moderate Muslims live law-abiding and integrated lives and are accepted and valued members of our society.

They belong to Germany.
But Islam does not belong

to Germany.

are banned from preaching and will be deported if the legal requirements are met. The chairs of Islamic theology at German universities are to be abolished and the positions transferred to non-denominational Islamic studies.

The AfD rejects the minaret as a symbol of Islamic rule as well as the muezzin call, according to which there is no God other than the Islamic Allah. Minarets and the muezzin call contradict the tolerant coexistence of religions practised by Christian churches in the modern age.

## **7.6.4** No public corporation for Islamic organisations

The AfD rejects granting Islamic organisations the status of a public corporation because they do not fulfil the legal requirements.

Islamic organisations strive for corporate status with its privileges in order to strengthen their power. The prerequisites for corporate status are sufficient representation, a guarantee of permanence and respect for liberal state-church law. The latter requires the recognition of religious freedom, the ideological neutrality of the state and the parity of religions and denominations.

## 7.6.5 No full-face veils in public spaces

The AfD is calling for a general ban on full-face veils in public and in public service.

The burqa or niqab create a barrier between the wearer and her environment, making cultural integration and coexistence in society more difficult. A ban is therefore necessary and, according to an ECJ judgement, lawful.

No headscarves are to be worn in the public sector; in educational institutions neither by teachers nor pupils, following the French model.

The headscarf as a religious-political sign of the subordination of Muslim women to men contradicts the integration and equal rights of women and girls as well as the free development of personality.

CHAPTER 8

# School, university and research

#### 8.1 Research and teaching: in freedom and as a unit

The AfD is committed to the Humboldtian ideal of education. Freedom of research and teaching are essential prerequisites for scientific progress. Therefore, universities must be free to decide on the type and scope of their study programmes.

The scientific community must be protected from excessive bureaucratic regulations and science must be free from ideological constraints. The ethos of science, which includes the ability to criticise, impartiality and respect for other scientists and their achievements, must be strengthened. German should be retained as the language of instruction.

The unity of research and teaching is the unique characteristic of universities and higher education institutions with university status. Therefore, only these should have the right to award doctorates and habilitations.

#### 8.1.1 Strengthen autonomy through basic funding

Germany has a differentiated higher education landscape of universities and universities of applied sciences, which art and music colleges through to theological and teacher training colleges. They fulfil different tasks and objectives at a high level. In order to catch up with top international research and teaching, universities must be equipped accordingly.

Degrees must once again convey clear content and skills and have a clear profile. Teacher training colleges for primary, secondary and intermediate schools Teacher training programmes should be reintroduced across the board. Vocational subjects and the dual system must be strengthened. Small subjects must also be maintained in order to preserve the diversity of teaching and research.

The freedom of research and teaching is only guaranteed by reliable basic state funding. The AfD is therefore calling for the often political and ideological of state third-party funds through an increase in the to replace basic funding.

#### 8.1.2 End funding for "gender research

Gender research does not fulfil the requirements of serious research. Its methods do not fulfil the criteria of science, as their objective is primarily politically motivated. The federal and state governments should therefore no longer provide special funding for gender research. Existing gender professorships should no longer be filled and ongoing gender research projects should not be extended.

### **8.1.3 Reintroduce Diplom, Magister and state examinations**

The change to the proven study system through the introduction of Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes (Bologna Process) was a mistake overall. Especially after completing a Bachelor's degree, graduates' qualifications for the labour market are often unsatisfactory. Without prejudice to the validity of Bachelor's and Master's degrees, the AfD is calling for a return to the tried and tested Diplom, Magister and Staatsexamen degrees and the corresponding regulations. For these degree programmes

Gender research does not fulfil the demands that must be placed on serious research.
 Existing gender professorships are no longer to be refilled and ongoing gender research projects are no longer to be extended.

It will then be possible to change study places without any problems. We reject planned targets for student numbers, academic success and the proportion of women. Also for students There must not be any quotas for the conclusion of contracts.

#### **8.1.4 Increase study requirements**

The AfD welcomes the central role of STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) for the competitiveness and innovative capacity of our country. There should be entrance examinations for technical, scientific and medical subjects in particular. Constantly decreasing school requirements have led to a situation where a university entrance qualification is no longer guaranteed with a school-leaving certificate. The requirements for students must under no circumstances be adjusted to the lower level, but must be orientated towards the highest international standards. The AfD is therefore calling for performance and aptitude-based selection procedures for different types of higher education institutions. Quality before quantity" applies.

## 8.2 Our school system: Strong through differentiation

A policy that strives for a standardised school that levels down and accepts a loss of quality in the process threatens the future viability of young people and the competitiveness of our economy. We are fully in favour of the performance principle. Pupils have a right to experience successes and failures in a school system that is permeable at the top and bottom.

#### 8.2.1 The standardised school leads to a loss of quality

Constantly decreasing requirements have led to pupils no longer having the basic knowledge required for vocational training or university studies. There is also a lack of the necessary general education required for

responsible exercise of civic responsibility rights and obligations is necessary. It is wrong to persuade parents and young people that the only successful educational path is the one that leads to university. A structured school system must recognise and promote the talents and strengths of pupils.

### 8.2.2 Knowledge transfer must remain a central concern

Educational standards in all types of school must be aligned with the highest in Germany in order to ensure that our school leavers have the best opportunities in training and higher education. The transfer of knowledge (knowledge, skills, abilities, learning strategies) must remain a central concern of schools. We want to work to ensure that educational content is once again at the centre of subject teacher-led lessons at secondary schools and that skills remain subordinate to them. Performance requirements and grading must be comparable throughout Germany. The only admission requirements for the Gymnasium should be binding nationwide performance criteria. The Abitur must once again become a university entrance examination.

▶ Pupils have different talents and needs. This is why the AfD rejects all types of comprehensive or standardised schools.

#### 8.2.3 Strengthen motivation and discipline

A willingness to perform and discipline are prerequisites for the successful transfer of knowledge. It is primarily the parents' task to educate the pupils in this respect. The Appropriate pupil behaviour can only be enforced if teachers have the appropriate measures at their disposal and their enforcement is not constantly questioned. Refusal to go to school, zero-buck mentality, indiscipline, bullying and violence at school are not to be tolerated and must be punished appropriately with the involvement of authorised parents. The freedom to choose between half-day and full-day classes must be maintained.

## **8.2.4** There must be no political-ideological indoctrination at school

The classroom must not be a place of political indoctrination. In German schools, it is often the uncritical adoption of ideological guidelines rather than the formation of an independent opinion that is encouraged. However, the aim of school education must be to develop citizens who think for themselves.

We reject one-sided emphasising of homosexuality and transsexuality in the classroom just as decisively as the ideological influence of "gender mainstreaming". The traditional image of the family must not be destroyed by this. Our children must not become the plaything of the sexual inclinations of a loud minority at school.

## **8.2.5 Strengthening and maintaining dual vocational training**

Dual vocational training in companies and state vocational schools is a successful model. However, the pursuit of ever higher rates of high school graduates and university graduates as well as insufficient knowledge among secondary school graduates are jeopardising the next generation of apprentices. Numerous apprenticeship positions cannot be filled due to a lack of sufficiently qualified applicants. Vocational colleges and master craftsman schools must be maintained and strengthened as pillars of vocational training and lifelong learning.

## 8.2.6 No inclusion at "any price". Maintaining special needs and special schools

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in no way jeopardises our tried and tested special schools. The requirement to guarantee disabled children participation in the education system has already been comprehensively and successfully fulfilled. The ideologically motivated inclusion "at any price" causes considerable costs and hinders both disabled and non-disabled pupils in their learning success. The AfD is therefore in favour of maintaining special schools. Parents should continue to have the right to send their children to these institutions.

 We reject ideologically motivated inclusion "at any price".
 The AfD is in favour of maintaining special schools.

## 8.2.7 Close Koran schools. Integrating Islamic studies into ethics lessons

Insofar as Islamic religious education is denominationally orientated, we call for Islamic studies in German for all Muslim pupils. Teachers should be trained by Islamic scholars at German universities who are loyal to the constitution and who must not be influenced by Islamic organisations. As long as Islam has not undergone a genuine reformation, we call for the closure of Koran schools due to the uncontrollable risk of radical anti-constitutional indoctrination.

#### 8.2.8 No special rights for Muslim pupils

We reject special rights for Muslim pupils and demand participation in sports lessons and school trips without exception. Muslim pupils and their parents must also fully accept female teachers as representatives of our values and our state order.

## 8.3 No to "gender mainstreaming" and early sexualisation

Gender ideology and the associated early sexualisation, state spending on pseudo-scientific "gender studies", quota regulations and the defacement of the German language must be stopped.

Equal rights must once again mean equal opportunities.

Many of the views held in the field of "gender mainstreaming" contradict the findings of natural science, developmental psychology and life experience. We therefore oppose any state funding of "gender studies".

