

# BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

A Portrait of the German Southwest

6<sup>th</sup> fully revised edition 2008



Landeszentrale für politische Bildung  
Baden-Württemberg

## Publishing details

Reinhold Weber and Iris Häuser (editors):  
Baden-Württemberg – A Portrait of the German Southwest,  
published by the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung  
Baden-Württemberg,  
6<sup>th</sup> fully revised edition, Stuttgart 2008.

Co-authors:  
Hans-Georg Wehling  
Dorothea Urban  
Konrad Pflug  
Oliver Turecek

Editorial deadline: 1 July, 2008

Design: Studio für Mediendesign, Rottenburg am Neckar,  
[www.8421medien.de](http://www.8421medien.de)

Printed by: PFITZER Druck und Medien e. K., Renningen,  
[www.pfitzer.de](http://www.pfitzer.de)

Title photo: Manfred Grohe, Kirchentellinsfurt

Translation: proverb oHG, Stuttgart, [www.proverb.de](http://www.proverb.de)



Landeszentrale für politische Bildung  
Baden-Württemberg

Director: Lothar Frick  
Staffenbergstraße 38  
70184 Stuttgart  
[www.lpb-bw.de](http://www.lpb-bw.de)

Please send orders to:  
Fax: +49 (0)711 / 164099-77  
[marketing@lpb.bwl.de](mailto:marketing@lpb.bwl.de)

Many thanks to:



Landesvermessungsamt  
Baden-Württemberg



Baden-Württemberg  
STATISTISCHES LANDESAMT

# EDITORIAL

Baden-Württemberg is an international state – in many respects: it has mutual political, economic and cultural ties to various regions around the world. Millions of guests visit our state every year – schoolchildren, students, businessmen, scientists, journalists and numerous tourists. A key job of the State Agency for Civic Education (Landeszentrale für politische Bildung Baden-Württemberg, LpB) is to inform people about the history of as well as the politics and society in Baden-Württemberg. It is thus high time that a publication such as this one appears in English. One of the most successful regional publications on the southwest of Germany is thus now available in the most important international language.

The publication “Baden-Württemberg. A Portrait of the German Southwest” (now in its sixth edition in the original German version) is the successful attempt to provide concise and understandable, reliable, factual and unbiased basic information about the state of Baden-Württemberg. With a total circulation of around 150,000 copies in German, it has become the most popular publication of the State Agency for Civic Education of Baden-Württemberg.

The basic information in “A Portrait of the German Southwest” supplements the wide range of publications on regional studies and regional politics edited by the State Agency for Civic Education. It covers a wide variety of topics ranging from geography and history, the constitution, political parties and elections, parliament, government and administration, the economy and society through to education, religions, media, art and culture. Numerous diagrams and illustrations accompany the text and are themselves an important part of the information.

The publication is intended for a broad public: schoolchildren, trainees and students, employed persons, people involved in society and politics, visitors and guests to our state – in short, for anyone interested in Baden-Württemberg looking for concise, reliable information on the southwest of Germany.

Our thanks go out to everyone who has made a special contribution to ensuring that this current edition could be published: Dr. Reinhold Weber, Dr. Iris Häuser, Prof. Dr. Hans-Georg Wehling, Christoph Lang (Studio für Mediendesign, Rottenburg), Ferdinand Pfitzer (Pfitzer Druck und Medien, Renningen), the translation agency proverb oHG (Stuttgart), all of the state institutions involved as well as the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of State.

Stuttgart, August 2008



Lothar Frick  
Director of the State Agency for  
Civic Education of Baden-Württemberg

# CONTENTS

Editorial	3
Contents	5
Baden-Württemberg: Region and Borders	6
Historical Territories and Political Culture	10
The Foundation of the Southwest State	16
Population – the People in the State	24
Elections and Political Parties	30
The Baden-Württemberg Landtag	42
The Budget Law – the “Royal Prerogative” of Parliament	52
The State Government	54
Baden-Württemberg in the Federation and in Europe	62
Baden-Württemberg’s Administration	70
Local Politics	76
Legal Channels and Appeals	81
The Economy in Baden-Württemberg	82
Agriculture	88
Environmental Policy	90
Education, Science and Research	96
Art and Culture	102
Media Landscape	108
Religions and Denominations	112
Memorial and Commemoration Sites	116
A Changing Society	120
References	126

# BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG: REGION AND BORDERS

The Neckar near Hessigheim. A meander on the river between Mundelsheim and Besigheim in the heart of the traditional wine-growing area.

Photo: Manfred Grohe



People in Baden-Württemberg affectionately refer to their home as “Ländle” (a diminutive form of Land, the German word for state). But the southwest of Germany is anything but a small, straightforward region. The state of Baden-Württemberg was created in 1952 and covers an area of 35,752 km<sup>2</sup>, making it the third largest of the German states in terms of size. Only Bavaria and Lower Saxony are bigger.

Baden-Württemberg also takes third place in terms of population after North Rhine-Westphalia and Bavaria with around 10.7 million people living within its territory. Neither is Baden-Württemberg a dwarf when it comes to area and population in a European comparison. If Baden-Württemberg were an independent state, it would rank 10<sup>th</sup> amongst the 27 member states of the European Union in terms of

inhabitants. Belgium, for example, is smaller in size, the neighbouring Switzerland only marginally bigger with 41,293 km<sup>2</sup>. Countries such as Austria, Finland, Denmark and Ireland have a smaller population than the state in the southwest of Germany.

### Sharing borders with three countries and three German states

Baden-Württemberg has 1,124 km of internal frontiers with the German states of Bavaria (860 km), Hesse (171 km) and Rhineland-Palatinate (93 km). To the west, the middle of the Rhine forms the common border with the neighbouring French region of Alsace over a length of 179 km. The borders with Austria and Switzerland on Lake Constance are not firmly defined. The shore of Lake Constance stretches for 86 km from Constance to the state border with Bavaria, not including the shore of the Untersee (Lower Lake). The national border to the Swiss neighbour is 316 km long. Baden-Württemberg borders on the cantons Basel-City, Basel-Land, Aargau, Schaffhausen, Thurgau and Zurich.

Upper Swabia, the countryside between the Swabian Alb, the Danube and Lake Constance: in this hilly landscape lies the "Holy Mountain of Upper Swabia", the 767 m high Bussen, a vantage point and place of pilgrimage.

Photo: Manfred Grohe



Despite the fact that the natural borders of the state are mainly bodies of water – the Rhine to the west, the Iller in the east and Lake Constance to the south – Southwest Germany has always been an open region. The Burgundian Gate and the Saverne depression were responsible for early influences from the Mediterranean and western Atlantic region,

the economic growth of the Single European Market to be concentrated.

### A variety of natural landscapes

A typical feature of the region is its wide variety of natural landscapes. Low mountain ranges and lowlands, plateaus and basins, glacial land-



The Swabian Alb stretches for more than 200 km across Baden-Württemberg as a low mountain range.

Photo: Manfred Grohe

the Graubunden passes in the south for connections with Italy. The Danube opened up southeast Europe, and the Rhine valley with the Main region ensured important connections to the north and east. The southwest of Germany thus always assumed a role as mediator, a role that has become even more important over the past decades through progressive European integration. Today, Baden-Württemberg is a central lynchpin in the middle of Europe. The state also assumes a central position in the European Economic Area and is part of a "Development belt" in an EU structural model, the so-called "Blue banana", that stretches from London over the Randstad Holland, Brussels, the Ruhr Area and the "Rhine corridor" through Switzerland to Milan. The "Blue banana" hereby sees itself as the germ cell of a future European "Megalopolis", in which European structural politicians expect

scapes rich in lakes and moors as well as dry karst areas with little water; extensive arable land and dense forests alternate in close succession and make for the compartmentalisation of the state into small areas. Baden-Württemberg straddles two large natural landscape units, the German cuesta landscape of the low mountain range and the Alpine foothills. The cuesta landscape is split into the biggest natural landscape unit of the Neckar und Tauber "Gäu" tablelands as well as the Swabian Alb, Black Forest, the Swabian Keuper-Lias-Land, the Odenwald (with Spessart), the High Rhine area and the Upper Rhine lowland plain. The Alpine foothills cover the prealpine uplands



Constance on Lake Constance: the dividing point between the Upper and Lower Lake of the "Swabian Sea". Close by is the island of Reichenau, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the border to neighbouring Switzerland. Lake Constance is one of the biggest freshwater lakes in the world.

Photo: Manfred Grohe

The Rhine forms the border to the western neighbour France. The Europabrücke near Kehl leads directly to Strasbourg in Alsace.

Photo: Manfred Grohe



and moors as well as the Danube-Iller tableland.

Around 40 percent of Baden-Württemberg is covered by forest. The highest point in the state is the Feldberg in the south of the Black Forest, which rises to 1,493 m a.m.s.l. The highest mountain in Württemberg at 1,118 m is the Schwarzer Grat in the district of Ravensburg, part of the Adelegg mountain range, some northern foothills of the Allgäu Alps. The highest point of the Swabian Alb is the Lemberg near Rottweil at 1,015 m. The lowest point in the state is the Rhine at Mannheim, 85 m a.m.s.l.

## A state abundant in water

The southwest of Germany also is a state abundant in water. Although there are certain areas that have few bodies of water such as the Swabian Alb, where water quickly sweeps into the lower ground, Lake Constance alone supplies drinking water for almost four million people in the state as the biggest water reservoir with a surface area of 534 km<sup>2</sup>. Around 75 percent of the drinking water in the state comes from groundwater or springs.



The Feldberg is the highest mountain (1,493 m) in Baden-Württemberg and is located in the south of Germany's biggest forest area, the Black Forest.

Photo: Manfred Grohe

The Rhine (437 km), Neckar (367 km), Danube (251 km), Jagst (203 km) and Kocher (182 km) are the longest rivers in Southwest Germany. The Rhine and Neckar in particular are the most important waterways.



Baden-Württemberg: physical map

Map: Regional Surveyor's Office Baden-Württemberg



# HISTORICAL TERRITORIES AND POLITICAL CULTURE

Upper Swabia's biggest equestrian procession takes place every year on the Friday after Ascension Day: the Weingarten "Blutritt". This takes its name from the "Holy Blood Relic" that is kept in the town's basilica. More than 3,000 horses with magnificent harnesses and their riders in top hats and tails make the Weingarten "Blutritt" a unique event in Europe.

Photo: Rupert Leser



Up to the end of the Second World War, Baden-Württemberg as we know it today consisted of the traditional states of Baden, Württemberg and Prussian Hohenzollern. These had been shaped by the Napoleonic land consolidation at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Between 1803 and 1810, a "Länderschacher" (German term used to describe the process of bartering property and land as formerly practiced between differ-

ent states and dynasties) completely changed the face of Southwest Germany. It created borders and a consciousness that have lasted for over 150 years and make up the regional and parochial identity of people in the Southwest in many different respects to the present day.

On the eve of the French Revolution, the southwest of Germany with its chequered

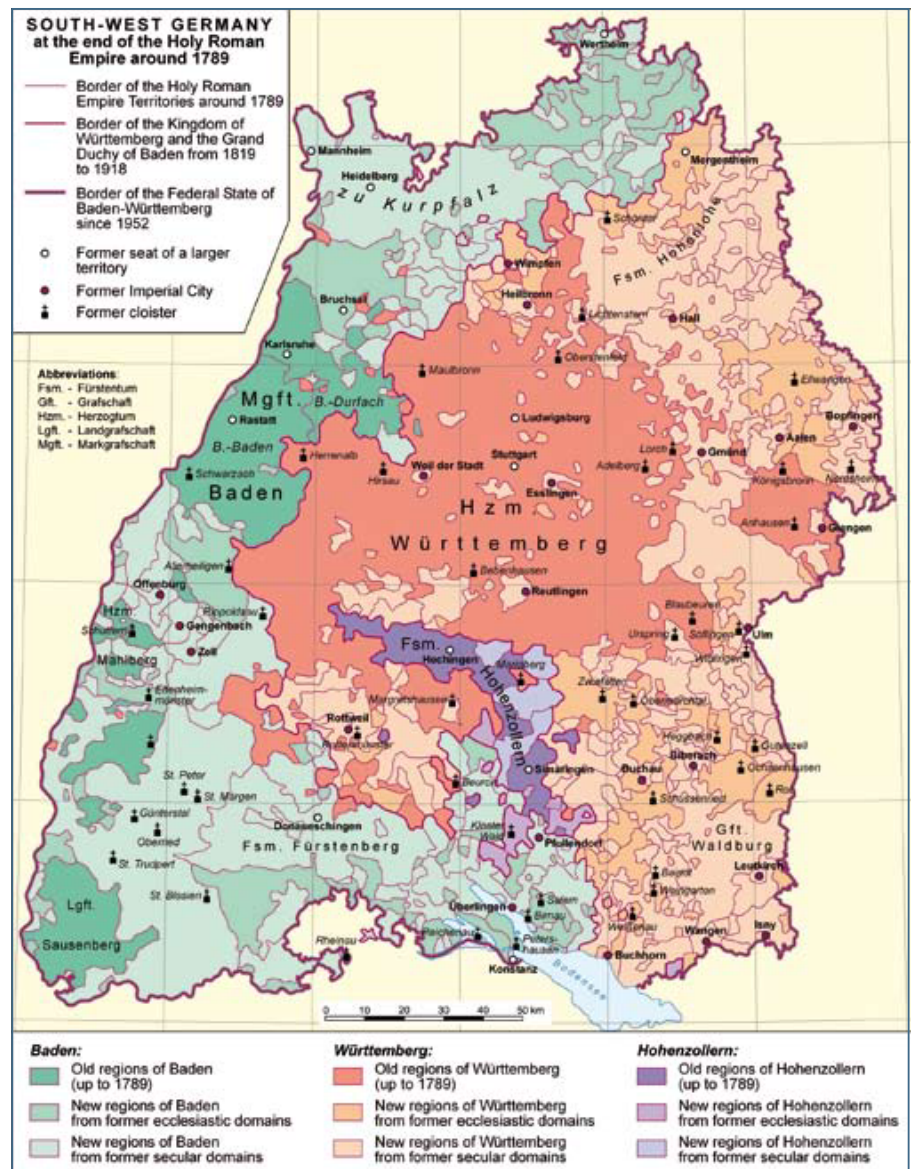
plan of more than 250 independent territories was a classical example of a system of mini-states in the highly fragmented Holy Roman Empire. Four large territories made up the basic silhouette which we know today as the state of Baden-Württemberg: the Electoral Palatinate, the Duchy of Württemberg, the Margraviate of Baden – which had long been divided into the Margraviates of Baden-Baden

and Baden-Durlach – and the Further Austrian possessions, stretching from the Black Forest through the five Habsburgian cities on the Danube to the County of Hohenberg and, with Rottenburg, almost as far as Tübingen.

Alongside these, the smaller cultures consisted of principalities such as Hohenzollern, Hohenlohe, Waldburg (each with subdivisions), Fürstenberg, Thurn und Taxis as well as numerous small counties and cantons of Imperial Knights. There were also ecclesiastic domains: Constance, Basel, Strasbourg, Speyer and Worms, the “Hochstifte” (bishoprics), the name given to the secular domains of “Fürstbistümer” (prince-bishoprics); numerous Imperial Abbeys such as Schöntal, Zwiefalten, Rot an der Rot, Weingarten, Salem or Neresheim, as well as holdings of the Teutonic Knights such as Mergentheim, Altshausen and Mainau. And finally, 24 of the altogether 51 Imperial Cities of the Holy Roman Empire in the area covered by today’s Baden-Württemberg ensured even further diversity in the southwest German territorial patchwork.

### A landscape shaped by denomination

Some of these territories were Protestant – the Electoral Palatinate, the old Margraviate of Baden-Durlach and the Duchy of “Württemberg”. Others had remained true to the “Old Faith” – those regions south of the Danube which are referred to as Upper Swabia today, the Further Austrian regions of Ortenau and Breisgau, large parts of Eastern Württemberg (the Prince-Provostry of Ellwangen and the Imperial City of Schwäbisch Gmünd) or the seat of the Teutonic Knights in Mergentheim. The Imperial Cities of Biberach and Ravensburg had equal representation – Catholics and Protestants. The territorial diversity reflected



The southwest of Germany at the end of the Holy Roman Empire around 1789: more than 250 independent secular and ecclesiastic territories form a colourful patchwork in a classical region of mini-states. The only larger areas were Württemberg, Baden, Further Austria and the Electoral Palatinate. The Imperial Cities and the large ecclesiastic domains are the most striking highlights in the patchwork.

Map: LpB Baden-Württemberg

a freedom of religion that was anchored in the principles of the Peace of Augsburg from 1555, according to which every local ruler determined the religion of the domains he controlled (“cuius regio, eius religio”).

Following the realignment of the territorial boundaries in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the two central states of Baden and Württemberg were concerned with establishing a modern political system with an efficient administration so as to further the internal integration of the states. In the course of the secularisation of ecclesiastic properties and the mediatisation of the smaller secular domains and Imperial



## A diversity of political cultures

Each of these larger and smaller original regions of today's state has its own political and cultural traditions that spring from its corresponding historical experience. Denomination had a decisive influence. The cultural diversity and distinctive individuality of the regions have shaped the mentality of their inhabitants and been condensed into specific regional political cultures. They were the "Product of geopolitical circumstances, economic conditions, past experiences, authoritarian disciplinary measures and historical traditions" (Hans-Georg Wehling) and are very enlightening for an understanding of the state. The structures of these small cultures were only conditionally reshaped by the unification efforts of the two new central states "by Napoleon's grace" – Baden and Württemberg.

Hohenzollern: thanks to personal contacts, the dynasties of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen and Hohenzollern-Hechingen managed to maintain their sovereign independence despite the mediatization of the smaller secular domains. During the confusion of the 1848/49 revolution, the two territories were sold by their rulers to the Prussian King Frederick William IV from the House of Hohenzollern. From then on, 1850 until 1945, the Hohenzollern states were part of the Prussian Rhine Province as the Administrative District of Sigmaringen. Prussia – with its enclave Achberg – thus extended into Allgäu and almost up to the shores of Lake Constance. The Hohenzollern elected their representatives to the Prussian Diet in the constituency of Koblenz-Trier. The small Protestant community in Hohenzollern was part of the Rhenian State Church until after the Second World War, whereas the majority Catholic population had belonged to the archdiocese of Freiburg since the rearrangement of the church in the Southwest at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and still does to this day.

Photo: Burgverwaltung Hohenzollern/Keidel

Cities, the two states of Baden and Württemberg grew considerably between 1803, 1806 and the final contractual solutions up to 1815: Württemberg almost doubled in terms of size and population. The change in Baden was even more striking; it quadrupled in size and the population increased six-fold.

The diversity of religions was to become something of a domestic problem – in Baden more so than in Württemberg. In Baden, which had itself been more heterogeneous in the old Margraviate and which was lacking a large, territorial core, the problem was integrating the south of Baden and the Electoral Palatinate, both Catholic, into the new Grand Duchy. In Württemberg, which had now attained the status of a kingdom, the problem was to "reconcile" the Catholics in the new Württemberg regions in Upper Swabia and East Württemberg with the Protestant, pietistic inhabitants of old Württemberg.



The rich, stout farmer from the new Württemberg principal heir territory is superior to the "division of real property" farmer from old Württemberg, who can carry his entire belongings on his shoulder. As seen by the Biberach artist Johann Baptist Pflug at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Illustration: Grafische Sammlung der Staatsgalerie Stuttgart

The differences between the two states are obvious. The only successful revolution on German soil took place in Baden in 1848/49, and could only be quashed by foreign – Prussian – troops. Württemberg experienced no revolution but rather a change in the parliamentary majority and government with liberal reforms – the fruits of a centuries-old uninterrupted culture of participation in old Württemberg. During the cultural struggle that began in the 1850ies in Baden before spreading to Prussia, there was a very violent conflict between the Catholic church on the one hand and the State with a Protestant aristocracy and Protestant, mainly liberal administrative elite on the other. Württemberg was regarded as an “Oasis of peace” during the cultural struggles, even though the Catholic-Protestant differences bonded Catholics and shaped the society and politics.

