

Press Release

Members of the Accreditation Council's new term begin their work

Bonn, January 5, 2026

With the start of the new year, the third term of the Accreditation Council has begun. This marks the start of the voluntary service of the members appointed for the years 2026–2029 by the German Rectors' Conference (HRK) and the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK).

“With the appointment of ten new members and alternates, as well as the addition of two alternate members from the professional field, our group now comprises a total of 42 people. This reflects our increased responsibility and broad professional diversity. I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone involved in this body—for the trusting, constructive, and open cooperation in which we have engaged in discussions that were sometimes controversial, yet always objective and solution-oriented,” says Prof. Dr.-Ing. Hans-Joachim Bargstädt, Chair of the Accreditation Council. “I would also like to thank the new members and alternate members for agreeing to serve in this important volunteer capacity; I look forward to working with them.”

“I would also like to thank all members who continue to make their expertise available to the Accreditation Council, and I see this as confirmation of our excellent collaboration,” says Prof. Dr. Ulrich Bartosch, Vice Chair of the Accreditation Council, who also serves as Vice President for Teaching, Academic Affairs, and Teacher Education at the HRK. “The composition of the Accreditation Council strikes a good balance between continuity and change, and we are well-positioned to tackle the tasks ahead over the next four years with proven experience and fresh ideas.”

An overview of the newly appointed and reappointed members of the Accreditation Council, as well as their alternates, can be found [here](#).

The 22 voting members of the Accreditation Council consist of eight university faculty members, one representative of the HRK, four representatives of the federal states, five representatives from the professional sector, two students, two foreign representatives, and one representative of an agency with an advisory vote. In addition, there are currently 17 alternate members and two permanent guests. The basis for their appointment is the State Treaty on the Organization of a Joint Accreditation System for Quality Assurance in Studies and Teaching, as well as the Statutes of the Accreditation Council Foundation.

The Accreditation Council is the central decision-making body of the Accreditation Council Foundation (formerly the Foundation for the Accreditation of Degree Programs in Germany). The foundation, based in Bonn, was established by the 16 federal states and tasked with organizing the German accreditation system. Since the State Treaty came into effect on January 1, 2018, its main task has been to make decisions regarding program and system accreditations as well as alternative procedures.

Further information:

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