Gender ideology marginalises natural differences between the sexes and thus counteracts traditional values and specific gender roles in families. The traditional understanding of the roles of men and women is to be systematically "corrected" through state-sponsored reducation programmes in kindergartens and schools. The AfD rejects this gender pedagogy as an interference in the natural development of our children and in the parental right to education guaranteed by the Basic Law.

The AfD is also calling for an end to early sexualisation in crèches, kindergartens and schools and for children to stop feeling insecure about their sexual identity.

## 8.3.1 No "gender-neutral" reorganisation of the German language

The German language is being abstrusely remodelled so that gender neutralisation is also reflected in everyday language usage. The AfD rejects the officially prescribed gender-neutral word inventions as an intrusion into the naturally evolved culture and tradition of our language.

The AfD generally rejects gender quotas in higher education or in the world of work, as quotas are anti-performance and unfair and create other disadvantages.

## **8.3.2 Gender quotas are anti-** performance and unfair

The AfD generally rejects gender quotas in higher education or in the world of work, as quotas are antiperformance and unfair and create other disadvantages. The AfD is of the opinion that quotas are not a suitable means of achieving equality between men and women. We also reject the establishment of special study programmes for women. Instead, the AfD emphasises the constitutionally guaranteed equality of men and women (in the sense of equal opportunities). However, the AfD rejects an equality policy in the sense of equality of results.

CHAPTER 9

# Immigration, integration and asylum

#### IMMIGRATION, INTEGRATION AND ASYLUM

An ideologically poisoned climate of "political correctness" is responsible for language bans and language regulations, especially when it comes to the political topic of asylum and immigration. Violations lead to social stigmatisation, sometimes even to professional disadvantages; in the past, this way of dealing with nonconformist opinions was a characteristic of totalitarian states, but not of free democracies. Misguided developments in the area of asylum and immigration should not be discussed for the sake of a feared shift in public opinion; at the same time, the complete failure of asylum and immigration policy in recent years should be recognised by the ruling powers.

distracted by the parties involved. This prevents an open

discussion.

All of this leads to unjust generalised suspicions against the majority of law-abiding, integrated foreign citizens as well as law-abiding asylum seekers. The AfD is therefore calling for the self-evident right to free speech for free citizens to be restored. No one should be afraid to express their opinion on immigration and asylum policy. The fundamental right to freedom of expression must be restored to its unrestricted validity in this policy area as well.

Due to its geographical location, history, population and dense population, Germany is not a classic immigration country, especially not as a destination for mass immigration, as we experienced in 2015.

Nevertheless, people have been immigrating to Germany for decades. This makes it a de facto immigration country without a corresponding legal framework. Canada and Australia are role models for us in terms of how immigration countries regulate immigration in a way that is compatible with society, society and the labour market. The

Germany's "special path", on the other hand, has so far led almost exclusively to immigration into the social systems and the low-wage sector, rather than into the skilled labour market.

The AfD wants to change this: we are calling for a paradigm shift in 1) asylum immigration, 2) the handling of the free movement of persons within the EU, 3) qualified immigration from third countries and 4) the integration of immigrants from these three categories.

#### 9.1 No irregular immigration via the right of asylum

#### 9.1.1 Asylum immigration - in favour of a paradigm shift

Migration on a historic scale is challenging Europe. In view of the population explosion, armed and religious conflicts and climate extremes in many countries, particularly on the African continent and in the Middle East, we are only at the beginning of previously unimaginable global migratory movements towards the wealthy European states.

The current German and European asylum and refugee policy can therefore not be continued in this way. The inaccurate term "refugee" for almost all people who enter Germany irregularly in order to stay here permanently is an expression of this misguided policy. In contrast, it is necessary to distinguish between politically persecuted people and (war) refugees who were exposed to genuine, war-related dangers immediately before their arrival on the one hand and irregular migrants on the other. The AfD also wants to protect genuine refugees as long as the cause of flight persists in their home country.

Irregular migrants, however, who, unlike refugees, are not persecuted, cannot claim refugee protection. If the reason for flight ceases to exist due to the end of war or political or religious persecution in the refugee's country of origin, their residence permit ends. The refugees concerned must leave Germany again. To this end, Germany, together with the European partner countries, should grant return assistance. It is in the interests of internal and external peace if the refugees returning to their countries of origin make their contribution to the political process,

economic and social reconstruction of their home country. Their return should be supported by an international reconstruction programme.

The traditional policy of generously granting asylum in the knowledge that it is abused on a massive scale not only leads to

to a rapid, unstoppable colonisation of Europe, especially Germany, by people from other cultures and parts of the world. It is also responsible for the deaths of many people in the Mediterranean. The AfD wants to avoid this cynically accepted consequence of misguided humanitarianism and avert the resulting danger of social and religious unrest as well as the creeping extinction of European cultures.

The pan-European asylum policy has failed due to the breach of the Dublin Agreement by southern EU countries, but most recently also due to the fault of the German federal government. The AfD is therefore in favour of a permanent closure of the EU's external borders and calls for the following option to be offered to people fleeing for political and other reasons:

In the region of origin of refugee movements, such as e.g. North Africa, protection and asylum centres are set up in safe countries. The primary goal is to operate such reception centres under a UN or EU mandate.

Applications for protection should then only be made and decided there. Applicants in Germany and Europe must be obliged to return to these centres without exception.

It is necessary, between politically persecuted people and war refugees on the one hand and irregular migrants on the other. If such reception facilities cannot be organised internationally within a reasonable period of time, Germany will set up its own protected reception facilities in safe countries in accordance with local standards and basic services.

To this end, states must be found that contractually allow the operation of a reception centre on the embassy grounds or another property, as is the case with the "Australian model". These regional reception centres will house branch offices of the BAMF and the administrative courts, which will have sole responsibility for conducting asylum and appeal proceedings for asylum seekers from the region.

People seeking protection from these regions who arrive in Germany and submit their applications here are, without exception, accompanied to the responsible reception centre in their region of origin for the asylum procedure.

Once a reason for protection has been recognised, they are allowed to travel safely to Germany.

Strict identity checks must be introduced at all German border crossings where unregulated immigration takes place in order to prevent illegal border crossings. As long as there are global migration movements towards Germany and as long as the dysfunctionality of European border security continues, we are in favour of security measures at the German borders to prevent any uncontrolled immigration. This includes guarding the "green border".

The AfD wants to replace the basic individual right to asylum with the constitutional guarantee of an asylum law (institutional guarantee). The Geneva Convention of 1951 and other outdated supra- and international agreements must be adapted to the globalised present with its worldwide mass migrations. The right of asylum must no longer be misused as a vehicle for mass immigration.

Since the end of 2014, the decision-makers at the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees have had to recognise entire ethnic groups across the board instead of making individual decisions. There were no checks on identity, origin, nationality, etc., which virtually invites abuse. The decision-makers must once again become independent of instructions, as was the case until 2002. This is the only way to prevent their political instrumentalisation to control the recognition rate.

The living conditions in refugee camps close to home as a result of wars must also be kept at a level that makes onward migration unnecessary. With a fraction of the financial resources that we have to spend on dealing with irregular migration at home, we can help far more people locally and reduce the pressure to emigrate there.

# 9.1.2 Repatriation - putting an end to false incentives and false indulgence

The most important (false) incentive to immigrate to the German social system via the right of asylum has been the lack of enforcement of the obligation to leave the country for decades

At all German borders where there are currently (still) unregulated immigration In order to prevent illegal border crossings, strict checks on persons must be introduced at the border.

towards foreigners who are not authorised to stay for any reason.

Returns to the countries of origin are sabotaged in a number of ways. Those obliged to leave the country, domestic helpers and, in some cases, the countries of origin are all involved. Campaigns by the immigration lobby and the media aim to secure ever more rights to stay. State governments often do not adhere to the federal deportation law, delay its enforcement and in many cases practically override it.

The AfD wants to put an end to this disregard for the rule of law. It calls for the deportation law to be strengthened, simplified and applied consistently; where this does not happen, the legal and technical supervision of the federal government must intervene immediately. The immigration authorities must be able to rely on the unrestricted backing of politicians. All legally rejected asylum seekers must be taken out of the country immediately unless they voluntarily comply with requests to leave the country. The granting or cancellation of development aid and visa policy must become a lever for the willingness of countries of origin to cooperate in taking back their nationals.

Foreigners who are required to leave the country must not be incentivised to stay. Among other things, their social assistance must be permanently reduced to a legally permissible minimum in the form of benefits in kind. Obstructions in obtaining the passport required for repatriation and deception by the authorities must be penalised. We want to abolish regulations on old cases and the right to stay,

because as a "reward" for many years of refusal, they counteract this intention.

Voluntary departure is better than deportation. Especially those who have applied for asylum in Germany for purely economic reasons can be persuaded to return voluntarily - if necessary by granting one-off start-up assistance.