At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, which heralded the rise of the fundamental politicisation of society, the cultural reshaping of socio-economic and denominational interests led to very different social milieus: a (national) liberal, “modern” milieu based on the secular state in the generally urban-Protestant regions with powerful craftsmen associations and a strong economic bourgeoisie; a largely Protestant working-class milieu in the industrial locations, and finally an “ultramontane” – looking towards Rome “beyond the mountains” – Catholic milieu that covered all social classes and integrated all denominations. These were joined in Württemberg by a rural-agrarian and Protestant-conservative milieu. Each of these large social classes – characterised by the factors region, denomination, class affiliation and cultural orientation and borne by different societies and associations – supported its own specific party-political lobby groups: the Protestant national and liberal left parties, social democrats, the centre as a party for political Catholicism and the Protestant-conservative Farming Union in Württemberg.



### Different modes of land inheritance shape the society, economy and politics

The different modes of land inheritance also proved to be very important. Old Württemberg knew almost only the division of real property, in other words the division of the entire inheritance in equal parts amongst all of the children. Over time this led to a huge fragmentation of property. When the resulting “smallholdings” became too small to support a family, they had to look for additional sources of income – often in emergent industries in towns. The result: large numbers of part-time farmers who worked in industry and “moonlighted” in the evening on their smallholdings. The consequences are obvious: the working classes were not a pauperised proletariat but long remained rooted in rural traditions in which their own, albeit modest homestead played a central role. The southwest of Germany thus was a region with no distinctive urban-rural contrast. This also meant that industrial economic crises could be survived, since the workers were able to provide at least part of their staple diet themselves. And finally this created a social democracy that was not

Mannheim today is the second-largest city in Baden-Württemberg. The city, originally founded in 1607 as an asylum for Calvinist brothers in faith, was one of the residencies of the Electoral Palatinate and developed into one of the most important industrial towns in the southwest of Germany – not least thanks to the convenient location where the Neckar flows into the Rhine. The picture is from around 1900, when smoking chimneys were seen as proof of industriousness and progress.

Illustration: Archiv Reiss-Engelhorn Museum, Mannheim

a party for the proletariat masses but for “the man on the street”, craftsmen and labourers: in other words, a reform-based evolution instead of a revolution.

On the whole, these structures of small and very small properties – reinforced by the rigorous education to labour of a well-meaning establishment – led to an industrious, imaginative and adept population. The battle for the inheritance and survival led to a reduced sense of solidarity. The confined circumstances in

villages, where not only the land but also houses and rights of use were divided, left no room for “everyday liberalism”. This liberalism, however, did exist in politics in the sense of freedom from state interference.

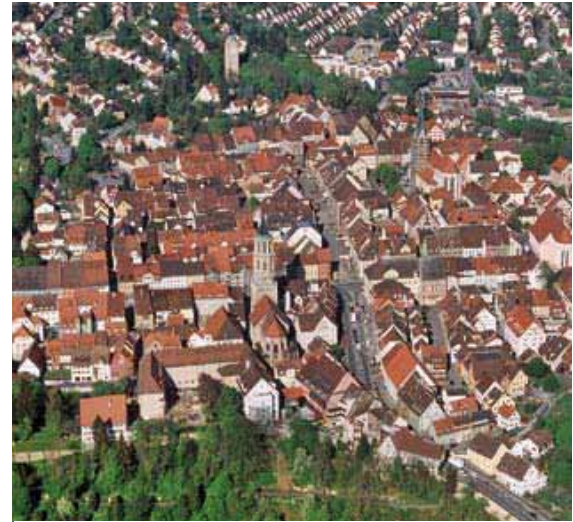
The hilly landscape of the Hohenlohe stretches across the north-eastern part of Baden-Württemberg. It is characterised by castles and palaces of the Franconian house of Hohenlohe and its numerous subdivisions. Waldenburg on the edge of the Swabian-Franconian Waldberge is a very prominent lookout point.

Photo: Manfred Grohe



The right of principal heirs existed in other parts of the state, in Hohenlohe, the higher mountain ranges of the Black Forest or Upper Swabia. The entire property was inherited by one heir. This ensured the survival of viable farms. The predominant form of settlement, the single farm, allowed a high degree of self-confidence and tolerance in the sense of “live and let live”.

The consequences of these different modes of land inheritance are obvious: those areas that practised the division of real property took the lead on the journey towards an industrial society. The Stuttgart region on the Middle Neckar as well as the industrial Rhine-Neckar



Rottweil, one of the biggest former Imperial Cities in the southwest of Germany: this view of the town shows the civic pride and historical significance of the city on the Upper Neckar which is exemplary for the cultural density in the Southwest.

Photo: Manfred Grohe

district around Mannheim developed into the strongest industrial regions in an inner-German comparison. Although they had no raw materials and sources of power and although the transport connections often were inadequate, there was a big supply of well qualified labourers with which the industrial locations gained a reputation for highly-specialised and labour-intensive processed goods.

What makes Baden-Württemberg so rich is its geographic, historical and cultural diversity. The wealth of different historical traditions has left its mark – in the form of residencies and palaces, churches and cloisters, towns and villages, though also in the mentalities and habits of its people. The southwest of Germany is characterised by a diverse cultural density – its people, its society, its historical and political traditions and not least its economic structure.



The territorial fragmentation in the southwest of Germany created an immense cultural density that is expressed not least in a wealth of proud residences. The photo shows Ellwangen, once the capital of the Prince-Provostry of the same name and the capital of New Württemberg after the Napoleonic land consolidation between 1803 and 1806, the state centralisation of the new territories in Württemberg. During the course of the reorganisation of the state administration in Württemberg in 1817, Ellwangen became the seat of the government for the "Jagstkreis", comparable with today's regional council. The town was also called the "Swabian Rome", because the Württemberg King Frederick established an Ordinary, a Seminary and a Catholic theological college, the "Universitas Fridericana" which was named after him, here for his Catholic subjects. Ellwangen was also intended as the seat for the new state diocese before the decision was taken in favour of Rottenburg am Neckar.

Photo: Verkehrsamt Ellwangen



Donaueschingen was a residency and main seat of the Princes of Fürstenberg. In 1806, the town was ceded to the Grand Duchy of Baden. Donaueschingen lies on the elevated plain of the Baar on the eastern edge of the southern Black Forest. The nearby confluence of the Brigach and Breg is regarded as the real start of the Danube.

Photo: Manfred Grohe

Schloss Rastatt is the oldest Baroque residence on the Upper Rhine. This representative palace has been completely preserved since being built (1700–1707). Today, visitors can view the magnificent Beletage with the state apartments of the Margrave of Baden-Baden.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg



# THE FOUNDATION OF THE SOUTHWEST STATE

The first Minister President of the newly founded state was elected on 25 April, 1952: the Liberal Reinhold Maier (right). His famous pocket watch can be seen in the top of the picture.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg



Stuttgart, 25 April, 1952: on the agenda of the constituent assembly of the as yet nameless “Southwest German Federal State” – the election of the Minister President. 64 of the 120 ballot papers bear the name of the Liberal politician Reinhold Maier, 50 that of the Christian Democrat Gebhard Müller. Maier stepped up to the lectern on that Friday and to everyone’s surprise presented the letters of appointment

for the members of the cabinet. These were representatives of the DVP (FDP = The German Liberal Party), as well as the SPD (The German Social Democratic Party) and the BHE (Bloc of Expellees and Disenfranchised, political party in Germany between 1950 and 1961). The CDU (The Christian Democratic Union, conservative party in Germany) was booted out as the strongest parliamentary party. In a memora-

ble moment, Reinhold Maier took out his golden pocket watch and called out: “It is 12.30. (...) Through this declaration (...) the states of Baden, Württemberg-Baden and Württemberg-Hohenzollern are united as one Federal State. (...) God bless the new Federal State!”

The Southwest State became a reality with the formation of its government – founded in one of

the most tumultuous scenes ever to have been witnessed in the state parliament to this day. It was a “Black Friday” for the CDU, who had assumed that they would be able to assert their claim as leaders and present Gebhard Müller, their “honest broker” between the population of Baden and Württemberg, as the head of the government. Reinhold Maier, on the other hand, had lived up to his reputation as a crafty tactician and had outsmarted the CDU in a “surprise attack” – according to his opponents. The first Minister President of the Southwest State was a Liberal, the only FDP Minister President to date in any German state. But Maier only remained in office for one and a half years; the CDU has run the state ever since.

Maier did more harm than good in the sense of the psychology of coalescence. He was the epitome of “Swabian annexation longings” in the eyes of the Catholic population of south Baden. In old Baden there was talk of a “brute fusion” – and it has to be said that brutish vocabulary was used on both sides. The reasons why Maier wanted the CDU in the opposition as the strongest parliamentary party were of a much more complex, not least national political nature. What it all boiled down to was the majority in the Bundesrat (German Federal Council), where Adenauer was worried about support for the integration of Germany into the community of western states – one reason why he was no advocate of the Southwest State.

It can thus be said that it was a complicated birth for the new state. Nevertheless, the reorganisation of the Southwest turned out to be a “Stroke of luck in history” (Theodor Heuss). To this day, Baden-Württemberg is the only German state where the population successfully decided on its reorganisation in a referendum. The state has attained an enviable position in Germany’s political, economic and cultural



Southwest Germany was split into three parts from 1945 to 1952. The borders between the zones of occupation divided each of the old states of Baden and Württemberg into a northern and a southern part. The territorial improvisations of the American and French occupying powers created the three unpopular “children of the occupation” Württemberg-Baden, Württemberg-Hohenzollern and (South) Baden.

Map: LpB Baden-Württemberg

landscape. The hyphen in the name “Baden-Württemberg” does not divide but joins the two parts of the state without levelling out its regional diversities.

There are good reasons for believing that the cultural and historical diversity of the Southwest was by no means a mortgage but a precondition for the coalescence of the different parts of the state. If the problem in the years leading up to and following 1952 had been to merge two large, self-contained blocks – Baden





The three protagonists in the battle for the Southwest State: Reinhold Maier (left), Gebhard Müller (second from the right) and Leo Wohleb (right), at a conference of the three heads of the southwest German governments in 1950.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

and Württemberg – this would have been more difficult. But the job on hand was to coordinate a number of smaller traditional areas. In this respect it is the diversity of the state that guarantees its unity. Nevertheless, it has to be stressed that the new state of Baden-Württemberg is a product of the occupational and post-war period. Its territory had never before been unified and required a number of stimuli from outside.

### The allies' policy of occupation

The allied powers of the west were the first to suggest the reorganisation of the state. France's involvement as a fourth victorious power shortly before the end of the war meant that territorial improvisations became necessary. Baden and Württemberg were each split into a northern and southern part. For logistical reasons, the American occupying forces fixed the southern border of their zone

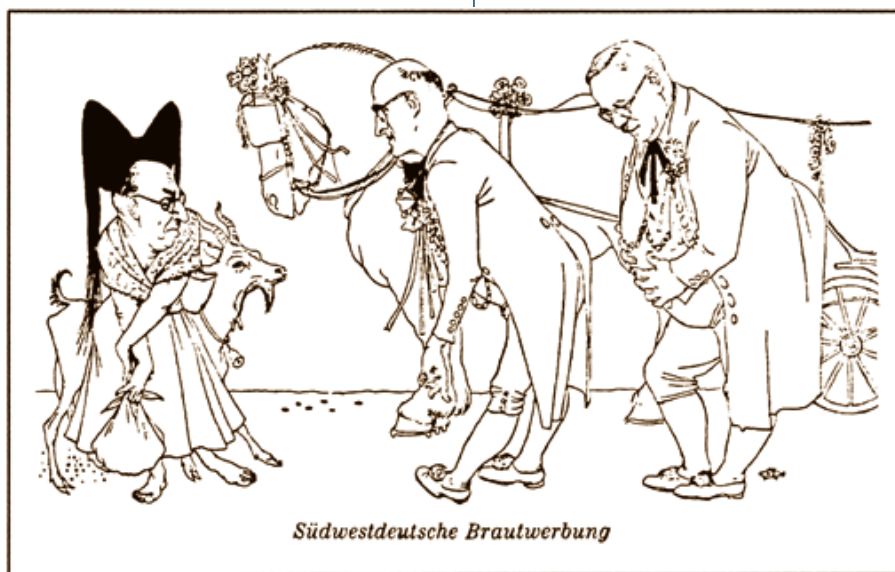
so that the Karlsruhe-Stuttgart-Ulm motorway remained under their control. The more industrialised and densely populated northern areas of the two former states were now part of the US zone, the agriculturally dominated southern parts of the states with Hohenzollern the French zone.

This led to three arbitrary administrative constructs: the Americans put together the state of Württemberg-Baden (with its capital Stuttgart) from their parts. The French knocked together two states: to the south of the artificial border within Württemberg that passed by Tübingen and was referred to as the "Frontière de Dettenhausen", the state of Württemberg-Hohenzollern (Tübingen) and to the west of this the state of (South) Baden (Freiburg). None of the three "children of the occupation" were really wanted by the population.

### The Frankfurt Document No. 2

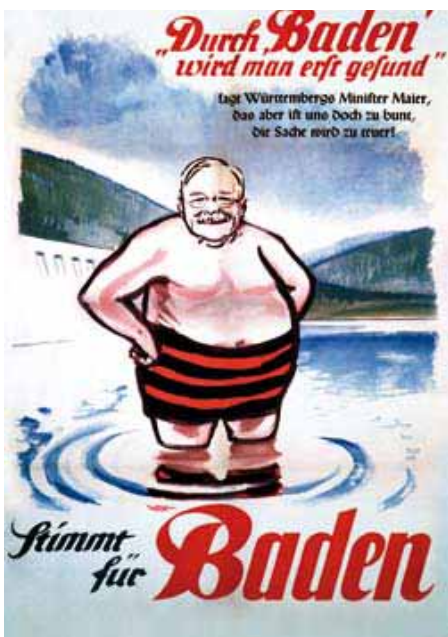
The military governors of the western zones ordered the heads of governments of the states to submit suggestions for a reorganisation of the states in the Frankfurt Document No. 2 from 1 July, 1948. But the existing states and their personnel had already established themselves so that the heads of the governments wanted to put off any definitive resolution. Since it was believed that the three heads of government in Southwest Germany were well on their way to an agreement, the emphasis was placed on the unification of the three states – against the vote of the government of

"Wooing the bride in Southwest Germany"; a caricature in the Stuttgarter Zeitung on 27 August, 1949



Posters from the election campaign for the referendum on the Southwest State.

Abbildungen: LMZ Baden-Württemberg



(South) Baden. The question of the reorganisation of the southwest of Germany was thus uncoupled from the general reorganisation of states in western Germany.

Three protagonists ruled the roost in the “Battle for the Southwest State”: The head of the (South) Baden government Leo Wohleb (CDU) continued to advocate the restoration of the old state of Baden. Reinhold Maier (FDP/DVP), Minister President of Württemberg-Baden,

had no intention of cutting off North Württemberg. The head of the state government of Württemberg-Hohenzollern, Gebhard Müller (CDU), thus assumed the role of mediator. As a Catholic from Württemberg, he played a pivotal role between Catholics in South Baden and Württemberg, which was largely Protestant. He became the “honest broker” between the opposing interests of Leo Wohleb and Reinhold Maier – and one of the fathers of the new Southwest State.

### Unsuccessful southwest German summit diplomacy

The two opposite positions became very clear at the first “Summit” of the three representatives of the states in Burg Hohenneuffen on 2 August, 1948. Surprisingly, however, an agreement was quickly reached on 24 August, 1948, on the “Karlsruhe Contract” that envisaged the fusion of the three states with the four regional districts North Baden, North Württem-





Posters before the election to the constituent assembly in the spring of 1952. The first time a joint parliament in the Southwest had been elected.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

According to the old states and which was backed by the majority of the CDU parliamentary party, and a “Tübinger draft” from Swabian members of parliament, which went under the name of Kurt Georg Kiesinger and envisaged the four-district mode. This was passed as the “Second New Delimitation Act” with a big majority in the Bundestag on 25 April, 1951. The act rapidly passed through the Bundesrat, where Gebhard Müller had organised the necessary majority.

### The referendum on 9 December, 1951

There was no lack of pithy words in the election campaign that preceded the referendum. But there was no doubt about the result. Although the supporters of old Baden in South Baden won 62.2 percent of the votes, there was a clear majority in the other three districts of North Württemberg (93.5 %), South Württemberg-Hohenzollern (91.4 %) and North Baden

(57.1 %) in favour of the fusion. In terms of the overall area, there was a 69.7 percent majority in favour of the state of Baden-Württemberg.

The regional differences in the results of the vote reflected the historical traditions of the southwest of Germany. Supporters of the Southwest State were successful wherever the “Napoleonic land consolidation” had severed old links at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, (e.g. the districts of Mosbach, Sinsheim, Überlingen). There was also a clear majority for the new state in the old Electoral Palatinate, where there was still some anti-Baden resentment. In the Protestant districts of South Baden such as Lörrach or Kehl, where the supporters of the Southwest State achieved relatively high shares, there was a traditional outbreak of a “clash of cultures”. There was a clear majority for the new state in Protestant Pforzheim, where the economy traditionally followed that of Württemberg. The unequivocal figures in the districts in Württemberg speak for themselves. In contrast, the old Baden strongholds were in the areas of the old Catholic Margravate Baden-Baden and the former bishoprics of Speyer and Straßburg (districts of Bruchsal and Offenburg). There were also numerous opponents to the new foundation in Karlsruhe,

where the people feared the loss of status for the former capital.

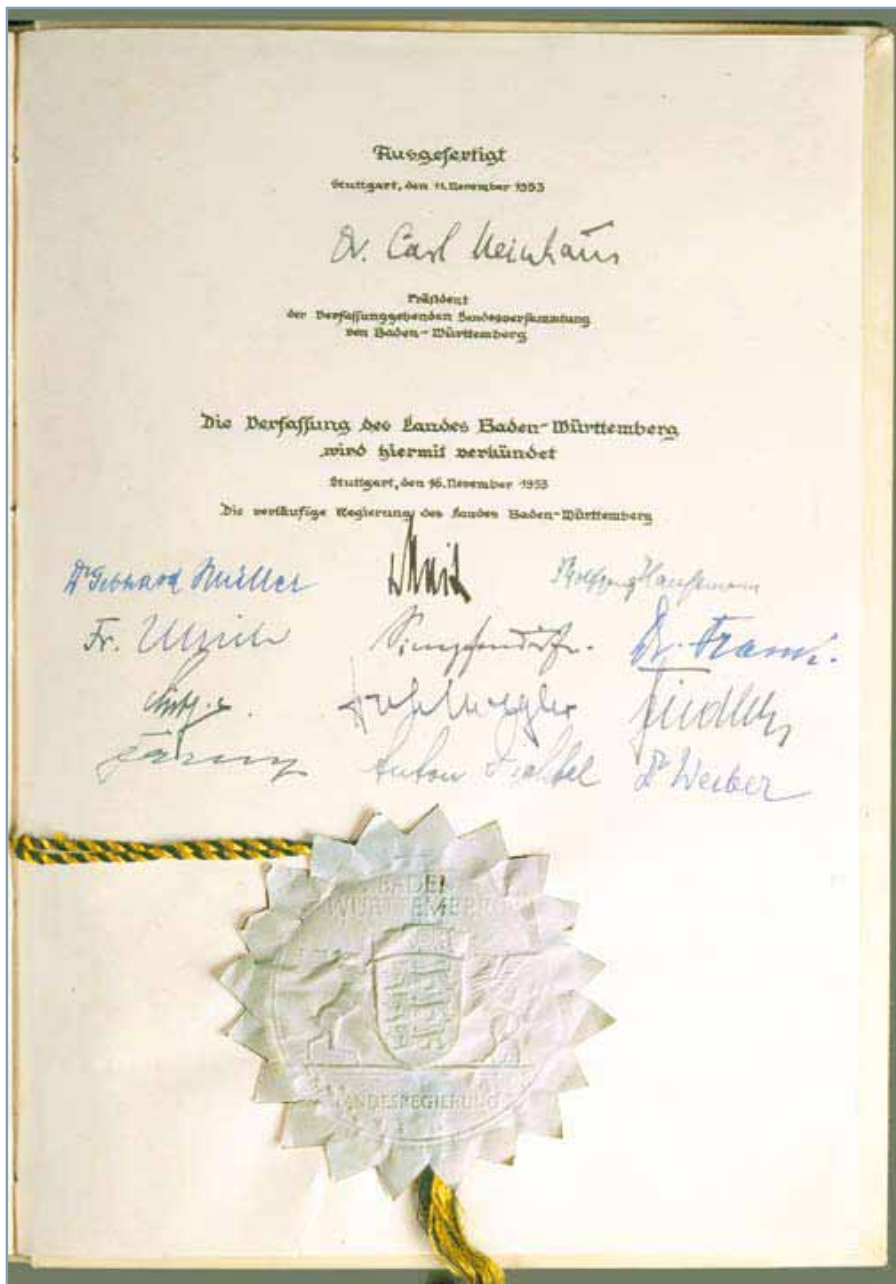
### No end to the Baden issue

The supporters of old Baden did not take the defeat in the vote lying down and united to form the “Heimatbund Badenerland” (roughly: Heritage Alliance for the Baden Land) in October 1952. They continued the struggle for the old state of Baden right through to the German Federal Constitutional Court. In 1956, this court ruled that the population of Baden could decide on whether they wanted to remain in the state of Baden-Württemberg in a separate vote – without the participation of the population of Württemberg and Hohenzollern – since their will had been “overlooked by the peculiarities of the politico-historical development” – in other words the separation of the state of Baden in 1945. But although there was a petition for a referendum in Baden in September 1956 that also achieved the prescribed quorum, the actual vote was a long time coming. The referendum itself was held on 7 June, 1970. The result was an impressive statement on the part of the population in Baden: with a turnout of 62.5 percent, 81.9 percent of the electorate in Baden voted to remain in the state of Baden-Württemberg.

