

Press Release

Constitutive Meeting for the New Term of Office (2026–2029) and Recent Resolutions by the Accreditation Council

Bonn, April 9, 2026

The Accreditation Council convened in Berlin on March 12–13, 2026, for its 128th meeting, which was the first meeting of the 2026–2029 term.

Elections for the chair and vice-chair were held as scheduled during the meeting. Both Prof. Dr.-Ing. Hans-Joachim Bargstädt as chair and Prof. Dr. Ulrich Bartosch as vice-chair were re-elected to their positions.

“I would like to thank the members of the council for their renewed trust. The coming four years offer us the opportunity to provide fresh impetus together with our newly joined colleagues and, as the Accreditation Council, to once again responsibly support the strategic quality development of higher education institutions with an open mind,” says Prof. Bargstädt (a CV for Prof. Bargstädt can be found [here](#)).

Prof. Bartosch also thanked the members for his reelection. “Thanks to a good mix of experienced members and new faces who bring additional perspectives and backgrounds to our work, I look forward to the coming years with enthusiasm,” he explained (a CV for Prof. Bartosch can be found [here](#)).

At the meeting, the Accreditation Council accredited the Alternative Procedure at the Technical University of Nuremberg, a university that is still in its founding phase. The Alternative Procedure combines the parallel development of the quality management system with a cumulative and iterative system evaluation that incorporates both internal and external expertise. The concept is complemented by the program-based approach of the rolling audit, which enables a comprehensive review of all degree programs while focusing on the specific pedagogical profile and interdisciplinary orientation of the study programs.

The Accreditation Council received a further 202 applications, eleven of which concerned system accreditations. The Accreditation Council granted six institutions of higher education the authority to independently accredit their degree programs for eight years based on the initial or reaccreditation of their internal quality assurance systems. For four applications for system accreditation, it confirmed that the institution had successfully implemented improvement measures to meet the requirements; one application was denied.

The 191 applications for program accreditation covered 519 degree programs. Two applications were deferred, and one degree program was rejected. The Accreditation Council certified that all others met a high standard of quality.

In addition, the Accreditation Council established a working group to develop regulations for the evaluation of alternative procedures.

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 intergovernmental agreement took effect on January 1, 2018, its primary task has been to make decisions regarding program and system accreditations as well as alternative procedures.

Further information:

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