The AfD is committed to avoiding the economic causes of flight, even if this could initially be detrimental to the Western economy. This includes, for example, an export ban on highly subsidised agricultural products to Africa, which ruin the local markets there and deprive people of their livelihoods. The same applies to the export of weapons, old clothes, toxic waste and other Western waste products as well as EU fishing off the African coasts.

#### 9.2 Immigration from EU countries

The European law on the free movement of persons has led to massive migration movements within the EU from poorer to richer countries, especially to Germany, solely for the purpose of receiving social welfare benefits. Although German law - in line with the Free Movement Directive - provides for certain restrictions on entitlements to social benefits, these are not sufficient to prevent abuse of the generous German social welfare system. In practice, there are many ways of circumventing and undermining the weak legal safeguards.

The AfD is therefore calling for a comprehensive and thorough

The aim is to reorganise European law with the aim of regaining national scope for action to end the mass abuse of rights associated with European freedom of movement. If this has no effect, we call for EU freedom of movement to be restricted so that the receiving state is able to control EU immigration by workers and family members.

As a matter of priority, the AfD is calling for all EU countries to be given the opportunity to make the entitlement to tax-financed social benefits for EU citizens and their family members dependent on four years of employment subject to compulsory insurance without state subsidies. Direct immigration into the social systems must be prevented. Opposing European law must be amended accordingly.

#### 9.3 Controlled immigration from third countries

We are in favour of moderate legal immigration based on qualitative criteria, insofar as an unavoidable need cannot be met either by domestic potential or by immigration from the EU. Germany's interests as a welfare state, economic and cultural nation take centre stage. We welcome immigrants who are qualified for the labour market and are willing to integrate. We must utilise the many years of experience of other western immigration countries. This must be strictly separated from unregulated asylum immigration, which does not benefit Germany as a business location and harms society.

Supplying our country with qualified labour must primarily be achieved by fully tapping into domestic potential. This includes comprehensive education and training, the integration of millions of unemployed people into the labour market and an end to discrimination against older workers and single parents. Legal immigration from EU countries can contribute to this in part.

The continued emigration of highly qualified domestic workers must also be reduced and those who have already emigrated must be encouraged to return. Recruitment in third countries will only come into play once all of these opportunities to recruit and retain labour have been exploited.

-qualification were utilised. However, controlled immigration from third countries is not the way to solve the demographic crisis. The uncontrolled, predominantly illegal immigration of unskilled workers via asylum applications does not increase the potential pool of skilled labour.

Germany is competing with other high-tech nations to attract truly qualified immigrants. The legal instruments needed to survive in this competition require a thorough overhaul. This could be modelled on a "Canadian model" adapted to German conditions. It must primarily be applied to immigrants from abroad. Only in individual cases should it also be open to foreigners already in Germany without permanent residence authorisation, such as For example, foreigners from third countries who have completed a degree programme in Germany.

 We are in favour of moderate legal immigration from third countries based on qualitative criteria.
 Germany's interests as a welfare state, economic and cultural nation are at the forefront of this. For immigration in this sense, the ability to integrate, qualifications, language skills and a job offer must be decisive before entry.

The ability to determine the quality and quantity of immigration is an outstanding feature of state sovereignty; this must also apply to Germany without restriction.

#### 9.4 Integration - more than just learning German

The multicultural society has failed. In order to be able to live together peacefully with immigrants in the future, their integration is essential. This is the only way to prevent the further advance of counter and parallel societies in our country.

Successful integration requires immigrants of all ages to master spoken and written German after a reasonable period of time, to respect and practise our legal and social order and to earn their own living. Assimilation as the most farreaching form of integration is something to strive for, but cannot be enforced.

Every immigrant has an indispensable obligation to integrate; they must adapt to their new home country, not the other way round. Continued immigration of people with the worst possible prospects of integration exacerbates the existing problems and is therefore irresponsible. Good integration prospects must be a prerequisite for entry with the intention of permanent residence.

be a condition in the future. Permanent residency requires successful integration. Anyone who refuses to integrate must be sanctioned and ultimately lose their right of residence.

The high standard of our education system is the most important reason for Germany's position as one of the leading economic nations. There must be no lowering of educational and vocational requirements for the sake of supposedly better integration.

### 9.5 Costs of immigration - creating transparency

Immigration into the social systems is part of everyday life. Examples are provided by the legal and living realities of all immigrant groups. Alleged security mechanisms turn out to be ineffective, overridden by case law, relativised by EU law or extremely susceptible to fraud.

Low-skilled migrants mainly arrive via abusive asylum applications and are dependent on tax-financed social security systems. Qualified immigrants favour countries with a low tax burden.

Without exception, every asylum applicant enters the social security system, as they are entitled to benefits from the moment they cross the border. After being recognised, the same applies to family members joining them. The AfD is calling for an end to the unrestricted possibility of family reunification for recognised asylum seekers, as this would otherwise enable direct and permanent immigration into the social welfare system.

Every immigrant has an indispensable obligation to integrate; they must adapt to their new home country, not the other way round.

Anyone who refuses to integrate must be sanctioned and ultimately lose their right of residence.

The costs of mass immigration are not transparent. Estimates reach orders of magnitude of hundreds of billions of euros. It is not enough to simply multiply the number of welfare recipients by the standard rate. In addition, there is an enormous amount of hidden costs for refugee care and support at all administrative levels. In the wake of mass immigration, a cartel-like migration industry has emerged that dictates prices in many places. There is no comprehensive cost analysis and presentation. It is also highly undesirable to the political leadership at federal and state level.

The AfD is calling for the financing of immigration to be fundamentally reorganised. The costs should be presented completely transparently and in full at all levels of administration. The economic use of tax revenues must also be consistently enforced in the immigration sector. The AfD vehemently rejects a "refugee tax".

The costs of immigration include not only the short-term but also the long-term costs. The nationality of SGB II recipients is not itemised and is secret. This means that the number of people recognised as recognised as asylum seekers who remain permanently in the social network are not known. Integration successes or failures cannot be evaluated in this way. The AfD also demands complete transparency here.

## 9.6 Immigrant crime - don't hide anything, don't conceal anything

Millions of people from other cultures without the qualifications required for integration are being lured to Germany with false promises.

They have burnt all bridges in their home country. Disappointed hopes of prosperity harbour the danger that many will slip into crime.

It is not only in the wake of unregulated mass immigration that crime is on the rise. The same applies to the lack of border controls with some eastern EU member states. However, statistics on the asylum or migration background of suspects or perpetrators are rarely kept, kept secret or embellished for political reasons. In some cases, public authorities and the media conceal or trivialise the problems caused by asylum immigration. A reform of crime statistics is therefore a goal of the AfD.

Immigration-related crime is very difficult to combat because it is embedded in family, clan and cultural structures and because of the language barrier. The current legal situation, which makes it almost impossible to take measures to terminate the residence of these offenders, must be changed. We want to create the legal possibilities to make it easier and quicker to withdraw the right of residence from foreign offenders. This is an effective means of combating immigration-related crime.

The AfD calls for the protection of citizens from immigration-related crime to be given top priority. This requires a system change from the shackling of security authorities by national and EU regulations to a new conceptualisation of immigration authorities, police and law enforcement as efficient danger prevention authorities. They must be legally required and able to provide the best possible protection for citizens against immigration-related crime as well as to prevent the abuse of asylum and the law. This includes turning away from EU directives in the area of immigration and asylum, which have led to the disempowerment of national immigration authorities while at the same time massively increasing the number of claims.

## **9.7 Naturalisation - completion of successful integration**

The granting of German citizenship is the conclusion of successful integration, but not its starting point.

For the AfD, German citizenship is inextricably linked to our culture and language. Citizenship has lost a great deal of importance in recent years. Under certain conditions, children are automatically granted German citizenship, even if neither parent is German. At the same time, the possibilities of dual citizenship have been extended.

The AfD rejects the "dual passport", i.e. the acquisition of German citizenship while retaining or acquiring another citizenship, in principle.

This does not, however, rule out well-founded special cases. In addition, the requirements for naturalisation must be significantly increased.

German citizenship may only be granted to immigrants of legal age. This is incompatible with the automatic acquisition of German citizenship for children of foreign parents, which has led to considerable abuse. These children should be granted German citizenship only if at least one parent is already German. For these reasons, we want to remove the territorial principle from the law.

# Economy, digital world and consumer protection

#### 10.1 Free competition secures our prosperity

Market-based competition produces the best economic results. The unsubsidised offer from which the market participants expect the greatest advantage will prevail in the long term. This is why the AfD believes that the more competition and the lower the state quota, the better for everyone. This is because competition creates the freedom to develop and determine one's own destiny, to acquire private ownership of goods and means of production, to conclude contracts for one's own benefit and for the common good, to choose between different providers, products, services or workplaces, to take advantage of profitable opportunities, but also to take responsibility for possible failure.