### Constitution

The elections to the constituent assembly were held on 9 March, 1952, with the CDU holding 50 seats, the SPD 38, the FDP/DVP 23, the BHE six and the Communists four. After the government had been formed on 25 April, 1952, there was a constitutional abeyance for a few weeks that was brought to an end by the “Law on the provisional exercise of authority in the southwest German state”, the so-called “bridging law” of 17 May, 1952. Only then were the three post-war states finally annulled. The act gave the state the provisional name Baden-Württemberg. The almost seven-year struggle for the Southwest State had come to an end.

Some points of the two drafts for a state constitution that were submitted to the constituent assembly in the summer of 1953 differed quite considerably. The joint draft submitted by the



governing parliamentary parties provided for a parliamentary democracy based on the Bonn model, though with a policy-making power for the Minister President weakened by the principle of collective responsibility. The CDU draft envisioned a state president elected directly by the people for six years as a counterweight to the parliament along with a second parliamentary chamber. Furthermore the CDU demanded greater participation of the population through elements of direct democracy. The fields of religion, education and schooling were also controversial. The governing parliamentary parties were in favour of the Christian comprehensive

The members of the Baden-Württemberg government sealed the constitution of the state of Baden-Württemberg with their signatures. Carl Neinhaus, the President of the constituent assembly, paid tribute to the constitution as an "indispensable democratic foundation for our life as a nation and a state".

Illustration: Hauptstaatsarchiv Stuttgart

schools common in Baden, whereas the CDU draft constitution envisaged the co-existence of denominational schools – as were common in South Württemberg-Hohenzollern – and Christian comprehensive schools.

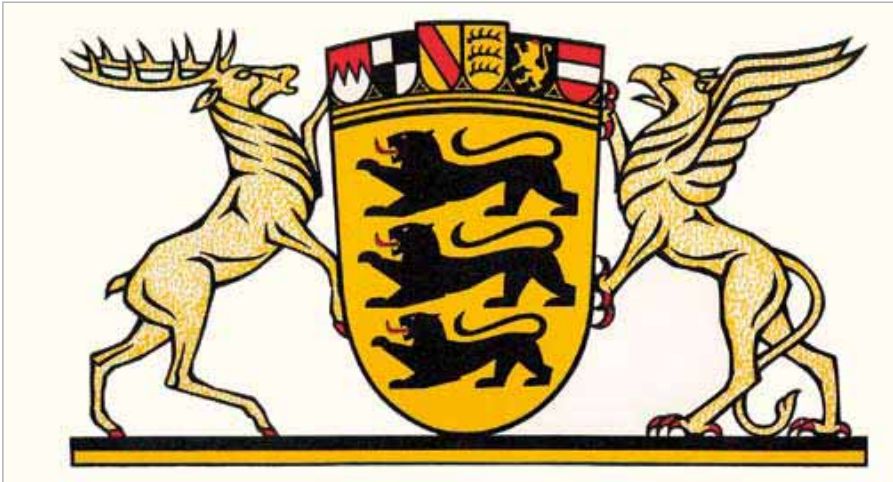
Negotiations only became easier following the resignation of Reinhold Maier, who vacated his office in the Villa Reitzenstein following the CDU victory in the elections to the Bundestag in October 1953. The second provisional government formed by Gebhard Müller according to his view of politics included all four democratic parties and created the constitution and established the state. The coalition partners had already agreed on the most contentious questions before the government was formed. The four parliamentary parties in the coalition submitted a joint draft constitution to the State Assembly on the same day that Müller's government was appointed. The constitution of the state of Baden-Württemberg was passed with a large majority on 11 November, 1953. It came into force on 19 November, 1953.

### The Basic Law and the state constitution

Article 28 of the Basic Law of the Federal Republic of Germany stipulates very few precepts for the constitutions of the German states. Everything else is left up to constituent powers in the states. This means that the state constitutions sometimes differ greatly in their choice of government and its dismissal, policy-making powers and the functions of the head of the state. Unlike the Basic Law, the constitution of Baden-Württemberg also contains direct laws of instrumentality for the population with the possibility of dissolving the parliament through a referendum and with the petition for a referendum.

### Constitutional amendments

A constitution is a long-term matter but should still be open to amendments. The parliament of Baden-Württemberg has the right to amend the constitution with a two thirds majority of its members. This right has only been exercised in rare cases up to now. The most important amendments related to the introduction of the petition for a referendum (1974), the exten-



sion of the electoral period for the parliament to five years (1995), the participation of the parliament in important EU projects for the state (1995) and the introduction of the right for EU citizens to vote in local elections (1995). Three new state objectives have also been adopted in the constitution: the protection of natural livelihoods in Art. 3a (1995), the protection of animals as beings and fellow creatures in Art. 3b (2000) and the promotion of cultural life and sport by the state and communities in Art. 3c (2000).

### A double-barrelled name for the new state

When the constitution came into force on 19 November, 1953, the Southwest State was also given an official name. The question as to what the new state should actually be called had occupied the population and politicians for months in advance. Numerous suggestions were made, newspapers organised opinion polls, honorary professors were asked for their advice and citizens discussed the matter in readers' letters. There were some weird and humorous suggestions, but the most popular were the historically-based names "Schwaben", "Staufen", "Rheinschwaben" and "Alemannien".

But there were good arguments against each of these proposals. In the end, none of them could accurately describe the historical diversity of the state and its population. On the other hand, a lot of people thought that "Baden-Württemberg" lacked imagination. At the end of the

day there were two opposing groups: those who categorically rejected a double-barrelled name because they believed this would not unify the state. The other party argued in favour of a double-barrelled name and the historical significance of the two states of Baden and Württemberg. "Baden-Württemberg" turned out to be the smallest common denominator, and was also chosen so as not to open up old wounds with the opponents of the Southwest State. Baden was allowed to go first – on the one hand to distinguish the new state from former Württemberg-Baden and on the other to placate the population in Baden who still had problems accepting the fusion.

### The state coat of arms

Art. 24.1 of the constitution of Baden-Württemberg only specifies the state colours of black and gold, the black being taken from the old Württemberg and Hohenzollern-Prussian state colours and the gold from the red and gold flag of Baden. But a state coat of arms was also required. Despite exhaustive discussions, the parliament did not decide on a coat of arms that symbolised the unity of the new state of Baden-Württemberg whilst still upholding the tradition of the former states and districts until May 1954.

### The greater state coat of arms for Baden-Württemberg

The greater state coat of arms has a golden escutcheon in the centre which bears three black

striding lions with red tongues. This is the coat of arms of the house of Hohenstaufen, Emperors of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation and Dukes of Swabia in the Middle Ages. A crown with the insignia of the historical coats of arms of Franconia (white and red "Franconian rake"), Hohenzollern (black and white party per cross escutcheon), Baden (red sloping bar on a golden field), Württemberg (three stag antlers), Electoral Palatinate (Hohenstaufen lion in black) and Further Austria (red-white-red striped escutcheon) rests on the shield. The escutcheon is held on the left by a golden deer, the supporter of the escutcheon of Württemberg, and on the right by a golden griffin, the supporter and heraldic animal of the escutcheon of Baden. Both animals have red hoofs or claws. They are the symbolic custodians and guardians of the state of Baden-Württemberg and its constitution.

The greater state coat of arms, a symbol of state sovereignty, may be used by the parliament, the state government, the Minister President, the ministries, the representatives of the state in the Federation, the State Court of Law and the highest courts in the state, the audit court and the administrative headquarters.

The lesser coat of arms, an escutcheon with black striding lions with red tongues bearing a coronet, the so-called people's crown, is used by the remaining state authorities and notaries.



# POPULATION – THE PEOPLE IN THE STATE

The population is becoming older. The over sixties have outnumbered the under twenties in Baden-Württemberg since the year 2000. This demographic change poses a challenge for politics and the society.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa



The population in Baden-Württemberg grew rapidly in the past: there were around 4.1 million people living in the southwest of Germany at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, by the end of 1952 this figure had already grown to 6.6 million – and today we have around 10.7 million. Women are in a slight majority with 50.9 percent of the population. Whether and to what extent the population will grow in future will

depend primarily on the number of immigrants. The excess of births over deaths only accounts for around ten percent of the growth in population. It is very likely that the growth in population will slow down over the coming years. The population figure is expected to drop in the long term up to the year 2050.

## Ageing population

Constantly low birth rates and an increasing life expectancy in the entire industrialised world have meant that the population is getting older. The former pyramidal age pattern has changed drastically: the erstwhile strong basis of the youngest population stratum has become increasingly narrower and moved

upwards. There already are clear signs of this demographic change in Baden-Württemberg although this can still boast the youngest population in an inner-German comparison. Since the year 2000, there have for the first time been more over sixties than under twenties. While the average age in Baden-Württemberg in 1950 was around 34, the average age of the population in 2000 was already around forty. By the year 2050 this will have risen to around fifty.

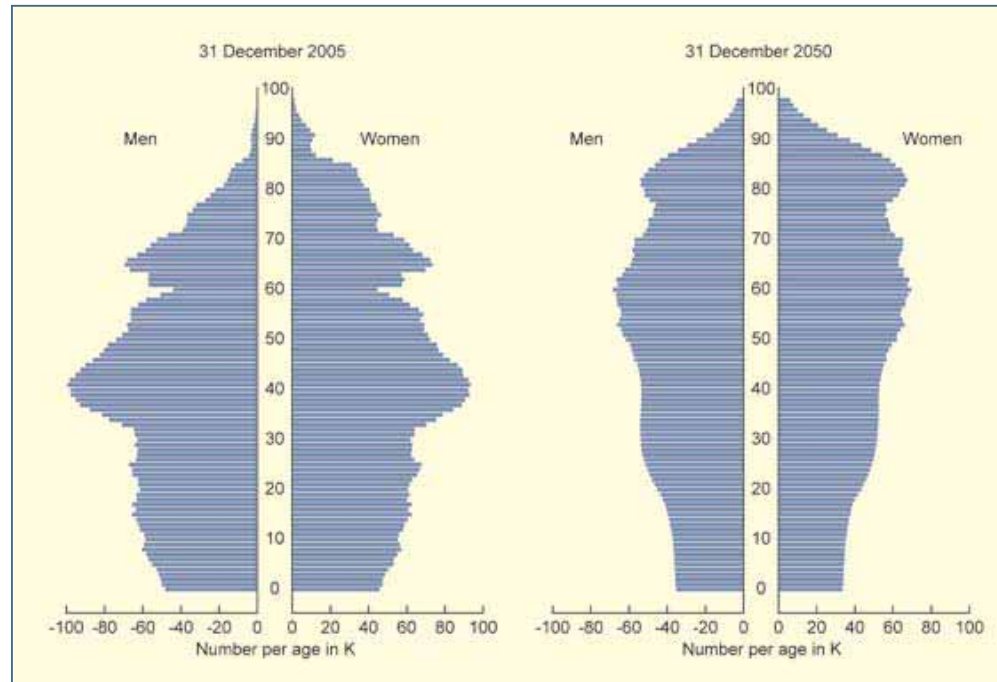
The population is ageing at both the bottom and the top: on the one hand the up-and-coming age groups are smaller than their parents' generation, today's 30- to 40-year olds. This means that in future there will be much fewer potential mothers and fathers than today. The base of the age structure will thus become even narrower. On the other hand, the baby boomers from the 1960ies will start entering retiring age as of around 2025. The longer life expectancy will further increase their share of the population.

This population ageing affects the entire state although there are some regional differences. Over the past thirty years, there has been an above-average increase in the share of older people, particularly in most large towns and cities in the state, since many families with children have moved from the cities to the surrounding districts. The current regional differences in the age structure will have a decisive effect on the future development of the population. Those municipalities where the share of old people is already very high will suffer the highest drop in population over the next twenty years. In areas where the share of older people is relatively low today, the percentage of this population group will tend to rise at an above-average rate.

The ageing population is a challenge for politics, the economy and society. It necessitates an adjustment of the social security systems and is not least a challenge for local politics. Municipalities that as yet require relatively few age-care facilities on account of their "young" age structure will have to reckon with a sharp rise in demand in future. The

1970ies compared to the other Federal States. Women in Saarland, for example, and men in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, live two years less on average.

There are, however, some astounding differences within the state. There is a difference of around two to three years between



Age structure of the population in Baden-Württemberg in 2005 and 2050 assuming a net immigration of 17,000 persons per year.

Source: Staatliches Landesamt Baden-Württemberg

overall infrastructure in municipalities will change in many aspects. The "century of the senior citizens" that lies ahead for our society calls for a timely discussion of the expected problems.

### Higher life expectancy

A very striking aspect of the population development in Baden-Württemberg is the significant rise in the average life expectancy. This has risen by around twelve to fourteen years in under two generations. Thus, a boy born around 1949/51 had an average life expectancy of roughly 65 years, whereas boys born today can expect to live to around 77. The life expectancy of women has risen over the same period from almost 69 to nearly 83 years. "Baden-Württemberg lives longer" – this slogan has held true since the beginning of the

the districts with the highest life expectancy (Tübingen Administrative District and Lake Constance District) and the district with the lowest life expectancy (Urban District of Mannheim) over the two decades roughly spanning 1981 to 2001. Possible reasons are primarily the levels of income and education of the population and the associated ways of and outlooks on life. People in districts with a higher income live longer on average. This also applies for districts with a high share of men and women who have a university or technical college degree.





Baden-Württemberg is a densely populated state. Around 10.7 million people live in the southwest of Germany.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa

### Declining birth rates

Since 2001, Baden-Württemberg has been the only state in Germany where more people are born than die. Admittedly, the plus in births has dropped to an almost negligible figure of around 5,000 people per year. As in other parts of Germany, the “baby bust” in the 1960ies led to a significant and lasting drop in the number of births. The birth rate in Baden-Württemberg today is 1.36 children per woman and is thus only slightly higher than for the whole of Germany, namely 1.34 children per woman. Both figures are a far cry from the quota of 2.1 children per woman which is needed for a stable population figure. Unlike large areas of Germany where the population shrinkage has already become a reality, the population continues to grow in Baden-Württemberg. But this is due almost solely to immigration. More than half the immigrants to Baden-Württem-

berg come from the rest of Germany, primarily from the federal states in the east. The rest are citizens of other nations.

### Immigration

There are currently around 1.3 million citizens of a foreign nationality living in Baden-Württemberg. Their share of the overall population is thus around twelve percent. The influx of foreign citizens, though also their starting a family – the birth rate among foreign women was initially much higher than among German women – accounted for a considerable proportion of the rise in the state’s population. Considering both factors, around one third of the overall growth in the population since 1952 is due to foreign fellow citizens.

The waves of immigration can be split into various phases. In the years following the Second World War, it was mainly displaced persons, expellees and refugees who came to the Southwest. In 1950, these amounted to 862,000 people or 13.5 percent of the total population at that time. The economic boom (“Wirtschaftswunder”) in the middle of the

1950ies saw the start of the immigration of migrant workers from Italy, followed mainly by those from Yugoslavia, Spain and Turkey. A new phase of immigration broke out at the end of the 1980ies: these were repatriates of German origin – at first mainly from Rumania and Poland, and then above all from the former Soviet Union – as well as asylum-seekers and civil war refugees from former Yugoslavia. This wave of immigration reached its height between 1989 and 1992 when around 470,000 people arrived in Baden-Württemberg.

Lifelong learning is the key to an ageing society. The days of massive early retirement appear to be past. The experience of older employees is once again in demand.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa



The number of immigrants to Baden-Württemberg from abroad has dropped significantly since the middle of the 1990ies: the number of repatriates has fallen hugely, many civil war refugees from former Yugoslavia have returned to their home countries. Nevertheless, Baden-Württemberg has the highest share of foreigners amongst the German states (excluding Berlin, Bremen and Hamburg).

Most migrants in the state originally came from Turkey. The second largest group are Italians, followed by people from former Yugoslavia,

Croatia and Greece. The on the whole declining number of foreigners is also due to the temporary rise in the number of naturalisations. Since the amendment to the citizenship law in the year 2000, around 116,000 persons in Baden-Württemberg have been given German citizenship. The number of naturalisations is now declining again.

The number and share of foreigners who have decided to stay in Germany or Baden-Württemberg for a longer period or permanently has risen significantly over the past three decades. Today, almost seventy percent of foreigners have been living here for more than ten years. Almost fifty percent of foreigners living in the state have spent their entire or majority of their life in Germany. A more exact picture of the extent of the integration requirement is provided by the figures for people with an immigrant background. These include not only foreigners born in Germany and those who have moved to the state but also persons with German nationality, in other words repatriates of German origin, nationalised persons as well as the children of those repatriates and nationalised citizens. A quarter of all persons in Baden-Württemberg or 2.7 million people have such an immigrant background. The state is once again far above the national average of 19 percent and takes first place amongst the federal states (except Berlin, Bremen and Hamburg). Forty percent of the population in the urban district of Stuttgart have an immigrant background. The shares in Hamburg (27 %) or Berlin (23 %) are much lower.

The share of people with an immigrant background is much higher amongst younger age groups than in the middle to older age groups. A successful school or occupational integration plays an important role here. Although foreign youths have a much better level of education today than the older generation of foreigners, much fewer still achieve a higher level of education compared to Germans of the same age. The level of occupational education of young people with an immigrant background similarly remains below that of Germans of the same age with no immigrant background. The unemployment rate for migrants of around



Almost 1.3 million people with a foreign passport live in Baden-Württemberg. The state thus has the highest share of foreigners amongst the German federal states (except Berlin, Bremen and Hamburg). Language and integration courses make it easier for natives and immigrants to live together.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa

13 percent is also much higher than that of persons without an immigrant background (approx. 5 %).

### The spatial distribution of the population

The differences in size between municipalities in the state are considerable. Although the municipal reform at the beginning of the 1970ies cut the number of municipalities to around one third, more than eighty of the 1,108 municipalities in the state still have less than 1,000 inhabitants. On the other hand, nine towns and cities in Baden-Württemberg are amongst the major German cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants. These are led by

the state capital Stuttgart with 593,000 inhabitants, followed by Mannheim (308,000) and Karlsruhe (285,000). Almost one out of every five people in Baden-Württemberg lives in a big city. But the majority of people in Baden-Württemberg – almost sixty percent – live in one of the around 500 municipalities with between 5,000 and 50,000 inhabitants.

By far the most densely populated areas are the industrial urban centres in the state, primarily the Stuttgart region. This is followed by the regions of the Middle Upper Rhine and Lower Neckar. The fewest inhabitants per square kilometre can be found in the regions of Heilbronn-Franken, Lake Constance-Upper Swabia and Danube-Iller. While on average 730 persons live in each square kilometre of the Stuttgart region, this figure drops to only around 170 in the Danube-Iller region. There are around 300 people per square kilometre on average in the state, putting Baden-Württemberg in fifth place in an inner-German comparison.