Any economic competition requires equal and clear rules for all market participants, regardless of their size or legal form, as well as legal certainty guaranteed by the state. Any necessary state intervention - for example to prevent monopolies

prevent and counteract market failures - are based on must be limited to the necessary minimum and must be calculable for domestic and foreign investors. Enforcing this is the task of competition policy.

## 10.2 Social market economy instead of planned economy

Following on from our ideas about the role of the state, we advocate an ethic of order in the economic sphere based on the social market economy as developed by Walter Eucken, Alfred Müller-Armack and Wilhelm Röpke and implemented by Ludwig Ehrhard.

was established. The central principles are ownership, personal responsibility and free pricing. The protection of private property is just as indispensable as open markets, freedom of contract and free competition with appropriate competition policy and monopoly control.

Any form of state planned economy sooner or later leads to misallocations and corruption. For us, as for the fathers of the social market economy, economics is always a means to an end, never an end in itself. In our opinion, the biggest threat to the functioning of the social market economy is currently the exemplary euro rescue policy of the countries in the euro currency union and the manipulation of monetary policy by the European Central Bank. Here, fundamental market mechanisms such as the connection between saving and investment are being undermined, liability principles are being violated and the relationship between creditors and debtors is being severely impaired.

## 10.3 Realigning international economic policy

The AfD wants foreign trade to be just as market-oriented as the domestic economic order.

International trade relations should preferably be regulated multilaterally on the basis of treaties with the World Trade Organisation. Trade agreements should not undermine German safety standards under any circumstances. The market economy principle of equal treatment must be observed. Domestic and foreign companies must be treated equally in legal terms. Our citizens remain the sovereign of our state and the regulatory sovereignty of parliament must not be restricted.

► The central principles of our economic policy guidelines are ownership, personal responsibility and free pricing.

#### 10.4 High standards for trade agreements

International trade is the basis of our prosperity and peaceful coexistence. We believe that economic sanctions are fundamentally wrong. We want to dismantle trade barriers in Europe and worldwide. Foreign trade measures of overriding importance must take German sovereignty into account.

The AfD is therefore in favour of international trade agreements. The principle of equal treatment and German industrial, social and environmental standards must be taken into account. Temporary exceptions are only appropriate for economies that are still at the level of a developing country. Negotiations in the multilateral area and within intergovernmental organisations must be conducted transparently and possible agreements must be disclosed.

Any transfer of sovereignty and sovereign rights in free trade agreements to special arbitration tribunals must be rejected. Although arbitration tribunals are tried and tested instruments in the economy, the relationship between the national judiciary and arbitration tribunals in trade agreements must be regulated in such a way that decisions by arbitration tribunals can be appealed to ordinary courts at any time at the request of a defendant.

The AfD therefore rejects trade agreements in principle if they are negotiated in a non-transparent and non-public manner and without the participation of the Bundestag, without a balanced defence of the interests of the parties involved and inadmissibly interfere with national law. For these reasons, we also reject TTIP, TISA and CETA.

In any case, agreements that go beyond pure trade agreements, for example through investment protection rules or efforts towards regulatory harmonisation, are a matter of national competence. Sufficient democratic legitimacy can only be guaranteed if the Bundestag is involved.

#### 10.5 Reduce bureaucracy

The AfD wants an economic environment that favours investment and innovation. We want to deregulate on a broad front and reduce bureaucracy. We are concerned about too many and inefficient regulations. We want to rekindle the entrepreneurial spirit and help start-ups by removing bureaucratic obstacles. Reducing bureaucracy must not be limited to improving the design of the rules, but also includes a review of the necessity of existing rules.

#### 10.6 Advancing Germany as a centre of technology

The AfD wants to further advance Germany as a business location through policies that promote innovation and technology. It should be easier to translate scientific findings into marketable products. We want to promote entrepreneurial spirit. Self-employment should once again become a real, desirable option for young people and not be misused as a labour market policy instrument to relieve the unemployment statistics.

The AfD wants an economic environment that promotes investment and innovation.

We want to deregulate across the board and reduce bureaucracy.

#### 10.7 Reduce and limit state subsidies

We want to clear up the jungle of subsidies from the EU, federal government, federal states, local authorities and special funds as consistently as a review of effectiveness and efficiency suggests. If subsidies appear to make economic and political sense in individual cases, they should be limited in time.

Beyond the provision of services of general interest, the state may only be involved in

be entrepreneurially active. The democratic legitimised bodies at the respective state level exercise The public sector has full control over the economic activity of the public sector.

#### 10.8 No privatisation against the will of the citizens

Privatisation should be decided by referendum at the respective state level, particularly with regard to public services of general interest and public housing and land ownership. The AfD rejects secret privatisation contracts.

## 10.9 The SME sector as the heart of our economic strength

Our SME policy is a regulatory policy: we want the same rules for everyone - large and small, in every industry. In addition to tax policy, our contribution to SMEs consists of reducing bureaucracy and putting an end to over-regulation. Every rule compliance causes costs that are less significant for large companies than for SMEs.

We therefore want to see significant simplifications, for example in the hunger for statistical data, the company representative system, company safety regulations and the minimum wage. Last but not least, our political focus is on the following location conditions: public safety and better infrastructure. Our goal is a lean but strong state.

## 10.10 Digitalisation as an opportunity and a challenge

Digitalisation has become an integral part of modern society. It determines almost all areas of life, takes over standard tasks in many places and mobilises communication to a high degree. For this reason, contrary to other endeavours, data protection must be given a high priority and its scope of action must be limited to the protection of personal data.

all personal characteristics. Freedom of expression and the free development of personality need strong data protection. The AfD is in favour of free Wi-Fi in public institutions (e.g. libraries).

### 10.10.1 Open source software and secure hardware

The public administration works with sensitive public data at all levels. As a rule, computers with operating systems and software from foreign manufacturers are used. These manufacturers can access these computers at any time for security updates. The users have no way of checking the updates. These access options are not transparent and can also be used by cyber criminals or secret hackers.

#### Our SME policy

is regulatory policy. The AfD Rejects subsidies in general from. We want the same rules for everyone - large and small, in every sector. Our goal is a lean but strong state.

services can be exploited. The attack vectors for cyber warfare are therefore more diverse.

The AfD therefore calls for the use of operating systems and programs that were created using open source software and that could be checked in advance to determine whether unauthorised access is possible, at least for public administration in Germany. For security reasons, administrative hardware must be procured centrally and checked for tampering. The installation of tested hardware components in Germany will further increase the security requirements.

# 10.10.2 Secure communication as a locational advantage and civil right

In Germany, it is not only government agencies that work primarily with software not produced in Germany. Industry is also affected. An unwanted outflow of information is not only possible, but probable. The demand for national software developments can therefore also be seen as an economic advantage for German companies as a whole, which lose many billions of euros every year due to industrial espionage.

End-to-end encryption must not be prohibited or otherwise hindered. The AfD considers secure communication to be a civil right.

#### 10.10.3 Digitising German literature in Germany

The digitisation of German literature is a sovereign task to be performed by Germany. It goes beyond the purely technical process and requires similar

The handling of historical artefacts in a museum requires professional care, which must be provided by experts in German language and literature. Possible licence payments to foreign companies for reading digitised German literature must be prevented by legislation.

## **10.11 Modernising and strengthening consumer protection**

Consumer protection must be improved and adapted to the rapidly changing technical and economic conditions. We want transparency through information in order to enable liability and control.

This also requires the strengthening of consumer protection institutions such as Stiftung Warentest and consumer centres. Consumer protection competences that have been transferred to the European Union must be reviewed in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity and, if necessary, returned to national control. European or international harmonisation of standards must not lead to a weakening of the level of protection achieved.

#### 10.11.1 Better labelling of food

Foodstuffs marketed on a large scale in Germany must be better and more comprehensibly labelled with precise information on their origin, ingredients and quality. Chemically enriched functional foods and food supplements must be subject to pharmaceutical testing procedures. Their safety must be proven in long-term studies.

## 10.11.2 Long-lasting products instead of planned obsolescence

Attempts by individual manufacturers to artificially shorten the service life of their products to the detriment of the customer (planned obsolescence) must be counteracted by independent product tests and the prompt publication of the results. We want these tests to be carried out more frequently and regularly.

## 10.11.3 Check textiles and children's toys for harmful substances

Goods that may contain risky chemical substances must undergo a strict testing procedure before they can be placed on the German market. This applies in particular to imported textiles and children's toys. Children's toys and articles of daily use made for children must be free from plasticisers and other harmful substances. Here, as with other product groups, conformity marks such as the CE mark may only be used after neutral third-party testing.

## **10.11.4 Modernise and improve water treatment**

Water is essential for life, but increasingly polluted. In addition to nitrates, more and more drug residues, nanoparticles, plastic fibres and drug residues can be found in wastewater. Analysing and treating water to produce drinking water must meet these new challenges. Water treatment must be modernised and improved. The discharge of pollutants into the water cycle must be reduced through preventive water protection so that drinking water does not become a health hazard for consumers in the future. We want to support local, decentralised water supply companies. We reject the privatisation and thus commercialisation of the basic supply of drinking water.

CHAPTER 11

## **Finances and taxes**

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#### FINANCES AND TAXES

We want to reform Germany. This is not possible without a comprehensive reform of tax law. We are in favour of a simpler and fairer tax system that uses low taxes to provide financial relief for middle and low earners in particular.

#### 11.1 Fair taxes through AfD graduated tariff

We want a modified income tax rate with fewer brackets and a significantly higher basic tax-free allowance. The basic tax-free allowance should be adjusted to the seizure-free income. The current tax rate places an excessive burden on the middle class in particular and leads to hidden tax increases due to so-called cold progression. We want to eliminate cold progression by indexing the graduated rate. Indexation includes the basic tax-free allowance, the tax brackets and the deductible lump sums in order to avoid creeping tax increases.

The AfD is striving for taxation that is neutral in terms of legal form. This eliminates purely tax-related motives for complex

corporate structures with additional labour costs for companies and authorities. Profits from entrepreneurial activities of shareholders and sole proprietors must be subject to an identical income tax burden across all levels, regardless of legal form.

#### 11.2 Upper limit for taxes and duties

We want to limit the state's power over citizens. To achieve this, it is necessary to reduce the state's tasks and to reduce the state's financial access to citizens' income and assets. The AfD does not want to burden citizens more with taxes and duties.

Similar to the debt brake, we want a binding brake on taxes and levies in the German constitution in order to set the maximum amount of the burden at a certain percentage in relation to gross domestic product. Taxes and levies should no longer be able to be increased arbitrarily in future. Tax increases and new taxes may only take place within the framework of the tax and levy brake.

#### 11.3 Introduce family splitting

Parents who have and raise children face considerable difficulties in their employment biography. In addition, they incur higher living costs than those without children, which are not adequately taken into account in the current tax system. It therefore makes sense to understand the entire family as a working community, analogous to today's spousal splitting. This means that the total income earned by all family members is divided by the number of family members. The respective partial amounts are then taxed individually. The sum of the partial amounts calculated in this way results in the total tax liability (family splitting). This approach is justified by the fact that the children usually become the future taxpayers who have to bear the common burden of the state for all citizens.

We are in favour of a simpler and fairer tax system that uses low taxes to provide financial relief for middle and low earners in particular.

# 11.4 Abolish wealth and inheritance tax, review trade tax

The AfD is in favour of a reform of municipal financing. In this context, the trade tax should be reviewed because it contains non-revenue-dependent components in its assessment basis. Instead of trade tax, local authorities could be given access to other tax sources. The structure must comply with the principle of self-administration, according to which the local authorities have original organisational rights when determining the tax object and tax collection.

The AfD wants to abolish the currently suspended wealth tax and inheritance tax. Both are substance taxes, i.e. they are levied regardless of the economic capacity of the taxpayer. They are levied on assets that have typically arisen from taxed income. Both the administrative costs for their collection are disproportionately high and their yield for government revenue is only marginal.

In addition, inheritance tax is particularly hostile to the middle class and creates false incentives with regard to the sustainable use of generated wealth when it is passed on to the next generation. In the event of inheritance, it can lead to the sale of companies or their economic abandonment. In addition, various forms of assets cannot be valued with legal certainty.

#### 11.5 Harmonise VAT rates

The AfD wants to harmonise VAT rates in German tax law. VAT exemptions and reductions should only exist in the area of services of general interest.

The AfD wants to extend the VAT option for small businesses.

# 11.6 Maintaining competition between national tax systems

The AfD wants to retain national tax collection competences and is in favour of competition between national tax systems.

The AfD is firmly opposed to the European Union having its own right to levy taxes.

#### 11.7 Restore banking and tax secrecy

The long-standing governing parties have effectively abolished tax and banking secrecy. The possibility of querying accounts is open to the authorities. The number of account searches by the tax authorities is increasing dramatically. Citizens must not become transparent subjects. Data exchange programmes such as FATCA and Swift must not be misused to monitor citizens.

In addition, the exchange of tax data undermines tax confidentiality. Tax data of German citizens is sensitive data and should be treated confidentially by the state and not exchanged with other institutions or foreign countries.

The AfD is therefore in favour of restoring banking and tax secrecy.

■ The AfD wants to retain national tax collection competences and is in favour of competition between national tax systems.
The AfD is firmly opposed to the European Union having its own right to levy taxes.

#### 11.8 Strengthening federalism and independence

The AfD is in favour of independent and strong regional authorities. We want to enable regional and local self-government and guarantee subsidiarity so that regional characteristics and specialities can be cultivated. Unlike France, Germany has always been a federal state. We want to give federalism more weight again.

The financial equalisation of the federal states must be revised so that the recipient states are not better off than the donor states after receiving equalisation payments. The AfD is in favour of reorganising the federal and state finances in order to prevent conflicts of competence and create clear responsibilities. The federal, state and local governments need their own sources of funding from which they can finance their own activities.

A clear allocation of tasks should enable competition between the federal states. We call for autonomous federal states and local authorities, which must also be insolvent in their own right. As at European level, we are in favour of the non-assistance clause, so that federal rescue programmes for over-indebted municipalities or federal states are prohibited.

#### 11.9 Repay government debt as planned

The AfD is striving for a return to balanced state budgets. It is in favour of the gradual reduction of excessive public debt. Future generations should not be burdened with the consequences of the current short-term debt policy. To this end

We must reduce government debt as planned, in particular in order to be able to cope with higher interest expenses in the event of a general rise in interest rates. The current low level of interest rates jeopardises the pension provision of large sections of the population and therefore cannot be maintained in the long term.

# 11.10 The use of cash must remain unrestricted

The use of cash is a civil right. We are in favour of maintaining cash as a legal means of payment without restriction - even in the face of efforts to the contrary by the German government, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the European Central Bank (ECB) and some EU member states. A cashless state assumes all citizens indiscriminately and across the board to have mafia-like black money transactions, criminal red-light or even terrorist intentions. Such control options are not compatible with a liberal, free state based on the rule of law. Purely electronic money makes citizens and the economy dependent on the data processing systems required for payment transactions not failing. If money only existed in electronic form, it could simply be cancelled or temporarily blocked in times of crisis or could no longer be allocated, for example in the event of a successful cyberattack.

The core problem is the over-indebtedness of countries brought about by politicians. The abolition of cash would massively restrict the role of money as an untouchable store of value. It would enable the sudden financial expropriation of all financial assets

- without the otherwise possible defence of fleeing into cash. Bondholders or life insurance savers would also only be able to escape their gradual expropriation through negative interest rates by switching to other, riskier asset classes.

A ban on cash would mean that all payment transactions could only take place electronically. This would give the state and banks total surveillance and control over all cash flows and economic activities, over every financial activity of citizens and possibly even over their whereabouts. The transparent bank customer would become the transparent person - full surveillance right into the most private, even intimate areas of life. Control reminiscent of totalitarian states would fundamentally change social life: Every financial activity between people would become transparent; evasive measures by citizens to preserve a remnant of privacy would presumably be combated with repressive measures under the guise of defence against crime.

# 11.11 Rethink the monetary system, bring gold home

We are also concerned about the monetary system itself. The central banks are pursuing an interventionist, artificial zero interest rate policy and will probably continue to do soall the way to negative interest rates. Such serious interventions in the financial property rights and freedoms of citizens will ultimately lead to an undesirable further increase in the power of the state and the financial sector. Out of concern for our money, we will also have to consider whether fundamental reforms to the monetary system and the cartel of central and commercial banks are necessary. To ensure that Germany has all options open in the event of a democratic decision in favour of stable money, the Bundesbank's gold should be stored exclusively in Germany.

In order for Germany to be able to participate in a democratic In order to ensure that all options are open for the decision to move towards stable money, we want to keep the Bundesbank's gold exclusively in Germany.

CHAPTER 12

# **Energy policy**

# 12.1 Climate protection policy: end the wrong track, protect the environment

The climate will continue to change as long as the earth exists. Climate protection policy is based on hypothetical climate models based on computer-aided simulations by the IPCC ("Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change"). Carbon dioxide (CO2) is not a pollutant, but an indispensable component of all life.

The IPCC is trying to prove that man-made CO2 emissions are leading to global warming with serious consequences for humanity.

This is based on computer models whose statements are not confirmed by measurements or observations. Since the earth has had an atmosphere, there have been cold and warm periods. Today we are living in a warm period with temperatures similar to the medieval and Roman warm periods. The IPCC models cannot explain these climate changes.