### Cultural diversity

Baden-Württemberg is a multi-cultural state and home to people from almost 200 countries around the world. The culture of the state is correspondingly rich and diversified. It is not just the different mother tongues of the immigrants that give Baden-Württemberg such a colourful mixture of languages; but above all

The development of the three main dialects spoken in Baden-Württemberg, namely Franconian, Swabian and Alemannic German, can be traced back to the settlement waves of the Migration Period. This is why the popular names for the regional dialects are the same as the names of the tribes or their parts.

Map: [www.geografik.net](http://www.geografik.net)

the different indigenous dialects used by the inhabitants of the "Ländle". Around a dozen regional dialects are spoken in Baden-Württemberg. This sometimes leads to problems of comprehension, as can be seen with the word "potatoes", for example: In Rottenburg, Nagold or Freudenstadt they are called "Grom-bira", in Künzelsau "Äbirn", "Jardepfel" in Balingen, people in Waldshut call them "Härd-

öpfel” and in Ravensburg they are referred to as “Bodabira”. Village and regional languages are alive and well in Baden-Württemberg, having braved the recurrent waves of public enthusiasm for dialects. Neither television with its “smoothed” language nor the mobility of modern society or the disappearance of rural ways of life has seriously endangered the dialects. The close ties between settlement history and political development can be easily traced to the history of regional languages and the development of dialects in Baden-Württemberg.

Baden-Württemberg is a highly industrialised state. “Laptop and Bollenhut” (A “Bollenhut” is a type of hat worn by women in the three Black Forest villages of Gutach, Wolfach-Kirnbach and Hornberg-Reichenbach. It has 11 balls of wool arranged in the form of a cross.) – the slogan stands for the link between modernity and tradition. Traditions, folk culture and popular religious practices have survived despite – or perhaps because of – globalisation. Traditional celebrations, folk music and costumes play an important role in the cultural and social life of people. They express their regional identity in their dialect, their myths and legends, their celebrations and customs.

The extraordinary cultural landscape in the Southwest is the product of a centuries-old exchange between the homeland and far away, between what is one’s own and what belongs to strangers. Traditions and customs thus shape the cultural memory of the land and are part of everyday life. Preserving local history thus means preserving the diverse cultural landscape. But in rural areas in particular it also serves to preserve the landscape and nature. The Baden-Württemberg Heritage Days are held at a different location each year and focus on the broad diversity of the state’s culture.



The “Rottweiler Narrensprung” (A famous carnival or “Fasnet” procession in the town of Rottweil that takes place on Shrove Tuesday.) with over 3,000 participating “Narrenkleidle” (Persons dressed in costumes taking part in the procession through the town, many wearing wooden masks.) is one of the annual highlights in the Swabian-Alemannic Fasnet or carnival.

Photo: Manfred Grohe

Hours of painstaking manual work goes into making the Bollenhut with its accompanying traditional Black Forest costume: the red Bollenhut may only be worn by girls for the first time at their confirmation. The black Bollenhut is worn by married women on feast day, during processions and traditional customs.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa



# ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL PARTIES

“State authority is derived from the people.”  
Suffrage is a fundamental civil right that has been fought for  
and secured over centuries.

Foto: picture-alliance / dpa



Article 25 of the constitution of Baden-Württemberg clearly states that “state authority is derived from the people.” This state authority is exercised in elections and ballots and through specific legislative, executive and judicial bodies. Parliaments on various political decision-making levels are the democratically elected representatives of the people for a set period. The voters decide who is to represent

them every five years in local, parliamentary and European elections. The German Bundestag is elected every four years.

Democracy is founded on a basic social and political consensus: the minority accepts the decisions of the majority, the majority affords the minority protection. Elections are at the heart of the democratic process and serve a number

of functions: firstly, a democratic choice is made. This legitimates the political protagonists and their decisions. Elections create political majorities – an important precondition for political stability. Elections also bring about a choice of different political programmes and policies. They help integrate different ideals, opinions and interests in political decisions. The political decision-making centres there-

fore also reflect social pluralism. Representatives are elected for a set period. Elections are thus an effective instrument of control over mandate holders and policy makers.

### Electoral principles

The universal, direct, free, equal and secret right to vote as stipulated in Art. 28 and Art. 38 of the German Basic Law for the election of all parliaments, is the basic prerequisite for any democracy. Suffrage is a fundamental civil right that had to be fought for and secured over centuries. The electoral principles mean:

**universal:**

every citizen, male or female, can vote, irrespective of their religion, gender, income or education;

**direct:**

the citizens elect the representatives directly by casting their vote for a candidate in the election;

**free:**

every person can exercise their right to vote without any state or private influence;

**equal:**

each elector has the same number of votes. Each vote has the same value and standing. Each candidate and party has an equal chance;

**secret:**

each elector is entitled to absolute privacy when casting their vote.

### Voter participation

The state constitution emphasises elections and ballots as the central democratic event in Art. 26 Para. 3: “The exercise of suffrage and the right to vote is a civic duty.” Nevertheless, there is no compulsory voting such as exists in Belgium. The call to participate in political decision-making processes by voting has met with an increasingly low response over the past years. Voter participation has dropped steadily and reached a historic low of 53.4 percent for the elections to the Landtag (state parliament) in 2006. In the year 2001, it was still around 62.6 percent. Despite this obvious decline, the overall balance for elections to the Landtag is still somewhat better than for local elections or elections to the European Parliament. Only 43.0 percent of eligible voters exercised their right to vote at the 2004 European elections, and only 52.0 percent at the 2004 local elections. Up to now, only the elections to the Bundestag (78.7 % in 2005) attracted more voters to the ballot boxes.

There are many reasons for this trend. This development may document a general decline in interest in political decisions. The deliberate refusal to vote could also be interpreted as a protest against or lack of enthusiasm for politics. Whatever the reason, one thing is clear: abstaining from voting clearly has an influence on the outcome of the election. This means that nonvoters not only surrender their chance to influence politics, they may even help precisely those groups whom they do not want to support by not voting.

If one sees the drop in voter participation as evidence, it has to be concluded that topics related to state policy and elections to the Landtag itself are increasingly unable to motivate voters. This is particularly true of first-time and younger voters. In 2006, only 33 percent of eligible voters under 30 cast their vote. The clearest drop in voter participation, however, was amongst the 45 to 59 year olds, namely 9.2 percent.

State policy is becoming increasingly swamped by Federal and European topics. This mixture often also dominates the arguments in elec-

tion campaigns. This interweavement of the various political levels means that the population is finding it more and more difficult to identify which institutions and parties bear the responsibility for which tasks and decisions. If decision-making processes and responsibilities are not transparent, people often lose sight of the ways in which they can influence politics. This may be a further reason why a lot of voters have turned their backs on the ballot boxes. A reform of the German Federal system is thus trying to create more transparency for citizens.

### Local elections: elections to municipal, town and district councils

Almost 20,000 seats are up for grabs every five years in local elections in the more than 1,100 municipalities of Baden-Württemberg. There are almost 2,300 seats in district councils in the 35 administrative districts. Not forgetting elections to community councils in 440 municipalities for around 13,000 seats in 1,700 dependent municipalities. 52.0 percent of eligible voters exercised their right to vote on 13 June 2004. Foreigners from EU countries are also entitled to vote in local elections.

#### Elections “à la carte”

At first sight, Baden-Württemberg appears to have quite a complicated electoral law for municipal and district councils with the possibility of accumulating votes and transferring candidates from one list to another – or to use the technical terms: with the possibility of aggregation and vote-splitting. The electoral system thus displays an exceptional permeability for the wishes and ideas of the voters. The electoral system used is proportional representation on the basis of free lists submitted by the parties and voter’s associations for the constituency. Each eligible voter has the same number of votes as municipal officers to be elected. The number of municipal or town council members is governed by law and is between eight and sixty depending on the size of the municipality – irrespective of any additional “Überhangmandat” (Constituency seats which a party obtains over and above the seats to which it is entitled on the basis of the second votes cast for it.).

## LOCAL ELECTIONS 2004

	Municipal council elections		District council elections	
	Number	%	Number	%
Eligible voters	7,754 m.		6,416	
Voters	4,035 m.	52.0	3,405	53.1
Void voting papers	139,760	3.5	130,644	3.8
Elected councils	19,353		2,283	
of which:				
Acc. to majority vote	750		–	–
Acc. to proportional vote	18,603		2,283	
of which:				
CDU	5,717	30.7	930	40.7
SPD	2,632	14.1	415	18.2
Grüne	525	2.8	202	8.8
FDP	254	1.4	119	5.2
Other parties	35	0.2	32	1.4
Joint nominations	1,052	5.7	38	1.7
Voter's associations	8,388	45.1	547	24.0

Source: Statistisches Landesamt Baden-Württemberg

Voters can opt for the easy alternative on election day and simply put an unmarked ballot paper into the ballot box. Each candidate on the list then receives one vote each. But voters can also aggregate or split votes or combine both of these methods. Aggregation means that one candidate can be given up to three votes. Vote-splitting means that the voter can compile candidates from various lists into his or her “Personal Municipal Council”. But this can have its pitfalls – especially if a number of municipal councils have to be elected. Just one vote too many means that the complete vote is void. Nevertheless, the number of incorrectly completed ballot papers in local elections is relatively low in view of the somewhat confusing electoral system.

When calculating the mandates, the number of seats for each nomination is initially determined on the total votes cast for the listed candidates according to the principle of proportional representation (d’Hondt method). The seats are then distributed amongst the candidates on the respective lists according to the number of votes they have won. If a municipality consists of separate districts, the standing orders of a municipality may determine that the municipal council must include

representatives of these districts according to a certain ratio (“false partial district election”). The municipal councils, however, are elected by all voters in the entire municipality. In municipalities with a false partial district election, a number of further sources of error have to be avoided. Suffrage, eligibility and election periods in the district council elections are based on the regulations of the local elections act of the state of Baden-Württemberg. The election regulations are contained in the district rules of the state of Baden-Württemberg.

### Local elections abide by their own laws

The main difference between local and other elections is that they practice the personal mandate principle in its purest form. The choice is usually based on the candidate and not the party. Voters tend to elect people they know well and who are rooted in the community. This is particularly true in small towns and municipalities. Local businessmen and chairmen of larger clubs or associations have a good chance of getting elected. The “pure” party politician is less in demand, a fact that is reflected in the results of local elections: in Baden-Württemberg there is a preponderance of candidates and lists who do not toe the party line. Only rarely does the CDU succeed in

relegating free voter’s associations to second place in elections to municipal councils. The personality element is also decisive in elections to district councils. The clearest indication of this is the strong position of mayors in district councils. A further peculiarity of the local administrative system in Baden-Württemberg is that the mayor is not elected at the same time in local elections but in separate elections as a direct decision by the voters.

The independent voter’s associations were once again able to affirm their strong position in Baden-Württemberg in the local elections on 13 June, 2004. They are particularly dominant in small municipalities. The big political parties usually come off much worse in local elections than in elections to the Landtag or Bundestag.

## Elections to the Landtag in Baden-Württemberg

Every German citizen over 18 years of age who has had his or her principle place of residence or centre of vital interests in the state for at least three months can vote for and be elected to the Landtag in Baden-Württemberg. This election has been held every five years since 1996 (previously four years) and is very simple for voters: they have only one vote and elect a candidate nominated by the parties in their constituency. There are no state lists as there are in elections to the Bundestag.

### The overriding principle: proportional representation

The way in which the seats are determined for the individual parties is as complicated as the election is simple. The electoral system is a combination of proportional representation and a “Persönlichkeitswahl” or personal mandate (electoral system in which a vote is cast for a candidate rather than a political party): the seats won by the parties in the Landtag depend on the proportion of votes won by the parties in the state (proportional representation). These seats are distributed amongst the individual candidates according to the votes these have won in their constituency (personal mandate). There are only constituency candidates. Each candidate thus has to stand

for election in one of the 70 constituencies in the state.

120 seats are distributed amongst the parties proportional to the total number of votes they receive in the state. The votes cast for all of their constituency candidates throughout the state are then added to these for each party. The seats to which the individual parties are then entitled are divided amongst the four administrative districts in the state proportionate to the number of votes received by the candidates within a party in the individual administrative districts. Only those parties will be considered who have won at least five percent of the votes at state level (five percent clause).

**“First” and “second” seats**

It then has to be determined which seats won by a party in an administrative district fall to which candidates. The first choice is all those

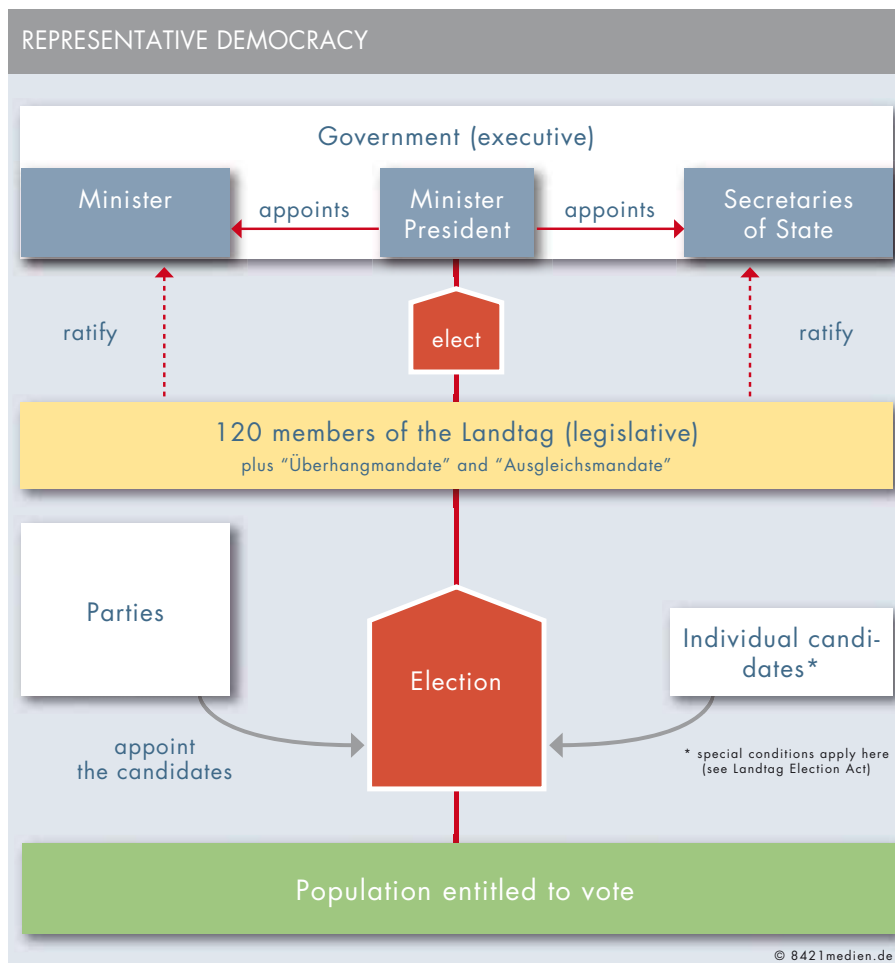
candidates who have won a so-called first or direct seat in their constituency with a simple majority. The remaining seats for each party go to those constituency candidates in the party who received the highest number of votes in the administrative district proportionate to the other constituency candidates in their own party without winning a direct seat. These are called second seats. The total number of direct seats on a state level is the same as the number of constituencies, namely seventy. At least fifty further seats are awarded as second seats.

**“Überhangmandate” and “Ausgleichsmandate”**

In some cases a party in an administrative district may win more first seats (direct seats) than the number it is entitled to according to the total proportion of votes. It keeps these additional seats as so-called “Überhangmandate”

View of the plenum: the citizens of Baden-Württemberg elect their members of parliament to the Landtag in Stuttgart every five years.

Photo: Baden-Württemberg Landtag



(excess seats). If the number of these “Überhangmandate” contravenes the proportionate distribution of seats amongst the parties on a state level, the other parties are awarded “Ausgleichsmandate” (compensatory seats). Thus, the total number of members of the Landtag can exceed 120. The current Landtag (2006–2011), for example, has 139 members.

**The 2006 Landtag election**

The 14<sup>th</sup> Landtag was elected in Baden-Württemberg on 26 March – with the lowest ever turnout to date. Only 53.4 percent of the around 7.6 million eligible voters cast their vote. 19 parties were admitted to the election; 651 candidates could be elected.

The 2006 Landtag election ratified the Minister President Günther H. Oettinger. He had already been elected as the successor to Erwin Teufel, the former head of the government, by the Landtag on 21 April, 2005, having defeated his rival Annette Schavan as the top candidate in the first ever poll amongst members of the CDU.

The CDU only lost a few votes in the 2006 Landtag election, winning 44.2 percent of the votes (– 0.6 %). This was their second-best re-



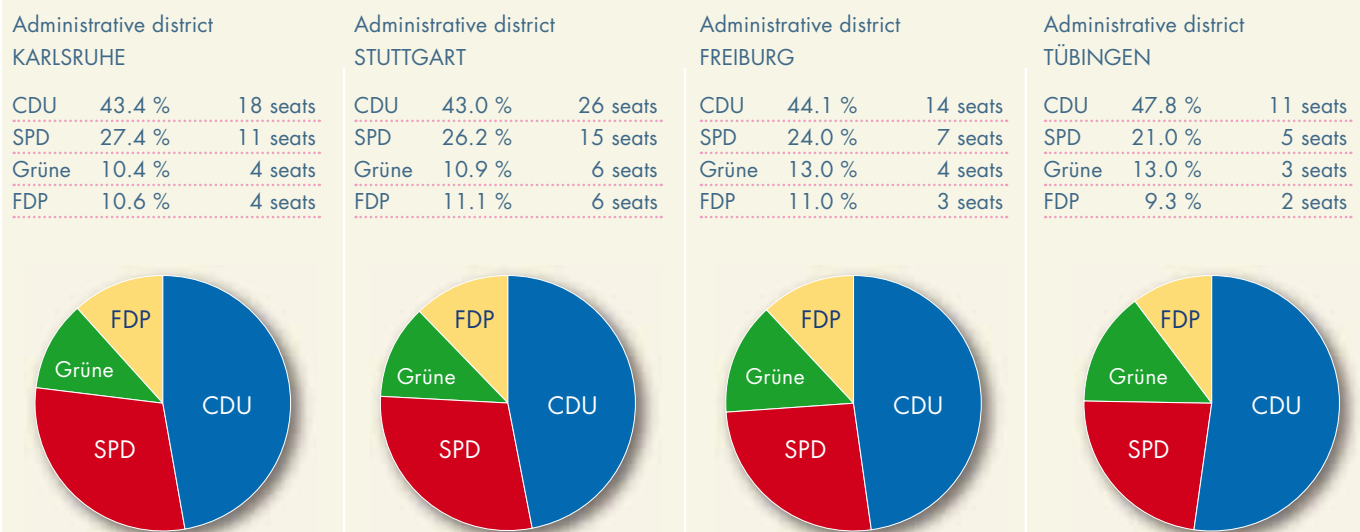


sult since 1992 and was only just short of an absolute majority of seats in the parliament. This meant a continuation of the coalition between CDU and FDP. The SPD, on the other hand, with its contender Ute Vogt, received only 25.2 percent of the votes (– 8.1 %), their second-lowest result ever in a Landtag election. The FDP won 10.7 percent of the votes (+ 2.6 %) and the Greens (“Die Grünen”) also gained more power. With an increase of 4.0 percent, it won 11.7 percent of the votes and confirmed its position as the third-strongest political party in the state.

The party strongholds remained relatively stable. The CDU kept its firm grip on rural areas and also won an above-average number of votes in predominantly Catholic regions. The SPD losses were lower in towns and constituencies with a high population density than on average throughout the state. This was also true of constituencies with a high unemployment rate or a high share of employees in service industries. The Greens achieved above-average figures in areas with a high share of university graduates, in other words university

2006 Landtag election in Baden-Württemberg: the parties campaign with their top candidates and with topics. The economy, education, families and the environment play a pivotal role in the election campaign.