In the 20th century, the global mean temperature rose by around 0.8 degrees. However, contrary to the IPCC forecasts, there has been no further increase since the end of the 1990s, although CO2 emissions have risen faster than ever during this period.

The IPCC and the German government are ignoring the positive effect of CO2 on plant growth and therefore on global food supplies. The more of it there is in the atmosphere, the more vigorous plant growth will be.

Under the slogan "Climate-neutral Germany 2050" through "decarbonisation", the German government is misusing the rising CO2 concentration to bring about the "Great Transformation" of society, with the result that personal and economic freedom is being massively restricted. The planned compulsory reduction of CO2 emissions by more than 85 per cent would weaken the economy and 1 o wer living standards. Along the way, our previously secure electricity supply would be destabilised and made even more expensive, and heat generation from fossil fuels would be reduced to practically zero.

The AfD therefore says "yes to environmental protection", but puts an end to "climate protection policy" and plans for decarbonisation and the "transformation of society". We will end the perception of CO2 only as a pollutant and refrain from any unilateral action by Germany to reduce CO2 emissions. We do not want to financially burden CO2 emissions. Climate protection organisations will no longer be supported.

The climate will continue to change as long as the earth exists. The German government's climate protection policy is based on as yet unproven hypothetical climate models.

# 12.2 The Renewable Energy Sources Act cannot be reformed

Any successful energy policy must pursue three goals. Electricity generation must be safe, cost-effective and environmentally friendly. This triad has always existed in the German energy supply system, but was abandoned with the Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG).

The EEG and the energy transition are jeopardising the electricity supply. They drive up the price of electricity for technical reasons. Wind turbines destroy the image of our cultural landscapes and are also a deadly danger for birds.

The electricity generated by wind and solar power constantly fluctuates between zero and full output. The installed capacity of these volatile power generators already amounts to more than 80 gigawatts and should therefore be sufficient to supply Germany completely with electricity even at maximum consumption.

to supply the grid. In reality, however, these "renewable energy plants" have only supplied a fraction of their nominal output on average in the past, and on many days of the year only a few per cent. This is why these plants cannot replace a single conventional large-scale power plant. They also force a massive expansion of the power grids, which leads to further considerable costs. The growing number of volatile electricity generators is increasingly jeopardising grid stability. The number of stabilising grid interventions required to prevent power outages or even total blackouts has risen accordingly.

The EEG is a state planned economy and a departure from the social market economy. Justified with the "climate protection", the otherwise non-marketable plants are massively subsidised. This is done through compulsory state marketing by means of priority feed-in and a twenty-year guaranteed feed-in tariff. The costs of this subsidisation, which now amount to 27 billion euros a year, are passed on to consumers in the form of the EEG levy. The price of electricity has already doubled in the last ten years. An end to this price increase is not in sight. As a result, there is a gigantic redistribution of wealth from the population and the economy to the few subsidy winners.

Despite the ever-increasing number of renewable energy plants, CO2 emissions have fallen since 2000 due to the abrupt phase-out of of nuclear energy have remained unchanged. Large areas,

including forests, are being transformed into industrialised areas by renewable energy plants - with all the detrimental effects on nature and people. The same is now happening with the expansion of high-voltage grids. The construction of further

RE systems is reaching its limits.

Strong winds across the board on cloudless days are already leading to unusable surplus electricity. Opposite weather conditions lead to a shortage of electricity that can only be offset by conventional generation. Utilising surplus electricity would only be possible with large electricity storage facilities. But these do not exist. The saying goes: "The energy transition is not possible without large electricity storage systems, and it is not affordable with large electricity storage systems."

In the meantime, there are valid legal opinions that the EEG is unconstitutional and contrary to European law.

The AfD is therefore in favour of abolishing the EEG without replacement. The AfD will campaign for the EEG, which has been categorised as unconstitutional and contrary to European law, to be reviewed by the Federal Constitutional Court.

The AfD is therefore in favour of abolishing the EEG without replacement. It must not be taboo to question the scope of existing subsidy obligations under the EEG. The AfD does not want to favour or discriminate against individual energy sources. We want to abolish the prioritised feed-in of electricity in general. We reject quota/auction models in order to enforce state-planned economic goals in energy policy. Grid costs must be allocated to all electricity producers in line with the costs-by-cause principle. We want to abolish the electricity tax and thus relieve the burden on electricity customers immediately. Our goal is to bring the German electricity supply system back to the level of technology that ensures a secure, cost-effective and environmentally friendly electricity supply. The AfD will campaign for the EEG, which has been categorised as unconstitutional and contrary to European law, to be reviewed by the Federal Constitutional Court.

# 12.3 To protect tenants and owners: Energy Saving Ordinance and Abolish the Renewable Energies Heat Act

Around 80 per cent of the primary energy consumed globally is generated by burning natural gas, oil and coal, releasing the CO2 that is said to be responsible for human-induced climate change. A large proportion of this energy is used to generate heating and cooling in buildings. As decarbonisation by

2050 is to reduce CO2 emissions by more than 85 per cent, buildings must be insulated to a correspondingly high degree in accordance with the German Energy Saving Ordinance (EnEV). According to the Renewable Energies Heat Act (EEWärmeG), the required residual heat must be generated as far as possible using "renewable energies" (RE).

As with the EEG and the energy transition, the government and profiteers are minimising or concealing the costs required to implement these measures. In this case too, the costs amount to more than 3,000 billion euros. These additional costs will have to be borne by building owners and tenants. As proven by experts, the hoped-for effects will only be achieved in a few building constructions with previously very poor thermal insulation.

In addition, insulation often causes massive damage to buildings, e.g. as a result of inadequate air exchange, as well as moisture penetration, algae and fungal infestation of the exterior walls. Historic and listed facades are destroyed. In addition, the predominantly used insulation materials

made of polystyrene (rigid foam boards) increase the risk

of fire.

However, measurably lower energy consumption is rarely achieved. The opposite often occurs, as the insulating materials prevent the heat generated by the sun from penetrating. For the generation of heating and cooling, renewable energies are not competitive with energy from fossil and nuclear fuels, even in the long term. The shortage scenarios that have been repeatedly conjured up for years have been tacitly abandoned. High-tech heating and cooling systems - e.g. utilising the

▶ The government's paternalism towards building owners, homeowners and tenants for measures to insulate buildings and increase the Energy efficiency in buildings must be brought to an end.

condensing boiler technology and combined heat and power generation - leave little room for manoeuvre for renewable energies. This includes the utilisation of geothermal and air heat using heat pumps or solar thermal energy.

The government's paternalism towards building owners, homeowners and tenants for thermal insulation measures and increasing energy efficiency in buildings must be ended. EnEV and EEWärmeG lead to a rapid increase in construction costs and serve as a justification for luxury refurbishments. As a result, the rents of many flats are barely affordable for people with medium and low incomes. For these reasons, too, the AfD is in favour of abolishing the EnEV and the EEWärmeG without replacement.

# 12.4 Bioenergy: end subsidies, stop priority feed-in

In 2014, "renewable energies" supplied around 11 per cent of the primary energy consumed in Germany. A good 7 per cent, or two thirds, was generated from biomass. This breaks down into 3.3 per cent each for heat and electricity generation and 0.8 per cent for the production of biofuels.

The thermal energy from biomass is used both for heating purposes and for industrial processes. Electricity from biomass is massively subsidised via the EEG. The electricity generation costs from biogas plants are the highest at up to 215 EURO per megawatt hour. The operation of such plants in rural areas often pollutes the environment. Biofuels are produced in large-scale plants and indirectly subsidised via a quota system. The compulsory blending increased the price of diesel and petrol by around 0.4 cents per litre in 2014. Due to the low efficiency of photosynthesis of less than one per cent, the consumption of agricultural land for bioenergy is unreasonably high. It therefore competes with the production of food. In contrast, it makes sense to utilise biological waste for the production of bioenergy.

The AfD is therefore in favour of ending the subsidisation and priority feed-in of electricity from biogas plants by abolishing the EEG. The subsidisation of biofuels through the quota system must be discontinued.

▶ We are committed to ending the subsidisation and priority feed-in of electricity from biogas plants by abolishing the EEG. The subsidisation of biofuels through the quota system must be discontinued.

# 12.5 Fracking: Researching risks and opportunities, not without public participation

The process known as "fracking" for tapping underground energy sources entails risks, but also opens up new possibilities for energy supply. We want to research the technology, benefits and risks of fracking in accordance with the existing strict German environmental and mining laws. If the risks appear manageable, we want to develop fracking and have possible sites explored. For this reason, the AfD is in favour of withdrawing the remaining "Fracking Act" that was introduced to the Bundestag in April 2015.

The population must be informed objectively about the economic and political advantages of fracking compared to the real risks. The AfD rejects the commercial use of fracking for oil and gas extraction at new locations as long as Germany's energy supply is secured in other ways. The final decision on the use of fracking technology at suitable sites must ultimately be made by the local citizens affected.

# 12.6 Nuclear energy: research alternatives. Until then, lifetime extension

The hasty decisions to phase out nuclear power in 2002 and 2011 were not objectively justified and were economically damaging. As long as the electricity supply is not secure at the location and time of demand, the AfD is in favour of allowing the operating life of nuclear power plants still in operation to be extended on a transitional basis. The import of electricity from unsafe foreign nuclear power plants neither makes sense for Germany as a business location, nor does it contribute to reducing the risks associated with nuclear power.

Radioactive waste should be stored in a decentralised, accessible and catalogued manner in secure locations where it can be accessed at any time so that it can be reprocessed with technical progress. We believe that centralised disposal in a location that will be virtually inaccessible at a later date is the wrong approach.

We want to re-authorise research into nuclear energy as well as reactor and power plant technology. It goes without saying that the necessary safety standards must be complied with. However, the utilisation of nuclear energy is not an end in itself and its future replacement is conceivable. For this reason, all other forms of energy must continue to be researched with vigour.

As long as the power supply is not sufficiently secure, the AfD is in favour of allowing the operating life of nuclear power plants still in operation to be extended on a transitional basis.

# Nature conservation and environmental protection, agriculture and forestry

#### NATURE CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

We stand for the fact that we have a responsibility towards future generations. We want to preserve an intact and diverse natural environment. A healthy environment is the basis of life for all people and future generations. Nature conservation must not be at the expense of people.

However, just like on land, there must also be areas in the sea where nature is left completely to its own devices. So-called no-take zones ensure the survival of many rare plant and animal species. These zero-use zones ensure the survival of many rare plant and animal species.

#### 13.1 Intact nature and a healthy environment

The AfD stands for environmental protection and nature conservation that does not regard people as foreign bodies and troublemakers, but rather incorporates them into a comprehensive concept for action. We are guided by the realisation that a healthy and species-rich environment is the basis of life for all people and future generations. Therefore, precautions must be taken to protect assets such as soil, water, air, landscape, animals and plants.

The AfD's environmental policy therefore focuses, among other things, on reducing land consumption, reducing pollutant inputs into soil and water and improving air quality. Effective noise protection is also part of this.

The AfD is expressly opposed to the use of glyphosate, which has been classified by the WHO as a probable carcinogen, in crop protection until it is proven to be harmful to humans and animals.

# 13.2 Stop uncontrolled expansion of wind energy

We reject the further expansion of wind energy in Germany. It does more harm than good. Wind turbines should only be authorised in exceptional cases at locations where no adverse effects on people, animals or the landscape are to be expected. Local people must be involved in the selection of sites by means of citizens' decisions.

#### 13.3 Animals are sentient beings

The AfD is in favour of the consistent implementation of animal protection laws. Animals are fellow creatures and not material objects. There must be no exceptions for cruel or unnecessary animal experiments, not even in science. As sentient beings, animals have a right to species-appropriate husbandry in both the private and commercial sectors. The legally prescribed species-appropriate keeping of animals must be guaranteed in agriculture (in the case of mass animal husbandry that is not species-appropriate husbandry that is

keeping of large wild animals), in dolphinaria and in the keeping of pets.

For the transport of animals for slaughter, the AfD demands that the nearest slaughterhouse must always be used and that the transport of animals for slaughter is only permitted over short distances within Germany.

Livestock farms used for food production are responsible for ensuring that their products are free from antibiotic residues and multi-resistant germs (MRSA). The number of antibiotic treatments must be minimised in view of the increasing spread of multi-resistant germs. In order to increase the health protection of the population, livestock farms in food production that use antibiotics are responsible for ensuring that the animals are free of antibiotic resistance before the products enter the food processing industry. be used. Antibiotics that are important for human medicine must not be used in animal husbandry.

► The further expansion of wind energy in We reject Germany.

#### 13.4 Shafts

Following the example of legal regulations that already apply in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and other European countries, the AfD rejects the slaughtering of animals without anaesthesia. It is incompatible with the national objective of animal welfare and must be prohibited without exception. The exemption for religious communities in paragraph 4a (2) of the German Animal Welfare Act must be cancelled. The AfD also rejects slaughter with prior short-term electrical stunning. The word short-term stunning means that the animal is only briefly stunned when its neck is cut, but is awake again for bleeding.

#### 13.5 Genetic engineering

The fascinating world of genes seems to lie like an open book in the hands of science. It is intended to prevent diseases and satisfy hunger in the world. This technology can already boast international successes in medicine: genome sequencing enabled the development of drugs and vaccines against the Ebola virus strain that was rampant in West Africa in 2014, it allowed the EHEC outbreak in 2011 to be combated more quickly and it is being used in personalised cancer therapy, where it enables more targeted, more effective and gentler therapies. As a high-tech and medical technology centre, the Federal Republic of Germany must not lose touch with international research and development in this field and must not deny its citizens access to innovative forms of therapy.

At the same time, however, the complex interplay between genome, metabolism and environment is currently still insufficiently understood, making it very difficult to assess the risks of the use of genetic modifications on organisms such as humans, flora and fauna. The risks of using genetically modified organisms in complex ecosystems are also difficult to predict. For this reason, the AfD is open to research and development in the field of genetic engineering. The use in medical technology and agriculture should only be authorised after careful examination by notified bodies within a clearly defined framework. Prior practical testing in a closed environment must be insisted upon. The corresponding authorisation procedures can be designed in a similar way to the Medical Devices Act (MPG), the Medicinal Products Act (APG) and the Food and Feed Code (LFGB). Genetically modified feed and food or products

The patenting of genetic material and seeds goes hand in hand with an increasing concentration process in the commercial seed trade. The AfD is therefore in favour of reducing the dependence of our food supply on a few large multinational corporations, preserving seed diversity and thus also the biodiversity of our food.

derived from them must be labelled.

▶ The use of genetic engineering in medicine and agriculture should only be authorised after careful examination by notified bodies within a clearly defined framework.
Genetically modified feed and food or products derived from them must be labelled.

### 13.6 Agriculture: More competition. Less subsidies

The AfD is in favour of agricultural land being used for food production and not increasingly for other purposes. We therefore reject any form of land speculation by international corporations and the increased cultivation of biomass for energy production. The AfD is convinced that modern farms with roots in the regions are best suited to produce in an environmentally friendly and market-orientated manner. The aim should be the sustainable production of healthy, high-quality and residue-free foodstuffs as well as market-driven prices for agricultural products. Here, too, we are calling for detailed food information and origin labelling. The EU directives restricting manufacturers' duty to provide information misleads consumers.

This can be achieved with different forms of farming. The AfD will improve the framework conditions for environmentally friendly production in medium-sized farms. EU subsidies based on the watering can principle and bureaucratic over-regulation must be reduced step by step. Farmers need more freedom of choice again. The farming profession must become more attractive again.

# 13.7 Fishing, forestry and hunting: In harmony with nature

Fishing is a cultural asset. Our fishermen must be supported in eliminating competitive disadvantages and be involved in setting catch quotas. Tying the catch quota to the cutter prevents a generational change in the fishing industry and makes it impossible to recruit young talent. This regulation should therefore be abolished. Domestic fishing products must also be supported beyond the region. We reject the idea of banning gillnet fishing in Baltic Sea protected areas and extending the nature conservation core zones.

The AfD is in favour of natural forest management, which aims to take a holistic view of the forest in its economic, ecological and social function. The AfD is committed to the tried and tested principles of hunting and gamekeeping. We see hunters as conservationists whose expertise must be taken into greater consideration again.

# 13.8 Competition for space: Not at the expense of agriculture and forestry

Construction projects and the expansion of infrastructure often come at the expense of agriculturally productive land. We consider fields, meadows and forests to be particularly valuable.

Nature conservation compensation measures must be reduced and, as a rule, designed in such a way that they are not at the expense of agricultural and forestry land.

► The AfD is in favour of agricultural land being used for food production and are not increasingly used for other purposes.

# Infrastructure, housing and transport

#### INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING AND TRANSPORT

Progressive decay characterises the condition of many public buildings - both in the transport network (roads, bridges, railways, cable and data networks) and in public building construction (schools, universities, hospitals, cultural facilities, government buildings, sports facilities, etc.).

The public supply and disposal systems for electricity, water, gas, district heating, waste water, road services, city cleaning and green maintenance are suffering from decay and planning chaos. After years of cutbacks that jeopardise the substance, a massive investment backlog has set in.

### 14.1 Value retention before modernisation and new construction

When it comes to repair and modernisation, we want to involve local authorities in the overall planning across federal states. Priority is given to preserving value over modernisation and new construction.

Decisions on new construction projects may only be made after prior comprehensive needs planning and an impartial technical and cost assessment. Priority must be given to professionally justified decisions that are recognised by politicians.