RESULTS OF THE 2006 LANDTAG ELECTION, distribution of seats according to administrative districts (direct and second seats)



Source: Statistisches Landesamt Baden-Württemberg

© 8421medien.de

towns and cities. They were also a direct rival for the SPD in areas where service industries are well represented. The FDP strongholds lie in Protestant regions and constituencies in the state where the population has a high purchasing power.

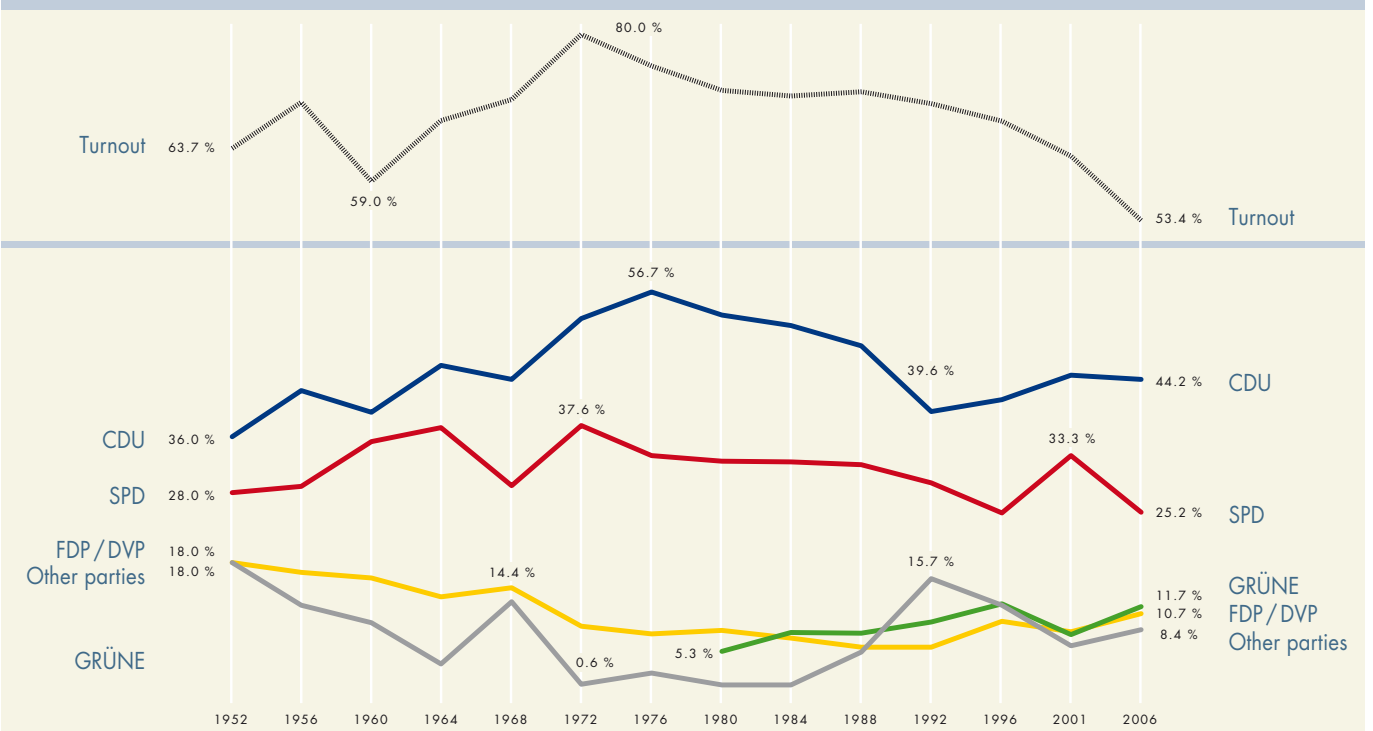


The old and new Minister President of Baden-Württemberg faces the media as the election winner on 26 March, 2006. Günther H. Oettinger, the CDU

top candidate, had to face an election by the people for the first time and came off the clear winner.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

### RESULTS OF THE LANDTAG IN BADEN-WÜRTEMBERG 1952–2006



Source: Statistisches Landesamt Baden-Württemberg

© 8421medien.de



Plenary session of the German Bundestag in the Reichstag in Berlin.

Photo: Deutscher Bundestag / Lichtblick / Achim Melde

## Elections to the German Bundestag

Following the planned defeat of Chancellor Gerhard Schröder in a vote of no confidence in the German Bundestag, early elections to the Bundestag were held on 18 September, 2005. They resulted in the second grand coalition in the history of the Federal Republic of Germany. Contrary to many election forecasts, which predicted a victory for the CDU/CSU and their candidate for Chancellor Angela Merkel, the election result put paid to all of the planned coalition alliances. Neither a bourgeois-liberal coalition between CDU/CSU and FDP nor a red-green alliance of SPD and Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen achieved a parliamentary majority. Following the FDP's refusal to join a so-called "traffic light" coalition of SPD, FDP and the Greens ("Die Grünen"), who would tolerate the parliamentary party of "Die Linke" (The Left), the only option was a grand coalition of CDU/CSU and SPD. The German Bundestag elected Angela Merkel as the first female German Chancellor on 22 November, 2005.

### The 2005 Bundestag election in Baden-Württemberg

The turnout for the Bundestag election in Baden-Württemberg of 78.7 percent was slightly higher than the national average (77.7 %). 76 of the total of 614 members of the Bundestag, including 16 with an "Überhangmandat", come from Baden-Württemberg. They were elected in the 37 constituencies into which the state was divided for the election. The CDU won 33 direct seats and the SPD four. Of the 76 members from Baden-Württemberg, three became members of parliament with an "Überhangmandat". Twenty members are women. The CDU in Baden-Württemberg has 33 seats, the SPD 23, the FDP nine, Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen eight and "Die Linke" three seats in the Bundestag.

The SPD lost around 3.4 percent in the state, slightly below the national average (- 4.3 %), but at 30.1 percent, the result was still the worst since 1990. The CDU won 39.2 percent of the votes and its losses were slightly higher (- 3.6 %) than the national trend (- 3.3 %). Nevertheless, the CDU in Baden-Württemberg achieved the second-best result for the Union nationwide after Bavaria. While the

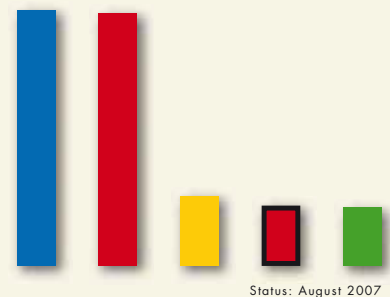
Greens won 10.7 percent of the votes and had to accept slightly higher losses of - 0.7 percent compared to the national average (- 0.4 %), the FDP improved above the national average (2.5 %) with a plus of 4.1 percent to win 11.9 percent of votes.

### The electoral system for the Bundestag: "first" (direct) and "second" (indirect) votes

The electoral system for the German Bundestag is a mixture of a personal mandate and proportional representation. The voters have two votes. Although "second" is usually thought to be something inferior, things are different in an election to the Bundestag, because each vote has its own function. Voters elect a direct candidate in their constituency with their "first" vote (according to a relative "first-past-the-post" system). The "first" vote

### DISTRIBUTION OF SEATS IN THE GERMAN BUNDESTAG

■ CDU / CSU	224 seats
■ SPD	222 seats
■ FDP	61 seats
■ Die Linke	53 seats
■ Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen	51 seats
Independent	2 seats



Source: [www.bundestag.de](http://www.bundestag.de)

© 8421medien.de

thus gives voters the chance to have a direct influence over who is actually elected to the Bundestag. The "second" vote, on the other hand, is decisive for the distribution of seats in the Bundestag. It elects a party whose candidates have been compiled in state lists. The seats are distributed amongst the parties proportionate to the "second" votes.

The constituency seats won by the parties are credited against the seats to which they are entitled from the results of the indirect vote. The party retains direct mandates in the constituencies even if these exceed the total number determined according to the proportion of “second” votes in the state. In this case the overall number of seats for members increases. These seats are called the “Überhangmandate”. “Ausgleichsmandate” are not awarded in elections to the Bundestag.

### Barring clauses

Seats in the Bundestag will only be awarded to parties that overcome the barring clause of five percent of votes cast in the entire country (five percent clause). In addition, the so-called “basic mandate clause” also applies, according to which parties will partake in the distribution of seats according to their share of votes

### Elections to the European parliament

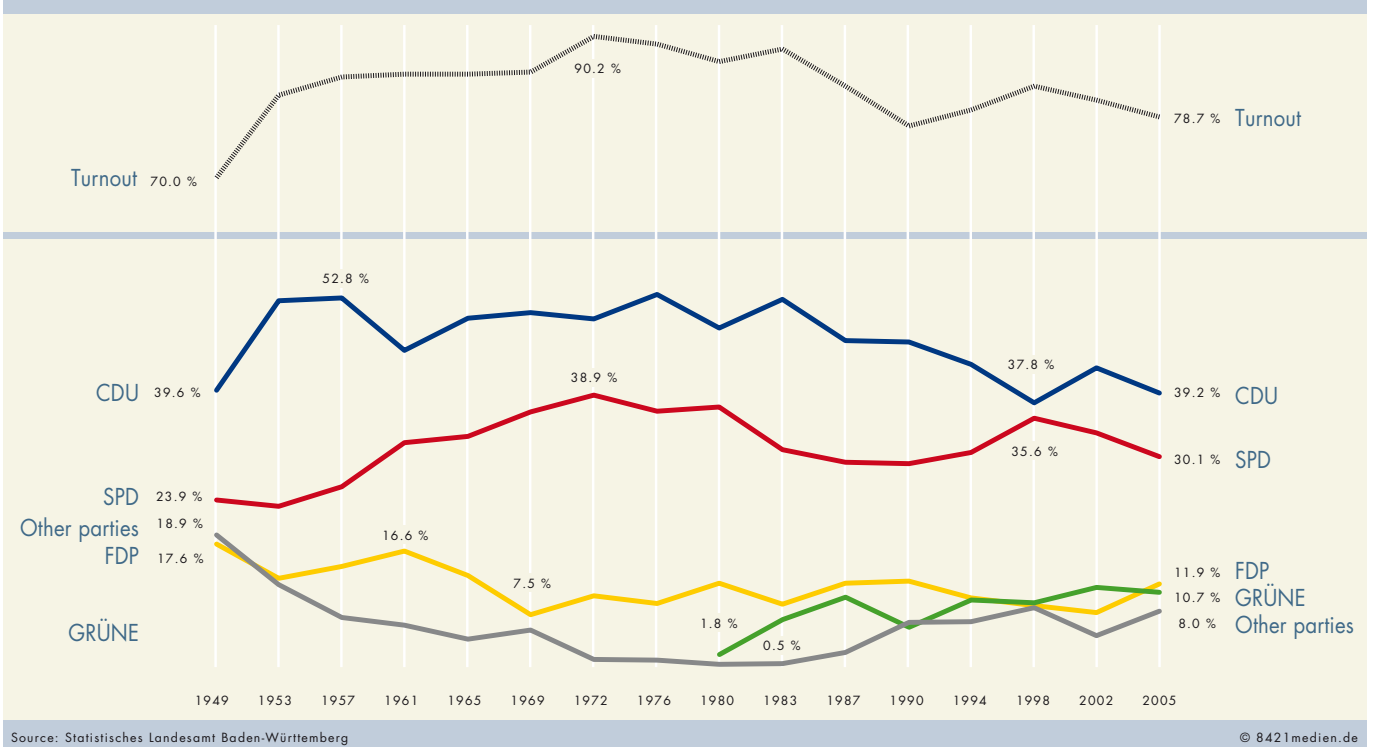
The European parliament is elected every five years. Up to 1979, it consisted of members who were appointed by the national parliaments. There is still no standardised electoral system applicable for all member states; each country has its own election method. The European Election Act (Europawahlgesetz) applies for Germany. It sends 99 members from the total of 785 members in the European Parliament.

The trouble with European elections is that they do not really deal with the question of power because the elected parliament is still not a European government. Although the European Parliament has become more important in decision-making processes within the EU over the past years, elections to the

### Proportional representation through lists

All citizens of the EU over 18 years of age are eligible to vote in European elections in the country where they live. They have one vote. The members of the European Parliament are elected according to a system of simple proportional representation via lists. The entire Federal Republic of Germany is regarded as one constituency. The electoral lists can be submitted as state lists for the individual state or as a joint list for all states (national list). Only the CDU/CSU have exercised their right to draw up state lists as yet in European elections. All other parties have submitted national lists. The 99 European MPs from Germany, including 13 from Baden-Württemberg, are determined according to the Hare-Niemeyer method on the basis of the votes cast for the parties. The five-percent clause also applies as a barring clause here.

RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS TO THE BUNDESTAG IN BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG 1949–2005



in the entire country if they have won at least three direct constituency seats.

European Parliament are still seen as more of a test of public opinion for the government and opposition in Germany.

Compared to 1999, the turnout for the 2004 European elections rose in the state and was over 53.1 percent. The election was once again held together with local elections in the state. The CDU suffered minor, the SPD

serious losses. The Greens made considerable gains and the FDP once again overcame the five percent hurdle with 6.8 percent.

## Political parties

Political parties play a pivotal role in the German political system. Without them, the mediators and link between the state and society, between voters' wishes and political decision-making levels, it would be impossible to form legitimate governments capable of winning a majority.

The parties virtually have a "monopoly" on delegating representatives to parliament. The term "party democracy" underlines this key position. According to the definition in the

### ARTICLE 21,1 BASIC LAW

"Political parties shall participate in the formation of the political will of the people. They may be freely established. Their internal organization must conform to democratic principles. They must publicly account for their assets and for the sources and use of their funds."

Party Law of the Federal Republic of Germany, parties are "... associations of citizens which exert influence permanently or for longer periods of time on the formation of the political will at federal or Land level and participate in the representation of the people in the German Bundestag or regional parliaments (Landtag) provided that they offer sufficient guarantee of the sincerity of their aims in the general character of their circumstances and attendant conditions, particularly with regard to the size and strength of their organisation, their memberships and their conduct in public." (§ 2,1 of the Party Law).

There are four parties in the 14<sup>th</sup> Baden-Württemberg Landtag: the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), the German Social Democratic Party (SPD), Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen and the Free Democratic Party / Democratic People's Party (FDP/DVP).



## German Christian Democratic Union (CDU)

The CDU celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Baden-Württemberg in 2006, even if it originally sprang from the four independent regional associations in North Württemberg, South Württemberg, North Baden and South Baden due to the former zones of occupation. The roots of Christian-Democratic politics in the Southwest go far back. Party leaders and supporters were recruited after the end of the Second World War on the Catholic side from the "Zentrum" (Centre Party), on the Protestant side from the potentials of the Christian Social People's Service and the Farming Union in Württemberg as well as the (national-)liberal traditions of the southwest states.

Unlike (South) Baden, which was part of the French zone of occupation, the liberal practices of the American occupying authorities in North Baden allowed political parties to be formed more quickly. The "Christian Democratic Party" (CDP) was founded as early as 14 August, 1945 in Karlsruhe, followed by the "Christian Social Union" in Heidelberg on 8 November, 1945. These and other local initiatives were brought together in the Christian Democratic Union on 9/10 February 1946 with the foundation of the North Baden Regional Association.

The European Parliament represents almost 500 million people. The parliament meets in Strasbourg, other official abodes are Brussels and Luxemburg. The photo shows the plenum of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, the so-called "Hémicycle" (semicircle), with its 785 members.

Photo: European Parliament

The CDU forerunner "Badische Christlich-Soziale Volkspartei" (BCSV) (Baden Christian Social People's Party) was founded in (South) Baden on 20 December, 1945 with the later State President Leo Wohleb as party leader. The party was not approved, however, until 8 February, 1946. In 1947, it gave itself a new name: "CDU Baden". The controversies surrounding the foundation of the Southwest State proved to be a crucial internal test for the party between 1947 until the mid fifties.

The "Christlich-Soziale Volkspartei" (Christian Social People's Party) was founded in North Württemberg on 25 September, 1945, an interdenominational, Christian socially-oriented party. The CDU was acting in a difficult political environment here. The strong industrialisation, a traditionally high percentage of votes for liberal parties and reservations in the Protestant population against the party, often

perceived as being too “Catholic”, certainly did not make things any easier for the Union.

An application for the approval of the “Christian Democratic Union” was made in South Württemberg-Hohenzollern in January 1946. The first regional conference could be held in Sigmaringen on 23 March, 1946. Political discussions in this predominantly Catholic region were always policy issues more so than in the other parts of the state; this is reflected by the long adherence to denominational schools.

The four independent CDU regional associations only merged to form the Baden-Württemberg regional association in January 1971. The organisational structure at the top of the

### CDU dominant in the state

The long-standing dominance of the CDU is characteristic for the party system in the state. It has been the governing party since 1953 and has always provided the Minister Presidents; initially in coalition cabinets up until 1972 when it won an absolute majority. After twenty years of autarchy, the CDU lost its absolute majority in April 1992. For the second time in the history of the state after 1966–1972, a grand coalition of CDU and SPD was elected to power. The CDU has governed Baden-Württemberg in an alliance with the FDP/DVP since 1996.

### Organisational structure

The CDU regional association is split into four district associations. These in turn comprise



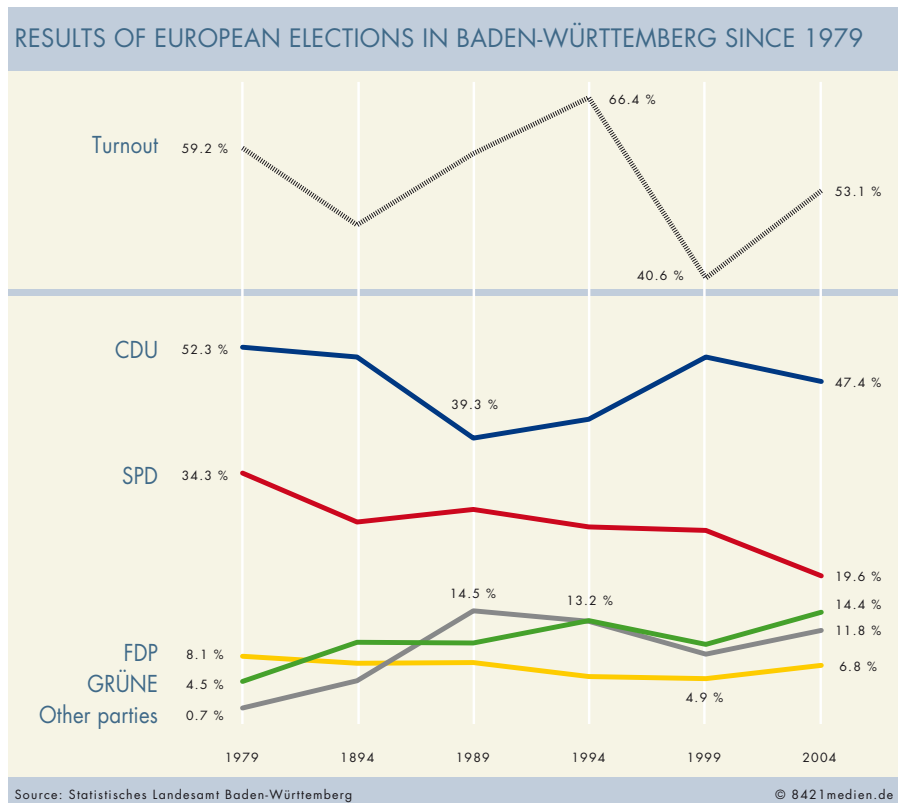
gung” (MIT) (Organisation representing middle class interests), the “Kommunalpolitische Vereinigung” (KPV) (Local affairs union), the Senior Citizens Union (SU), the Union of Displaced Persons and Refugees (UdVF), the Protestant Working Group (EAK), the Ring of Christian-Democratic Students (RCDS) as well as the Schoolchildren’s Union as a special organisation of the Young Union. Six expert committees at a state level do the preliminary work for the regional association. There are also various study groups, advisory committees and special organisations. The CDU in Baden-Württemberg has over 80,000 members. Their average age is around 55; almost forty percent of the members are over sixty. The share of women in the party is just over twenty percent.

### German Social Democratic Party (SPD)

The SPD has the longest tradition of all political parties in Germany. In the course of its almost 150 year history, it has evolved from a class-conscious labour party to a modern popular party. The Social Democrats in the southwest of Germany have been instrumental in this development.

### Early reorganisation construction

The reorganisation of the SPD began on a local level in the summer of 1945. The foundation of the SPD regional association Württemberg-Baden was resolved in Knittlingen on November 1945. The regional associations for (South) Baden and Württemberg-Hohenzollern were founded in 1946 – following fierce disputes with the French occupation authorities. On 31 December, 1946 the SPD already had over 41,000 members in the three states – only around ten percent less than before the collapse of the Weimar Republic in Baden and Württemberg together. The SPD was an unavoidable power factor in all three southwest German states, above all in Württemberg-Baden, from the very outset. While it cooperated in coalition governments in Württemberg-



party was amended by the new association. The four former regional associations became district associations whose borders were adapted to the newly created Administrative Districts of Karlsruhe, Freiburg, Stuttgart and Tübingen.

41 county associations and more than 800 urban, municipal and local associations. There are ten independent unions within the CDU that are closely related to the party: the Young Union (JU) with over 11,000 members, the CDU Social Committees (CDA), The Women’s Union (FU), the “Mittelstandsvereini-



Baden and Württemberg-Hohenzollern up to 1952 under the leaderships of the FDP/DVP and CDU respectively, it left the government of Baden under Leo Wohleb on 4 February, 1948, and joined the opposition as a proponent of the merger of the three states.

### **Foundation of the party district "Southwest"**

A unified party district "Southwest" was founded at the unification party congress on 7/8 June, 1952, in Stuttgart. Since the parties in South Baden and South Württemberg-Hohenzollern had a relatively weak organisation, the SPD Württemberg-Baden assumed the role of leader. Erwin Schoettle became the chairman of the new "Southwest" district. Although the state SPD was only given the name "regional association" at the Mannheim party congress in 1962, the "Southwest" district was de facto the first regional association of social democrats in a German state (except for Berlin, Bremen and Hamburg) since the borders of the party organisation corresponded to those of the new state of Baden-Württemberg. Despite a relatively low membership and election results below the national average, the Baden-Württemberg SPD has always had a significant influence over the national party and its politics. The great movement of personnel between the two levels of state and federation is also very striking.

The Social Democrats formed a coalition with the FDP/DVP and GB/BHE in the first provisional state government (1952–1953) under Reinhold Maier (FDP/DVP). The SPD was also involved in the governments of Gerhard Müller (CDU) and Kurt Georg Kiesinger (CDU). Between 1960 and 1966, it formed the opposition. From 1966 until 1972, it entered into a coalition with the CDU, and from 1972 until 1992, the Social Democrats spent twenty years on the opposition bench in the "Ländle". After being part of the government

in a grand coalition with the CDU between 1992 and 1996, the SPD is once again the opposition party in the state.

### **Structure and organisation**

The SPD regional association is split into 43 district associations, ten urban associations and 900 local associations. The party has around 42,000 members in Baden-Württemberg. The share of women is just over 31 percent. The over sixties are dominant amongst party members with almost forty percent; the average age of members is 57. Over 4,600 members are between the ages of 14 and 35 and thus members of the Young Socialists (Jusos), the party's youth association. The SPD regional association has ten working committees: for employee matters (AfA), the working committee of the Jusos, for senior citizens (60 plus), women (ASF), health care (ASG), the self-employed (AGS) as well as lawyers and solicitors (AsJ). These are joined by the discussion group "Christians and the SPD", the advisory committee for the police force in the SPD Baden-Württemberg ("Blaulicht") and the "Schwusos", Lesbians and Homosexuals in the SPD. The ground work for the party is carried out by commissions, advisory committees and project groups appointed by the party executive committee.

### **Free Democratic Party / Democratic People's Party (FDP/DVP)**

Liberal traditions have shaped the history of Baden and Württemberg since the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Their contribution to the development of liberal and democratic ideas in Germany have been considerable. The region was the birthplace of the "Liberal Southwest". After 1945, the liberal ideal was rekindled and followed on the great tradition of liberalism and democracy in the Southwest.

### **Foundation history**

Liberalism was relatively late in becoming politically active after the war compared to the other parties. The political and administrative separation of the old states and the licensing policies of the occupying powers hindered the refoundation of a liberal party, which traditionally had quite a loose organisational structure. The "Democratic People's Party" Stuttgart



was founded on 18 September, 1945, in the home of the democratic family Haußmann in Stuttgart. The name for the new party chosen by the founders paid homage to the "Democratic People's Party" in Württemberg that had been founded by Julius Haußmann, Carl Mayer and Ludwig Pfau in 1864. This established a tradition to the liberal movement of the 1848/49 revolution. The occupying powers did not approve the foundation of the DVP regional association Württemberg-Baden until 14 December, 1945.

In the French zone of occupation, the foundation of a liberal party met with the overt opposition of the military governor, who favoured a three-party system in which he saw no room for the liberals. The driving forces in (South) Baden were Wilhelm Stahl and Paul Waeldin. On 20 January, 1946, they submitted a request for the approval of a "Democratic Party" though this was not approved by the French until the end of May 1946. The French authorities in Württemberg-Hohenzollern were even more reticent. The DVP was not founded until 17 August, 1946 here.

The party appealed to three different but closely related social classes: it was represented almost exclusively in Protestant parts of the state; it continued to be successful in industrially developed regions, and it was most successful in regions with the highest share of self-employed persons, middle-class businessmen and civil servants.

### **In favour of the Southwest State**

The party had been in favour of the unification of the three states into one Southwest State from the very outset through the politics of Reinhold Maier. The FDP/DVP also provided the first Minister President of the new state of Baden-Württemberg in 1952 with Reinhold Maier.

The “Free Democratic Party” (FDP) of the three Western zones of occupation and Berlin was founded in Heppenheim in December 1948. The party has borne the double-barrelled name FDP/DVP since this time in Württemberg-Baden and then in Baden-Württemberg. At the first elections to the Landtag in 1952, the FDP/DVP won 18 percent of the votes. In 1972, it slid below the ten percent mark (8.9 %) and was the weakest force in the Landtag in terms of numbers. In 1988 and 1992, it only just managed to get into parliament with 5.9 % of the votes in each case.

Following a slight improvement over 1996, the FDP won 8.1 percent of the votes in the 2001 elections to the Landtag making it the third-strongest party in the state. Despite the very good result of 10.7 percent in the 2006 elections to the Landtag, it had to surrender this “third place” in parliament to the Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen again. The FDP still shares responsibility for forming the government together with the CDU.

## § 1 PARTY LAW

### Constitutional Status and Functions of Parties

“Political parties are a component of the free democratic basic order required under the Constitution. Due to their free and continuous participation in the formation of the political will of the people, they perform a public function which is incumbent on them under the Basic Law and which they undertake to fulfil to the best of their ability.”

### Organisational structure

The regional association of the FDP/DVP is split into nine regions, 42 district associations and 320 local associations. Legally independent unions are the Young Liberals with over 1,000 members, Liberal Women, Liberal Initiative Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, the Liberal Senior Citizens as well as the Union of Liberal Local Politicians. The party numbered 7,365 members at the end of 2006. Over 23 percent of these were women. The average age of party members was 51.2. Almost forty percent of members were under the age of 45.

### Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen

A new element appeared on the party-political scene in Baden-Württemberg in 1979: “Die Grünen”. The first state convention, which was simultaneously the founding party congress for “Die Grünen”, was held in Sindelfingen on 30 September, 1979. “Not left or right, but ahead” was the slogan of the ecology party. The founders were a colourful and diverse group of people, as was the case in other states, too, later on. They included members of citizen’s action committees, “mueslis”, teachers and students as well as lone wolves, lateral thinkers and former members of the SPD. “Die Grünen” were a reservoir for very different and in some cases contradictory currents of oppositional and alternative groups and people.

“Ecological, social, grass-roots and nonviolent” were the crucial points of the founding statutes of the Greens. The guiding principle of the movement was “ecological humanism”. Five months after the founding party congress the party already had 3,500 members. In March 1980, they also succeeded in having six members elected to the Baden-Württemberg Landtag. This was the first time that the party was represented in the parliament of a German state (except for Berlin, Bremen and Hamburg). The election success of the Greens was something of a sensation at the time though many people believed it to be nothing more than a flash in the pan. But the Greens in Baden-Württemberg were successful: in nationwide comparisons they always achieved top results in elections. They have a traditionally solid basis in university towns and cities in Baden-Württemberg. They have provided the first “Green” mayor of a large German city in Freiburg since 2002. Constance already had a “Green” mayor in 1996, and Tübingen has also had one since 2006.

Following the fusion of “Die Grünen” with the civil rights movement “Bündnis 90” from the states of the former GDR, the Greens in Baden-Württemberg have also changed their name to Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen. The change from a protest party to a reform party was completed in 2002 with a new party platform “The future



is green”, a change that has been in the offing since they were part of the national coalition government from 1998 to 2005. The focus is on the combination of ecology and economy. In view of the grand coalition in Berlin, the Greens are once again confronted with the task of making their mark on a national level as an opposition party.

“Die Grünen” have had seventeen seats in the Baden-Württemberg Landtag since March 2006, an improvement over their result in the 2001 elections. By winning 11.7 percent of the votes in the entire state, they were able to regain their position as the third-strongest political power ahead of the FDP.

### Members and organisation

“Die Grünen” have around 6,500 members in the state. With a 38-percent share of women, the Greens top the list amongst the state parties. They also have the youngest members with an average age of around 46. The regional association is split into 46 district associations and 270 local associations. The Green Youth is a suborganisation in the party for interested persons up to the age of 28, though party membership is not compulsory. The “Kommunalpolitische Vereinigung” (KPV) advises the “Green” urban, municipal and district councils in the state.

Key political topics are dealt with in a total of ten state working groups (LAGs) in the party. LAGs exist for Christians in the party, on the topic of democracy, law and internal security as well as Europe, women’s politics, health, universities, international affairs, ecology, schools as well as the economy and society. What is more, there are several project groups and forums assigned to the state working groups.



# THE BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG LANDTAG

Transparency and frankness made visible in architecture: the Baden-Württemberg Landtag is the first new parliament building in Europe after the Second World War and was inaugurated in 1961. In the background on the right you can see the “House of Representatives”, which is connected to the Parliament building by a tunnel.

Photo: Baden-Württemberg Landtag



The Baden-Württemberg Landtag has its seat in the state capital Stuttgart. The members are elected for a period of five years. According to the state constitution, they are the “representatives of the entire people” (Art. 27,3 State Constitution). Representing the will of the people in a modern, pluralistic society (representative democracy) calls for democratically legitimised procedures. Actions and decisions

have to be taken for the purpose and in the interests of the general public through laws and state services that regulate large areas of the citizens’ lives. This is carried out according to the principles of majority and minority, of conviction and compromise. Parliamentary majorities legitimise the political decisions and the exercise of state power. They create a basis for stable governments.

## **A loss of competence for state parliaments and their re-identification**

The falling turnout for elections to the Landtag indicates a certain loss of significance of the state parliament. Public opinion also pays less attention to state politics than to federal politics. State parliaments have had to concede more

Its existence is inviolable. Even a two-thirds majority in the German Bundestag, the majority that is otherwise necessary for a change of the constitution, cannot abolish the federal system.

### Legislative function

State legislation is the most important task

vidual states to resolve their own laws which may differ from federal regulations.

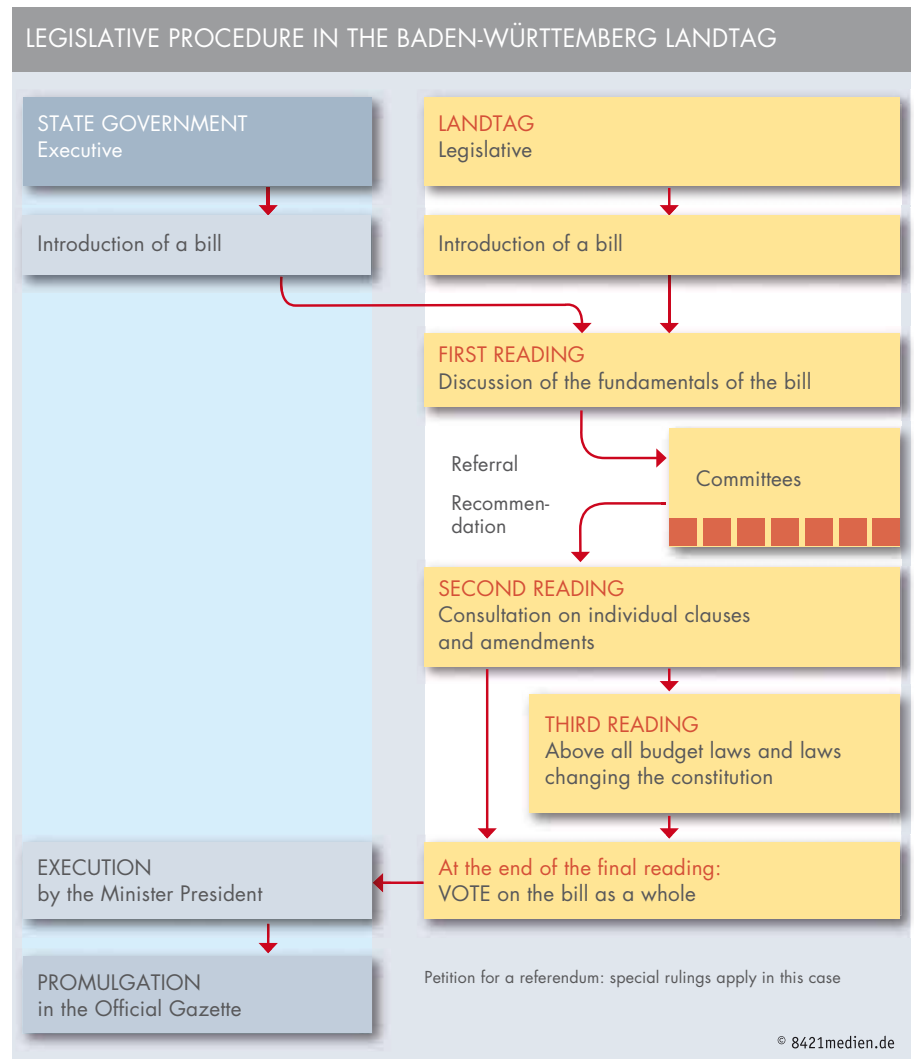
The significance of the Landtag as a legislative body can in principle be regarded as having been strengthened. Nevertheless, the main initiative for new laws will continue to come from the state government. Although a parlia-

and more scope for their own policy-making powers and legislative competence to political entities on a federal and also increasingly European level. Although representatives of the state parliaments can use the Bundesrat as a constitutional body to bring the political goals of their states into legislation, state politics has nevertheless become less transparent and vaguer in view of the increasing complexity of federal, European and state policy competences. It is hard for citizens to identify which institutions, which political decision-making levels or which party have had their fingers in the pie and who bears responsibility.

One of the goals of the reform of the federal system in Germany, which has been developed since 2003 by the “Commission for the modernisation of the German federal organisation”, was to simplify and accelerate the federal legislative process by reducing the number of laws that had to be ratified by the states. It was also a reaction to the dwindling importance of the state parliaments, whose primary motive is to strengthen the ways in which they can help shape the future of the states. This opens up the chance to put a sharper focus on state-politics and make the decisions taken on a state-policy level more transparent for citizens.

### Rights and functions of the Landtag

The Landtag is by no means simply a “miniature Bundestag” in which the federal specifications or resolutions of the conferences of European ministers are transferred to state law. The Basic Law of Germany guarantees state parliaments duties which grant them an independent profile with special rights and functions. The federal organisation of the Federal Republic of Germany is an imperative provision in Art. 20 of the Basic Law.



of the Landtag. Through the budget law, the so-called “Royal law”, the Landtag resolves the state budget and thus how public funds are to be spent. In the course of the reform of the federal system, the states were granted an extended legislative competence and the exclusive decision-making competence for individual areas such as education policy. The reform also includes the possibility for indi-

mentary party or at least eight members of parliament can introduce a bill into the Landtag, it is normally the state government itself that submits bills to the Landtag for discussion and resolution. It has the necessary infrastructure and corresponding administrative know-how with its ministerial administration structures. The initiatives also include the results of consultations with associations, institutions and

experts. Through their representation in the Bundesrat the state governments already have additional decision-making competences. All of these factors prompt critics to repeatedly warn against weakening the parliaments.

According to the constitution, a bill can also be introduced into the Landtag through a petition for a referendum. In political practice, however, the direct democratic procedures of participation that should emphasise the grass-roots character of the state constitution, have as yet been irrelevant.

**Control function**

Parliamentary democracies are based on the principle of the division of powers. The government (executive) is in principle subject to the control of the overall parliament (legis-



Günther H. Oettinger was elected the new Minister President of Baden-Württemberg on 21 April, 2005. The head of the government was sworn in before the Landtag by its President Peter Straub.

Photo: Baden-Württemberg Landtag

THE COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY

**The parliament’s sharpest instrument of control**

A quarter of the members of parliament or two parliamentary parties can force the Landtag to set up a committee of enquiry to investigate a possible misconduct of the state government or the fields of responsibility which it is assigned. A committee of enquiry has powers of investigation similar to that of a court. These include access to all of the state’s organisations and the right to demand the surrender of files and information from state authorities. Search and seizure warrants can be obtained from courts. Witnesses and experts are under legal obligation to appear; false testimony is liable to prosecution – the same as before a court. However, the persons involved also enjoy special protection through extended rights of refusal to give evidence. The most recent committees of enquiry dealt with “Flowtex”, the Atomic Energy Authority and the role of the state government in the relocation of the Messe Sinsheim.

lative). On the other hand, a successful and stable government relies on the parliamentary majority of the majority or ruling party or parties. The necessity of a control system has become even more important on account of the increase in the significance of the government and administration in legislation. The parliamentary control is exercised in particular by the opposition.

**Election function**

The Minister President is elected in secret ballot by the Landtag with the majority of its members. Unlike the German Bundestag, the Landtag also has an extended right when it comes to the formation of the state government: it ratifies the complete cabinet and individual ministers who are appointed during a legislative period with its majority.

The Landtag also elects the members and president of the State Court of Justice. The Landtag also has to ratify the appointment of the President of the State Accounting Office and the State Appointee for Data Protection.

**Representation and articulation function**

The members of the Landtag represent the entire people according to the constitution. The parliament thus has an articulation and representation function by expressing the will of the people as well as their various opinions and interests. Parliament’s job is to balance and regulate the clashes of interests and conflicts.

**Public relations and debate function**

The plenum is the forum for public political debates and legitimisation. Plenary sessions should not serve to convince political oppo-

nents through arguments – unlike work in the committees. Rather, pending political decisions and the existing different political positions should be presented in public. There is a great difference between the public exchange of blows in debates and the businesslike political work in committees.

**Dialogue with the general public**

The media are often described as the “fourth power”. They should inform the population, shed a critical light on political decisions and decision-makers and thus assume a social control function. Politicians have a duty to publicly substantiate their decisions and obtain the public’s consent for these. Under the auspices of a media democracy, political success thus depends largely on a presence in the media. Anyone who wants to exert political power needs media publicity. This has led to a mutual exchange relationship: politics needs the media as a public platform. The media in turn rely on information from the centres of po-

litical power to attract the necessary attention of an interested public. The Landtag plenum meets in public and is open to media reports. This is its way of contributing to the formation of public opinion.

### The President of the Landtag

The President of the Landtag and his two deputies are elected in a secret ballot by the Landtag for the duration of a legislative period. The President is traditionally a member of the strongest parliamentary party. He manages the business of the Landtag and represents this in external relations. He must exercise his office neutrally, since he represents the entire Landtag. The most important public task of the President is to preside over the meetings of the Landtag. The President is responsible for main-

taining order in these meetings – the symbol for this being a bell. Peter Straub (CDU) has been the President of the Baden-Württemberg Landtag since 1996. The Vice-Presidents of the Landtag are Wolfgang Drexler (SPD) and Christa Vosschulte (CDU).