Intervention by politicians in the technical realisation of projects must be consistently prevented. Politicians are solely responsible for formulating the requirements and scope of the project in advance of the planning stage. The inadequate staffing levels at the specialised public authorities must be rectified immediately.

#### 14.2 Public-private projects: Transparency instead of lobbying

In the case of public construction projects and publicprivate projects (PPP), the courts of audit must be mandated by law with a three-stage (project preparation, planning and construction monitoring) technical audit and cost monitoring. Consideration should be given to setting up a tax-privileged Germany-wide investment fund or bond fund to finance

Infrastructure measures involving the public sector, the (insurance) industry and private shareholders. Fund management must be organised in transparent and democratic structures.

Due to the risk and guarantee obligations that remain with the public sector in PP projects, special protective and precautionary measures are required when making decisions. We will not tolerate excessive consultancy costs, private arbitration proceedings, a lack of quality controls and lobby affiliations among consultants.

Public utilities and service providers must be organised in transparent and democratic structures. Services must be provided to citizens at cost prices.

Operating surpluses, capital reserves or concession fees must never be used as hidden taxes to consolidate budgets, but must be used for repairs, modernisation and new investments. Public utilities and services of general interest must be organised in transparent and democratic structures.

The services are to be provided to citizens at cost prices.

## 14.3 Road and rail network: preserving the substance

Repairing, maintaining the value of and eliminating bottlenecks in roads and rail networks take priority over spectacular large-scale projects in the transport sector.

For cost reasons, major transport infrastructure projects should not be handed over to private consortia, but should be put out to tender and realised by the public sector. In the case of individual major projects such as airports etc. that are not within the routine remit of a well-established road construction department,

However, the expertise of private companies should be involved as far as possible.

Large-scale, Europe-wide transport planning for roads, railways, waterways and air traffic must be integrated into a federal transport infrastructure plan that is constantly updated. This plan must not be aligned with the national interests of individual EU member states, those of the federal states or those of politicians.

Cross-border transport, large and small-scale freight transport, public, private and individual local and longdistance passenger transport, as well as pedestrian and cycle transport, must be integrated into all planning from the outset.

# **14.4 Cross-border freight transport:** shifting to rail and water

The AfD is in favour of relieving the roads, as far as possible, of the cross-border mass transport of heavy goods and shifting them to the railways and waterways.

Rail networks and stations urgently need to be upgraded and modernised for fast long-distance passenger transport, freight transport, fast freight handling and noise protection.

The road user charges for heavy goods vehicles must be levied according to the actual road load and the degree of carriageway destruction caused by heavy axle loads. The collection system can be simplified by recording the total kilometres actually driven and the vehicle classes during the collection period.

# **14.5 Free use of transport without** harassment

The AfD is strictly against transport policy harassment, cost increases and neglected transport routes, which are intended to force a switch to local and long-distance public transport.

Drivers are being hindered on Germany's roads by ever more and incomprehensible speed limits. The local authorities then use this primarily as an additional source of income. Soon there will also be a general speed limit on all motorways.

The AfD demands "Free travel for free citizens" and rejects all restrictions for reasons other than traffic safety. No speed limit on motorways, 100 km/h on rural roads and 50 km/h in urban areas on all through roads at all times. Excessive noise levels must be reduced by noise protection measures where necessary. The emission of particulate matter from vehicles with diesel engines must be minimised through further development of engine and exhaust technology.

The AfD is strictly against transport policy harassment, cost increases and neglected transport routes, which are intended to force a switch to local and long-distance public transport."

The research, development and promotion of modern transport structures and transport systems as well as innovative traffic control and guidance systems must become a constant companion and central task for a modern transport policy.

#### 14.6 A perspective for rural areas

The traditional instruments for promoting rural areas are no longer sufficient to halt or even reverse the progressive loss of settlement areas.

The growing pressure to move to the centres of the growth areas is offset by a declining demand for living space in the countryside. The rural population is declining at an ever faster rate. The causes are ageing, structural deficiencies and structural impoverishment, declining birth rates and a lack of jobs. This leads to further losses in attractiveness and weakens rural regions. Current population development forecasts point to a steady decline in Germany's population. This is accompanied by a progressive depopulation of rural areas, particularly in the centre and east of Germany.

The AfD wants to strengthen rural regions. We want to maintain or restore the attractiveness of rural areas with an active community life and a functioning social cohesion. The development of rural areas must be given more attention in Germany. Living conditions are not equal, although the law stipulates this spatial planning objective. On the contrary, the spatial planning concept of "town centres" has promoted concentrations and

urban developments are accelerating. But only with healthy structures in the villages will these peripheral areas not continue to degenerate.

For us, a rural area worth living in includes an intact farming community, a functioning SME economy and an adequate infrastructure. This includes all facilities necessary for the provision of public services such as schools, medical care and broadband communication. Targeted investments and a smart settlement policy are the only way to create prospects for young families in rural areas and reverse the current negative demographic trend.

There can be no standardised model for the very different rural areas in Germany. That is why we want to allow individual development in order to give space to the special possibilities and abilities in the individual regions. This is why we want to replace the dominant regional planning concept in Germany of the review the "centres". In particular, we want to consistently apply the principle of subsidiarity in rural areas in future. We want to decentralise political tasks, responsibilities and decision-making powers where there is no need for supralocal regulation and coordination. We want to revitalise the constitutionally enshrined right of self-administration and self-determination of local authorities. We want to end the discrimination against rural municipalities in the distribution of funding in order to restore their ability to act.

As long as the resuscitation measures described above

► The AfD wants to strengthen rural regions. For us, a rural area worth living in includes an intact agricultural sector, a functioning SME economy and sufficient infrastructure.

AfD is in favour of improving rural infrastructure through mobile solutions. Examples of this include mobile provision for daily needs, administrative services, mobile further education and cultural programmes, mobile healthcare, mobile care for the elderly and care for young people. Fast Internet for all is a goal in any case.

The AfD is in favour of the autochthonous minorities and ethnic groups living in Germany in their historical settlement areas being protected by the state.

# 14.7 Housing policy: simplify building law, create living space

The pressure to move into major German cities and around the attractive economic areas is increasing the need for housing, boosting demand for land and putting pressure on the property market.

Disproportionate increases in ancillary costs are accompanying rising flat prices in city centres, exacerbating the market situation and at the same time reducing the supply of affordable housing in favoured areas. Restrictive building regulations, uneconomical insulation requirements and bureaucratic design specifications continue to drive up property prices, construction costs and housing costs.

The excessive increase in property tax and land transfer tax also drives up costs, discourages investment by property developers and impacts on housing costs for tenants and owners alike. Neither "rent brakes" nor "rent caps" will bring relief to the housing market. Only a large number of new builds and a higher ownership rate can do this. In Germany, the private share of residential property is far lower than the European average. Home ownership must become more affordable, especially for those on lower incomes.

We want federal building laws that enable sufficient building land to be designated around conurbations, including for the centres of conurbations. These are preferable to the planning sovereignty of the surrounding municipalities concerned.

Home ownership creates a sense of belonging and encourages the desire to preserve and maintain one's own neighbourhood. Economically predictable, stable ownership and rental conditions strengthen social well-being in the long term, promote intergenerational cohesion and can also counteract the rural exodus.

Non-profit housing cooperatives and housing associations should be strengthened. Ownership interests in modern forms of cooperatives, which can be used to create new housing and modernise existing housing, also provide relief.

Family-friendly forms of housing on the outskirts of cities and in rural areas can relieve the pressure on city centres and counteract large-scale depopulation and impoverishment in the countryside. However, this requires a consistently modernised and efficient infrastructure.

We want to create more home ownership. Home ownership promotes home ownership and the desire to preserve and maintain one's own neighbourhood.

# 14.8 Urban development: Compacting, but preventing construction sins

Newly created urban districts must be designed according to the latest urban planning findings.

When densifying and modernising urban districts, social, cultural, commercial, transport and ecological concerns should be combined and comprehensively planned from the outset. The AfD is committed to the strict implementation of the recommendations of the Bundesstiftung Baukultur in accordance with the 2014/15 report, but rejects the energy transition itself and therefore also the associated recommendations.

The redensification of residential areas should only be permitted until the undesirable developments on the housing market have been eliminated. Otherwise, however, the above also applies to the regulated expansion of cities.

The demand for property can only be relieved in a way that makes sense from an urban planning perspective by subsequently increasing the density of loosely built-up districts and by adding storeys, converting and closing gaps between buildings. The construction of new urban districts should only be a secondary aim, unless sufficient expansion areas are available. The reintroduction of staggered building regulations can also serve as an important aid to redensification.

However, unlike in the post-war period, it must now be optimally designed in terms of urban planning in order to prevent the repetition of old building sins in the form of "huge concrete blocks".

Resolved at the federal party conference in Stuttgart on 30/04/01/05/2016.