### The Executive Committee – the political governing body of the parliament

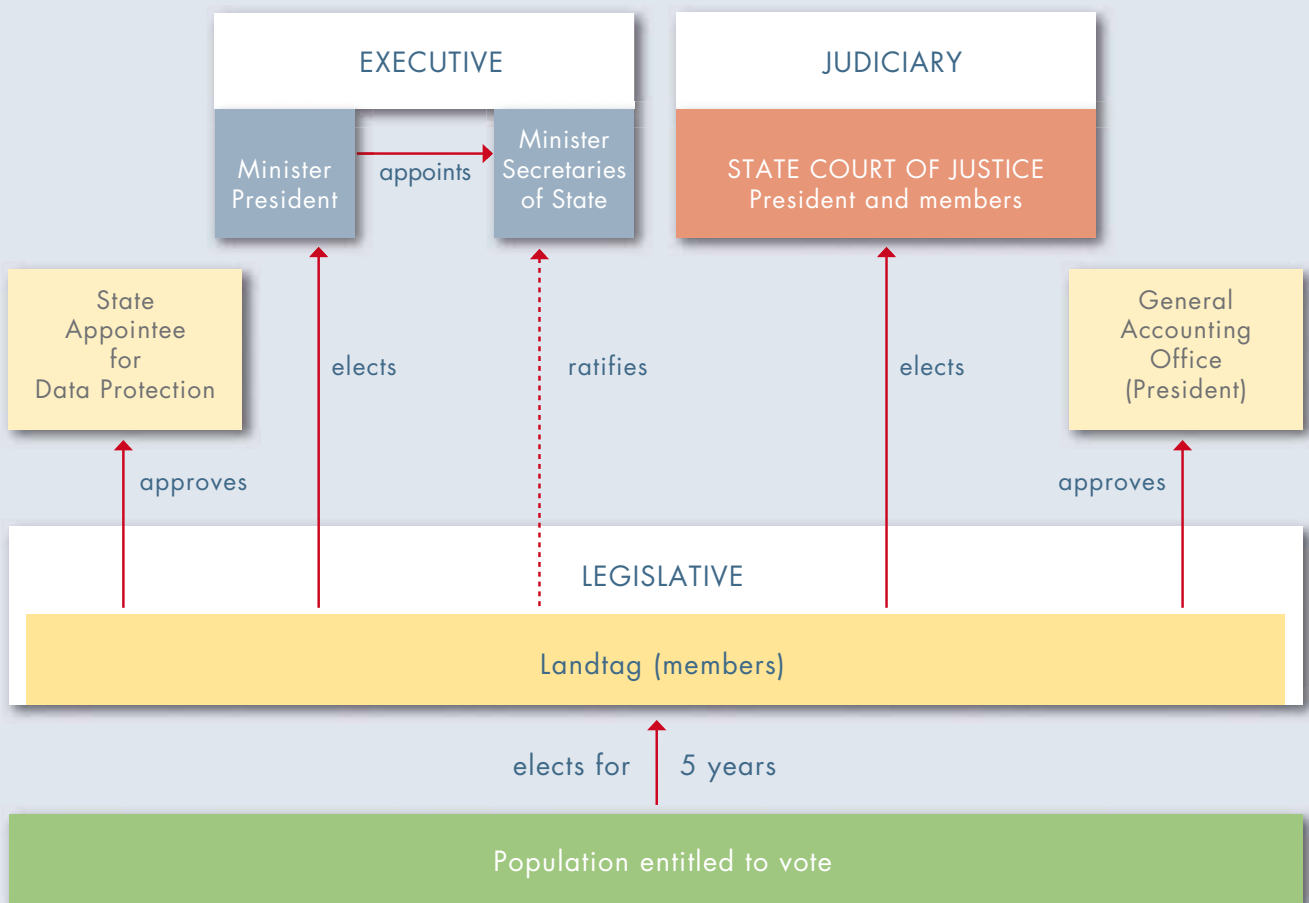
The Executive Committee of the Landtag has 18 members. These are initially the President and his or her two deputies. It also contains the chairpersons and some of the executive board members of the parliamentary parties in the Landtag. The state government is also represented by a Minister. The executive committee is the political governing body of the



The President of the Landtag, Peter Straub.

Photo: Baden-Württemberg Landtag

## THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG



© 8421 medien.de

parliament. It plans and coordinates the entire work of the Landtag. This is where the plans are made for the parliament's work. Its tasks include drawing up the timetable for the parliament, preparing the plenary meetings, determining the agenda with main topics in the meeting, the order of the topics to be dealt with and the debating times. All fundamental questions of relations between the parliament and state government are discussed in the executive committee. The executive committee sometimes has to act as a go-between in controversies within the Landtag and settle disputes on the interpretation of the rules of procedure.

### **The parliamentary parties – the centres of political initiatives**

Members of parliament who belong to the same party join together to form a parliamentary party. The minimum number of persons for a parliamentary party in the Landtag is defined in the rules of procedure for the Baden-Württemberg Landtag as six members of parliament. The grouping of the parliamentary parties is reflected by the seating arrangements in the plenum. The parliamentary parties traditionally sit to the “right” and “left” of the President's chair.

The political position of the members of a party to the pending decisions and debates in the plenum and the various committees is drawn up in the parliamentary parties. A large number of the political initiatives for the work of the parliament originates in the parliamentary parties. The planning and control of parliamentary work is normally based on agreements between the parliamentary parties. Furthermore, the parliamentary parties have the right to suggest or appoint personnel in a number of matters, for example the composition of Landtag committees, who is to be the chairperson of these committees and who is to be elected President and his or her deputies. The chairmen of the parliamentary parties pull the political strings in the Stuttgart Landtag.

The members share the work within the parliamentary parties. Details of the various political



View of the full chamber.

Photo: Baden-Württemberg Landtag

fields are hammered out in the parliamentary party study groups (e.g. the economy, educational policy, agriculture or finances).

The parliamentary parties try to demonstrate political unity in the chamber. The members have to stick and act together if they want to achieve their political goals in parliament. The government relies on the support of the majority parliamentary parties in the Landtag. Parliamentary party discipline is a voluntary duty. The state constitution guarantees members the right to an opinion which may differ from that of the parliamentary party (“free mandate”) and thus in principle offers protection against an obligation to toe the party line. But members are well-advised to think long and hard before they exercise their right to a different opinion, since external dissension can do great harm to the government in the case of the majority parties, though also to the parliamentary party itself and its chairperson. A key job and great challenge for the chairpersons of the parliamentary parties is to create parliamentary party discipline. They have to ensure that the parliamentary party expresses a consistent opinion in votes. This work to convince their

members often calls for some “gentle persuasion”. The chairpersons of the parliamentary parties also represent the interests of their parties towards the President of the Landtag, the other parliamentary parties and the government. They are thus often referred to as the real “directors” of the Landtag.

### **The committees – workshops in the parliament**

Resolutions for the plenum are prepared in the committees. The results of deliberations are submitted to the plenum as proposed resolutions. The committees are the place for detailed consultations by the parliamentary party experts. A committee is a sort of scaled-down Landtag. Each parliamentary party appoints a certain number of members depending on its strength in parliament, i.e. the majority parties also have a majority in each committee.

The Landtag committees only deal with matters which have been assigned to them in individual cases – normally by the plenum. Committees can arrange hearings for their information. Experts, lobbyists or persons concerned can be questioned in these hearings. The focus of committee work is on facts.

Experts meet in a smaller group for discussions that transcend party lines. Up to now the committee meetings, like those of the study groups within the parliamentary parties, have been behind closed doors, primarily to facilitate objective discussions.

The committees are structured to correspond to the individual ministries of the state government. There are currently ten committees in the Landtag: the standing committee, finance committee, economic committee, committee on internal affairs, committee for schools, youth and sport, environment committee, committee on social questions, committee for rural areas and agriculture, committee for science, research and art as well as the European committee. Each committee has 18 members, apart from the finance committee and committee on internal affairs, which have 20 mem-

bers, and the petitions committee with 23 members. There are also committees and panels with special tasks, for example the committees of enquiry or the so-called emergency parliament. The Landtag can also convene a survey committee for important questions and request its advice. In 2006, for example, the survey committee on “Demographic change” completed its work with a report. Apart from the specialist committees there is also a petitions committee in which the plenum decisions on petitions are prepared.

## THE RIGHT OF PETITION

Every person in the state shall have the right individually or jointly with others to address written requests or complaints (petitions) to the representatives of the people regardless of their domicile, nationality and age of consent (Art. 17 GG). Also prisoners and persons who are forcibly housed in institutions have the right of petition. The Landtag is responsible for the petition, provided the request or complaint relates to the scope of work of the state. The Landtag plenum decides on every petition. The Landtag has created the petitions committee to prepare its decisions on petition matters. Numerous citizens continue to exercise their right of petition. During the last, 13<sup>th</sup>, legislative period, around 6,200 petitions were filed, slightly less than the 8,000 in the previous period. The petitions committee has a direct mediatory function between the citizen and state – it is also referred to as the “SOS telephone for citizens”.



Stefan Mappus is head of the biggest parliamentary party in the Landtag, the CDU.

Photo: Baden-Württemberg Landtag



Claus Schmiedel leads the SPD, the biggest opposition party in parliament.

Photo: Baden-Württemberg Landtag



Winfried Kretschmann is the leader of the Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen party.

Photo: Baden-Württemberg Landtag



Dr. Ulrich Noll is the leader of the FDP/DVP parliamentary party in the Stuttgart Landtag.

Photo: Baden-Württemberg Landtag

## The members of parliament

The 14<sup>th</sup> Landtag (2006–2011) in Baden-Württemberg has 139 members. The governing parliamentary parties of the CDU (69 members) and FDP/DVP (15 members) have a parliamentary majority of 84 members. On the opposition side, the SPD has 38 and the Greens have 17 members.

The members have a free mandate. As representatives of the entire population they are not bound by orders and instructions and only submit to their conscience (Art 27,3 State Constitution). Through their acceptance of the vote, they acquire rights of protection, participation and collaboration, all of which are fixed in the state constitution. For example, each member of parliament is entitled to pose questions to the state government: verbally in the question time or in writing as a “small interpellation”. Other rights of participation can only be exercised together with other members of parliament.

## PARTNERSHIPS OF THE LANDTAG

The Baden-Württemberg Landtag maintains a number of independent relationships and partnerships with foreign regional parliaments. Partnerships exist with Vorarlberg in Austria, with the cantons Basel-Country and St. Gallen in Switzerland, the French regions of Alsace and Languedoc-Roussillon, with Wales in Great Britain and a whole number of Italian regions and provinces (Friuli-Venezia Giulia, South Tyrol, Trento).

Intensive contacts also exist with the partner regions of the "Four motors" of Europe: Catalonia, Lombardy, Rhône-Alpes. Partnership contacts are also maintained with Connecticut (USA), Ontario in Canada and the North-Finnish region of Oulu.

The most important of these are:

- Five members of parliament or a parliamentary party can submit an independent application (that does not contain a bill) to the Landtag. The government's statements are normally discussed in the Landtag debates.
- Eight members of parliament or a parliamentary party can submit an application that contains a bill to the Landtag.
- 15 members of parliament or a parliamentary party can submit "major interpellations" to the state government.
- Two parliamentary parties or a quarter of the members can enforce a committee of enquiry.
- The majority of members present can resolve laws.
- The Minister President is elected by the Landtag with the majority of its members.
- Two thirds of the members of parliament can amend the constitution.
- A quarter of the members of the Landtag can apply for a vote of no confidence in the Minister President, though only if a candidate for election as his or her successor is submitted to the Landtag.
- A quarter of the members of parliament can apply for the dismissal of a Minister.

These extensive rights are of course offset by a number of obligations, such as the obligation to participate in the work of the Landtag, to maintain order, to observe the code of conduct and to disclose professional relationships. Nor may members of parliament abuse their position in "mercenary intent". This could otherwise lead to legal action before the State Court of Justice (Art. 42 State Constitution).

A glance in the diary of many members of parliament shows that their work in the Landtag and in the parliamentary parties only accounts for a part of their overall work. Members often spend more of their time in their constituencies, helping and advising people. They are exposed to stress resulting from the expectations of the population and officeholders in their constituency. The wealth of appointments leads to a pressure of time that puts paid to any hopes of normal working hours or a normal weekend. Members of the Baden-Württemberg Landtag are often confronted by an exhausting triple existence: work in parliament, in their constituency and in their profession. They have very little time for their families or private life.

## PARLIAMENTARY REFORM

The parliamentary parties in the Landtag drew up some milestones for a parliamentary reform in July 2007:

### Internal parliamentary reform

In order to make work in the parliament livelier, the rights of the members and the possibilities of the opposition in the plenum should be strengthened. These also include new instruments for the speakers' order: for example, questions can be addressed directly to the government, speakers can be interrupted briefly and are then allowed to respond immediately to the question. Current topics "of fundamental political significance" should take up more time in the Landtag and be able to be discussed at short notice. In addition, debates on a government policy statement should be held immediately following these in future and should always be opened by a speaker from the opposition.

### Independent pension and compensation benefits

As of 2011, the members themselves are responsible for their retirement provisions. They receive 1,500 euros each month as financial aid (as per 2007). The abolition of the state pension scheme is to be compensated by raising taxable indemnifications (diets). The general lump sums for costs and per diem allowances will be combined in a monthly lump sum for expenses (approx. 1,350 euros, as per 2007). In future, the members will only be allowed to claim their actual travelling expenses.

### Irreconcilability of office and mandate (incompatibility)

A strict irreconcilability of office and mandate will be introduced at the beginning of the 16<sup>th</sup> legislative period (from 2016). Active civil serv-

ants, e.g. mayors, county councillors or teachers, can then no longer become a member of parliament.

### Constituency reform

A constituency reform should assimilate the up to now very different sizes of the constituencies. The range of fluctuation should not exceed nor fall below 10 to 15 percent. A change in the system for distribution of the second seats is also planned. The former assignment of seats according to the absolute number of votes will be replaced in 2011 by a procedure whereby the seats are assigned on the basis of the percentage of votes won throughout the state.

## THE COMPOSITION OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT SINCE 1952

Landtag	Period	CDU	SPD	FDP/DVP	KPD	GB/BHE (GDP)	NPD	Grüne	Republikaner	Total
1 <sup>st</sup>	Landtag 1952–1956	50	38	23	4	6				121
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Landtag 1956–1960	56	36	21		7				120
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Landtag 1960–1964	52	44	18		7				121
4 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 1964–1968	59	47	14						120
5 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 1968–1972	60	37	18			12			127
6 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 1972–1976	65	45	10						120
7 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 1976–1980	71	41	9						121
8 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 1980–1984	68	40	10				6		124
9 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 1984–1988	68	41	8				9		126
10 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 1988–1992	66	42	7				10		125
11 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 1992–1996	64	46	8				13	15	146
12 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 1996–2001	69	39	14				19	14	155
13 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 2001–2006	63	45	10				10		128
14 <sup>th</sup>	Landtag 2006–2011	69	38	15				17		139

### Still a male-dominated field

The share of female members of parliament has risen slightly compared to the previous legislative period from 22.6 to 23.7 percent (as per October 2007). Nevertheless, there are still only 33 women amongst the 139 members of the 14<sup>th</sup> Landtag. This is visibly more than thirty years ago – when there were only two women in the Landtag – but the share of female members has stagnated over the past decade. If we look at the individual parliamentary parties, however, we see some very striking differences: the highest share of women can be found amongst “Die Grünen”, namely 41.2 percent. 28.9 percent of SPD members are women, in the FDP/DVP they account for 26.7 percent. The share in the CDU is 15.9 percent.

### Age structure

The average age of the members of parliament is 52.6 years and is the same in all parliamentary parties in the Landtag with only very slight differences. The relatively high average age is not surprising if one considers the long “trial phase” at a municipal level, which is typical for a large number of members. They spend many years gaining experience in the offices and executive committees at lower party levels or in municipal parliaments.

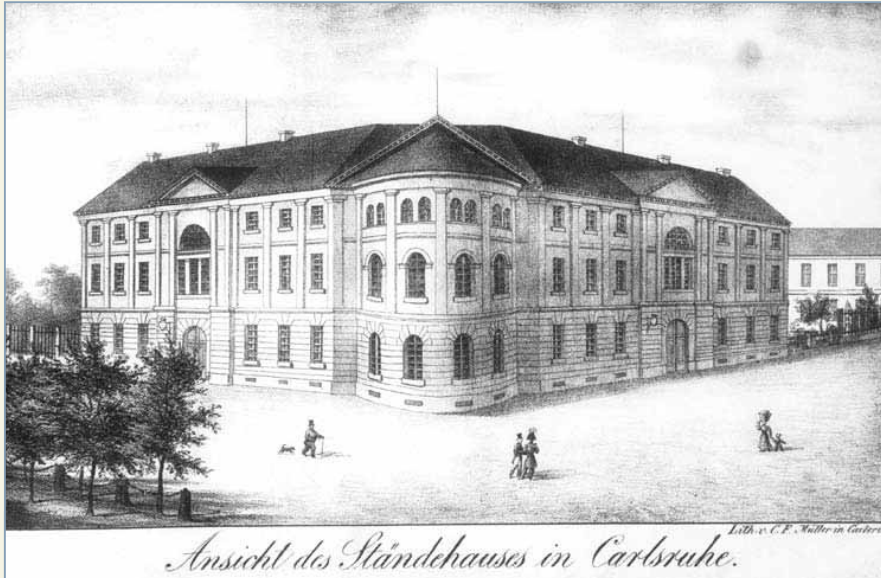
### Professional background

The 14<sup>th</sup> Landtag contains a clear majority of civil servants, namely 41.7 percent (as per October 2007). Amongst these 58 members we find 13 mayors and deputy mayors, two county councillors as well as twelve civil servants or employees of the municipalities and

administrative districts, twelve civil servants on a state level and 16 teachers. The majority of these 58 civil servants are members of the CDU parliamentary party (33 members). The CDU also has 14 members of the government who are represented in the Landtag as members of parliament. 33 percent of the members of parliament are self-employed.

Reservations are sometimes expressed about the high share of civil servants. Every now and then a discussion will flare up as to whether this hampers parliament’s critical and regulatory abilities. On the other hand, it can be argued that parliamentary work profits from the specialist knowledge that these members contribute to the Landtag, e.g. in administration or the education sector.





The "Ständehaus" (house of the estates of the realm) in Karlsruhe was completed in 1882: important stimuli for the development of the democratic and parliamentary system in Germany had been sent out from Landtag in Baden in the "Vormärz". (The Pre-March Era, or Vormärz, is the time period leading up to the failed March 1848 revolution in Germany. Also known as the Age of Metternich, it was a period of a police state and vast censorship.)

Illustration: Generallandesarchiv Karlsruhe

The southwest of Germany can look back over a long tradition of estate and parliamentary life. One of the outstanding documents in the parliamentary history of Southwest Germany is the "Tübinger Vertrag" (Contract of Tübingen) from 1514. From this time on, no Duke could reign without confirming this "Magna Charta" for Old Württemberg, and thus assuring the "estates" their rights.

### Baden, Württemberg and Hohenzollern

The fall of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation in 1806 also saw the demise of all estate constitutions in Southwest Germany. There now only were four states, which were initially ruled with absolute power: the Grand Duchy of Baden, the Kingdom of Württemberg and the two Hohenzollern Principalities. A new

era in the history of the parliament only began after Napoleon had been overthrown.

The history of the southwest German states is also very interesting, since liberal and democratic alternatives to the establishmentarian-authoritarian Prussian model were already practised here in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The constitution of the Grand Duchy of Baden from 1818 was regarded as the most progressive of its age. With its liberal-constitutional character, accompanied by an exemplary local government code, it was one of the main stimuli in creating the identity of the state of Baden. Württemberg followed this lead in 1819 with its own constitution, which was not imposed but negotiated between the monarch and representatives of the estates, as was typical for old Württemberg. Both middle powers were thus on the way to a constitutional monarchy. The parliaments in Karlsruhe and Stuttgart served as role models for the first pan-German parliament, the Frankfurt National Assembly of 1848/49. They represented the democratic and federal element just as much as the goal of German unity: in the July revolution of 1830, in the "Vormärz" and in the 1860ies.

### Radical development of the parliamentary system

The contours of the modern world became clear in the two southwest German states back in the 19<sup>th</sup> century: with early constitutions, a virtually functioning parliamentary system, modern political parties and a distinctive culture of participa-

tion amongst the self-confident citizens. Further signs of modernisation also appeared at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Large-scale constitutional reforms in 1904 in Baden and 1906 in Württemberg kept them abreast of national developments. The chambers of deputies became purely "People's Chambers", which were now elected at least in part according to the modern system of proportional representation.

The revolution in November 1918 swept away the monarchic governments and saw the radical development of the parliamentary and democratic systems. The principle of the government's full responsibility to the parliament was now introduced. In January 1919, elections were held to the constitutional meetings of the Free People's Republic of Baden and the Free People's State of Württemberg. This was also the first time that women could vote and be elected.



The crescent room in Stuttgart around 1920: the chamber of the Landtag of Württemberg in the kingdom and in the Weimar Republic from 1820 to the dissolution of the parliament under the Nazi dictatorship.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

Both southwest German states adopted democratic constitutions at a very early stage. The new constitution for Baden came into force on 13 April, 1919, legitimised by one of the first referendums in German history. It was followed by the constitution for Württemberg on 25 September, 1919, exactly one hundred years after the first constitution had been adopted for the kingdom in 1819.

Both southwest German states had experienced stable political relationships for longer than the other German states in the first German democracy. The Centre Party and the SPD ruled in

Baden up to the end of 1932, supplemented by the DDP and at times by the DVP. A "black-blue" coalition of the Catholic Centre and the right-wing conservative Citizen's Party and Farming Union had governed in Württemberg since 1924, which was extended in 1930 by the liberal parties into an overall civil coalition. Following the elections to the Landtag in April 1932 and a landslide win for the NSDAP, however, the government only held office as a caretaker government.

### The end of the parliaments in 1933

After the Nazis seized power in the Reich, the state constitutions were gradually whittled away by Third Reich laws. One of the first goals of the totalitarian Hitler dictatorship was to destroy the federal system that distributed power. The existing state parliaments were dissolved by



The Landtag of Württemberg-Baden and that of Baden-Württemberg met in Heusteigstraße 45 in Stuttgart from 1947 until 1961. The state of Baden-Württemberg was founded here on 25 April, 1952, and the state constitution resolved on 11 November, 1953.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

the "Provisional law on the equalisation of the states with the Reich" from 31 March, 1933, and reappointed according to the results of the "semi-free" elections to the Reichstag on 5 March, 1933. The parliaments were then deprived of their powers through "Enabling laws"



The advisory state assembly and the Landtag of (South) Baden met in the historic department store on Münsterplatz in Freiburg from 1946 until 1952.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

(Württemberg on 8 June, 1933, Baden on 9 June, 1933), as were other parliaments throughout the Reich, and finally dissolved in October 1933. "Reichsstatthalter" (governors) who were directly subordinate to Adolf Hitler now ruled the states. The main principles of democracy and the federal system had been suspended. The fundamental citizens' and human rights were also trampled under foot within a very short space of time.



Parliament in a convent: the Landtag of Württemberg-Hohenzollern met in the former convent in Bebenhausen near Tübingen.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

### Democratic reconstruction after 1945

The democratic traditions could only be taken up again after the end of the Second World War. Elections to the constitutive state assembly in Württemberg-Baden were held in June 1946. Württemberg-Baden was the first German state after the war to be given a constitution on 28 November, 1946.

The parliamentary committees initially had to make do with emergency accommodation. The first meeting of the provisional parliament for Württemberg-Baden was convened in the opera house of the Württemberg State Theatre. A former theatre in Heusteigstraße 45 was the meeting place in Stuttgart from 1947 onwards. The two other forerunners of today's Landtag, the Landtag of Württemberg-Hohenzollern and (South) Baden, had both been elected in May 1947 and met in the former convent in Bebenhausen and the historical department store in Freiburg.

# THE BUDGET LAW – THE “ROYAL PREROGATIVE” OF PARLIAMENT

The Landtag, the parliament, decides on how public funds, the majority of which are taxes and rates from the citizens are to be used.

Photo: Christoph Lang



All of the state’s revenue and expenditure have to be shown in the budget in accordance with Art. 79 of the state constitution. The Landtag decides on this budget and thus how the “public funds”, the majority of which are taxes and rates from the citizens, are to be used. This is the budget law accorded to the Landtag. Since 1981, the Landtag has resolved biennial budgets. Through the change in the legislative period from four to five years in 1996, budgets were resolved for one year periods in 1997 and 2004.

The Landtag’s right to decide on the budget is also referred to as the “Royal prerogative” of the parliament. In practise, however, the Landtag only has limited influence over the scope and form of the relevant budget. A large part of the total expenditure for a budget year has already been appropriated in advance through federal and, in the short to medium-term, too, state regulations or other legal obligations before the members of parliament even get to see the draft budget. A total of only around two percent of the budget volume or around 600 million euros are freely available. As for the

rest, in other words around 98 percent, the state spends this money to meet its legal obligations and guarantee the operability of the administrative apparatus.

## High share of personnel expenses

Personnel in particular account for a large part of the costs. The state employs around 267,000 people. These include teachers – by far the biggest group – professors, judges, police officers, civil servants in the tax offices and employees in the administrations of the various state authorities. The states have the most personnel-intensive scope of duties amongst the federal division of functions with schools and universities, the judiciary, internal security and tax administration. This is why around forty percent of the total expenses in the state budget for Baden-Württemberg is taken up by personnel costs.

But despite the low share of expenses on which it can exert a direct influence, parliament’s strongest control tool over the government is the budget law. The government

has to disclose its expenditure down to the last cent in the budget, which is why this is sometimes also referred to as a government programme cast in figures. This is because decisions on bare figures are often associated with fundamental political discussions. Nevertheless, requests for changes to the budget from individual members of parliament or a parliamentary party only have a chance of success if they have a majority in the finance committee and finally in the plenum of the Landtag. It is a fact, however, that no budget has been resolved in the original version as submitted by the government.

Once the Landtag has exercised its “Royal prerogative” by passing the budget, it no longer has any real influence over this. If circumstances change and expenditure becomes necessary that is not set aside in the budget, or not in the necessary amounts, the Minister of Finance can approve this himself or herself under certain circumstances and within certain financial limits. However, if the limits set by the Landtag itself are exceeded, the Minister of Finance has to submit a supplementary budget to parliament.

## FINANCIAL EQUALISATION

Through the financial equalisation scheme between the Federal Government and the states, the Basic Law outlines the financial relationships between the states and the Bund as well as between the states themselves. The vertical financial equalisation between the Bund and the totality of states helps finance those tasks that have to be fulfilled at various levels. The financial equalisation between states in a stricter sense – the so-called horizontal financial equalisation – consists primarily of compensatory payments from richer states (giver states) to poorer states (taker states). The principle up to now was simple: the “rich states” with an above-average financial power pay into a pot from which the “poorer” states who are entitled to compensation receive their money. Baden-Württemberg has always been a “payer state” since the 1950ies and one of the main financiers of the equalisation pot.

The dispute as to what is meant by a “reasonable equalization of the disparate financial capacities of the Länder” (Art. 107 Basic Law) is almost as old as the Basic Law itself. The tug-of-war over its future embodiment was put to an end in

June 2001 through an agreement between the Bund and states on the key points. The incentive equity was improved by new elements in the equalisation system. Nevertheless, this complicated system still gives rise to discussions.

In the course of the reform of the federal system, the Bundestag and Bundesrat resolved the appointment of a joint commission on the modernisation of the financial relationships between the Bund and states at the end of 2006 – or Federalism Commission II for short. One of the two chairmen of the commission is the Minister President of Baden-Württemberg, Günther H. Oettinger, as representative of the Bundesrat – in other words the states. The commission has been charged to prepare suggestions on the modernisation of the financial relationships between the Bund and states so that these can be adapted to the altered basic conditions inside and outside Germany for the growth and employment policies. The recommendations should strengthen the individual responsibility of the local authorities and their funding appropriate for their work.

### The structure of the state budget

The budget for the state of Baden-Württemberg is split into individual budgets: one each for the Ministry of State, the specialist ministries, the Landtag and the State Accounting Office. The individual budgets are divided up into chapters, and these in turn into so-called individual titles for all income and expenditure.

Around 15,000 of these titles are audited not only by the Landtag as the parliamentary controlling body but also by the State Accounting Office. Its members have the same autonomy as judges. The State Accounting Office, which has its registered offices in Karlsruhe, controls the proper appropriation of the budget funds and reports directly to the Landtag on an annual basis. Its report is also sent to the state government at the same time.

### Taxes are the most important source of income

The most important source of income for the state are taxes. The most profitable of these are the so-called shared taxes, which are apportioned between the Bund (Federal Government) and the states, and in some cases the municipalities, too. These taxes include: income tax on wages and salaries, value-added tax, corporation tax, capital gains tax.

Furthermore, the Bund and states also receive a part of the trade tax collected by the municipalities by way of allocation. The income from the taxes named here accounts for more than seventy percent of the state’s total revenue. Its financial strength thus relies heavily on the economic situation and the level of employment.

The state is also entitled to other state taxes such as: motor vehicle tax, inheritance tax,

lottery tax, beer tax, fire brigade tax, property transfer tax. Other important sources of income for the state are payments made by the Bund for the fulfilment of certain duties as well as administrative revenue, rents and leases, interest on delinquent taxes and defaulted payments, profits from state companies, revenue from the state lotteries and from the public charges on gambling houses as well as fines and penalties.

### A balanced budget as the goal

Despite these revenues, which amounted to around 32 billion euros in 2007, the state has to contract new debts each year in order to accomplish its tasks. At the end of 2006, the debts amounted to around 41 billion euros, corresponding to a debt of 3,824 euros for each citizen. This puts Baden-Württemberg alongside Bavaria and Saxony as one of the states with the lowest per capita debt.

The consolidation of the budget is and remains one of the most important tasks of financial policy so as to safeguard the financial scope for coming generations. The goal is not to increase the state debt any further, but to submit budgets with no new indebtedness as a

rule. The state government has set itself the goal of achieving this by the year 2011. This was originally planned for 2006. As a result of rising tax revenues, a state budget with no new debts could once again be presented for the first time in 2008. The goal of a balanced budget also results from the European Stability and Growth Pact, which the EU member states – and thus the Federal Republic as the overall state – have agreed on.

### Education, research and culture as cornerstones of the budget

Education, research and culture constitute the cornerstones of the state budget and account for a total of 35 percent of total expenditure or around 11.5 billion euros. The judiciary and internal security together account for eight percent. Almost seven percent of the expenditure goes on payments to other states within the scope of the financial equalisation scheme between the Federal Government and the states (“Länderfinanzausgleich”) and almost 17 percent are budget appropriations from the state to the municipalities. The interest payments make up more than six percent.

# THE STATE GOVERNMENT

The state government of Baden-Württemberg in June 2008  
in front of Villa Reitzenstein in Stuttgart.



First row (left to right): Helmut Rau, Dr. Monika Stolz, Günther H. Oettinger, Prof. Dr. Ulrich Goll, Tanja Gönner, Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Reinhart.  
Second row (left to right): Ernst Pfister, Heribert Rech, Prof. Dr. Claudia Hübner, Peter Hauk, Willi Stächele, Prof. Dr. Peter Frankenberg.  
Third row (left to right): Georg Wacker, Friedlinde Gurr-Hirsch, Richard Drautz, Rudolf Köberle, Gundolf Fleischer.  
Fourth row (left to right): Hubert Wicker, Dr. Dietrich Birk, Dieter Hillebrand.

Photo: Baden-Württemberg Ministry of State

Landtag in turn is often unable to make up for the preponderance of the executive.

With the ministries and state administration, the state government has an infrastructure whose expertise and administrative knowledge have depleted the significance of the Landtag in constitutional reality and political

## Creation of the state government

The Minister President is elected by the majority of the members of the Landtag in a secret ballot (Art. 46 para. 1 state constitution). The Minister President then appoints the state government: the ministers, secretaries of state and state councillors. He also appoints his deputy

### THE GOVERNMENT OF BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG (JUNE 2008)

**The elections to the Landtag on 26 March, 2006 led to a continuation of the governing coalition of CDU and FDP/DVP. The new state government**

The government consists of the following members with the right to vote in the cabinet:

#### Minister President

Günther H. Oettinger MdL (MdL = Mitglied des Landtags, member of the Landtag) (CDU)

#### Minister of Justice and Deputy Minister President

Prof. Dr. Ulrich Goll MdL (FDP/DVP)

#### Minister of Federal and European Affairs and in the Ministry of State

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Reinhart MdL (CDU)

#### Minister of the Interior

Heribert Rech MdL (CDU)

#### Minister of Education, Youth and Sport

Helmut Rau MdL (CDU)

#### Minister of Science, Research and Art

Prof. Dr. Peter Frankenberg (CDU)

#### Minister of Finance

Willi Stächele MdL (CDU)

**began its work on 14 June, 2006 with the election of the Minister President and the confirmation of his appointed members of the government by the**

#### Minister of Economics

Ernst Pfister MdL (FDP/DVP)

#### Minister of Food and Rural Areas

Peter Hauk MdL (CDU)

#### Minister of Labour and Social Affairs

Dr. Monika Stolz MdL (CDU)

#### Minister of the Environment

Tanja Gönner (CDU)

#### Secretary of State in the Ministry of Economics

Richard Drautz (FDP/DVP)

#### State Councillor for Demographic Change and Senior Citizens in the Ministry of State

Prof. Dr. Claudia Hübner (CDU)

Political Secretaries of State with no right to vote in the cabinet:

#### Secretary of State in the Ministry of the Interior

Rudolf Köberle MdL (CDU)

**Landtag. A cabinet reshuffle took place in June 2008.**

#### Secretary of State in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

Georg Wacker MdL (CDU)

#### Secretary of State in the Ministry of Science, Research and Art

Dr. Dietrich Birk MdL (CDU)

#### Secretary of State in the Ministry of Finance

Gundolf Fleischer MdL (CDU)

#### Secretary of State in the Ministry of Food and Rural Areas

Friedlinde Gurr-Hirsch MdL (CDU)

#### Secretary of State in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Dieter Hillebrand MdL (CDU)

Permanent Secretary of State:

#### Secretary of State in the Ministry of State

Hubert Wicker

According to Art. 45, para. 2 of the state constitution, the state government consists of the Minister President and ministers. Secretaries of state and state councillors may also be appointed. Even though the Landtag assumes the pivotal legislative role in the state constitution as the parliament, the state government has a decisive influence over the political organisation and management of the state. The

practice. The strong position of the state government harbours the risk of a precarious situation in the distribution of power in favour of the executive.

(Art. 46 para. 2 state constitution). The distribution of the ministries between the relevant coalition parties is determined in the coalition negotiations. In addition, the Minister President will take the proportional representation circumstances within his party into account and try to balance the power structures within the party.



The Minister President of Baden-Württemberg, Günther H. Oettinger (left), and his three predecessors (left to right) Erwin Teufel, Hans Filbinger (died 2007) and Lothar Späth in 2006.

Photo: Carmen Klinkert

The Landtag must confirm the government with more than half of the votes cast (Art. 46,3 state constitution). If the government is not formed and confirmed within three months of the assembly of the newly elected Landtag, this will be dissolved – though this has never been the case in the history of the state up to now. The government and each of its members can declare their resignation at any time (Art. 47 and Art. 55,1 state constitution). If the Minister President wishes to appoint further ministers after confirmation of the state government, he requires the consent of the Landtag (Art. 46,4 state constitution). The Landtag can also force the Minister President to dismiss a member of his government with a two-thirds majority (Art. 56 state constitution). The Landtag can only withdraw its confidence in the Minister President if it elects a successor with the majority of its members (Art. 54 state constitution). However, the motion to dismiss a minister or a vote of no confidence in the Minister President only requires the support of one quarter of the members of the Landtag or two parliamentary parties.

### The Minister President

The strong position of the Minister President as head of the government is based on the competences vested in him through the constitution:

- the Minister President determines the political guidelines and bears the responsibility for this;

Furthermore, the strong position of the Minister President in state politics can be attributed to Landtag elections, which have increasingly assumed the character of an election of an individual and can also be seen as referendums on the Minister President's person and policies.

The Villa Reitzenstein in Stuttgart is the official residence of the Minister President and at the same time the seat of the state government. It is also home to the Ministry of State, the Minister President's instrument of planning and coordination. With the help of this "think tank" he can develop planning guidelines and introduce these into the various departments. At the same time the Ministry of State monitors the compliance with guidelines as specified by the Minister President.

The Minister of Federal and European Affairs and in the Ministry of State and the Secretary of State as Head of State Chancellery head the five main departments in the Ministry of State:

- he is the leader of the government and manages its business;
- he represents the state in external relationships;
- he appoints the judges and civil servants of the state;
- he can exercise the prerogative of pardon.

The Villa Reitzenstein: the magnificent building overlooking Stuttgart is the official residence of the Minister President and at the same time the seat of the state government and the Ministry of State of Baden-Württemberg.

Photo: Ministry of State Baden-Württemberg



**Department 1:** budget and fiscal policy, personnel, justice, organisation, internal affairs, traffic as well as the reduction of bureaucracy and administrative reforms;

**Department 2:** press office and spokesperson of the state government, also responsible for events, state marketing and state visits;

**Department 3:** economics, science, education, art and culture, sport, food and rural areas as well as environmental and media policy;

**Department 4:** policies and planning, welfare and social policy as well as federal affairs;

**Department 5:** European policy, international affairs and protocol.

The Minister and Representative in the Bund, who has his offices in the state representation in Berlin, is a further Minister within the portfolio of the Ministry of State. The State Councillor for Demographic Change and Senior Citizens is also affiliated to the Ministry of State.

The “Neues Schloss” in the state capital Stuttgart, where the kings of Württemberg reigned until 1918. Today this representative building is home to the Ministries of Finance and Education.

Photo: Stuttgart-Marketing GmbH



## State government and ministers

The cabinet decides on bills and fundamental policy matters as well as major projects that affect state politics and important administrative and personnel affairs. The Minister President Günther H. Oettinger has been the head of government since 21 April 2005, having been reelected on 14 June 2006 by the Landtag after the Landtag election in April 2006. The state government consists of the Minister President, eleven ministers, one secretary of state with the right to vote in the cabinet (Secretary of State in the Ministry of Economics) and a state councillor. These are joined by six advisory political secretaries of state. The FDP/DVP is in charge of two ministries, economics and justice, and provides the Deputy Minister President. Along with the Minister of the Ministry of State, the remaining seven functional departments (interior; education, youth and sport; science, research and art; finances; food and rural areas; labour and social affairs; environment) are led by the CDU. There are two women in the cabinet, the Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of the Environment. The Minister of Justice also is the commissioner for integration of the state government, the Minister of the Interior simultaneously the state appointee for displaced persons, refugees and “Aussiedler” (Returned settlers from former

## CHRISTIAN-LIBERAL COALITION

The Landtag elections in April 2006 not only confirmed Minister President Günther H. Oettinger as the head of the government but also brought the CDU as the ruling party a healthy majority in the Baden-Württemberg Landtag. It only needed one more seat for an absolute majority. This result did not really provide the traditional coalition partner FDP/DVP with a strong negotiating position, particularly since a “black-green” coalition also appeared to be a conceivable option. In the end, however, the Christian-Liberal coalition, which has ruled the state since 1996, was continued.

The coalition agreement between the CDU and FDP sets out the political goals of the coalition for the 14<sup>th</sup> legislative period on more than eighty pages. The further development of Baden-Württemberg as an economic growth state and the encouragement of innovations are high on the list of priorities. In addition, Baden-Württemberg is to be promoted as a “children’s state” through a better educational landscape and preschool learning as well as support for families. Demographic change and the integration of migrants are other topics for the future that are addressed in the coalition agreement and which have been placed on the political agenda under the goal of the social cohesion of society. The coalition agreement also contains a reform of parliament and the constituencies. Further key objectives are the budget consolidation, no new debts before 2011 and savings in personnel costs. Against the background of climate change and the necessity to protect the climate, an extensive sustainability strategy and a model for sustainable development are to be formulated and implemented. The “Bundesrat clause” in the coalition agreement deals with a conflict situation: if the two parties cannot agree on questions of fundamental significance the state will abstain from voting in the Bundesrat.

German settlements and ethnic Germans). The Minister of Social Affairs also is the state government’s commissioner for children and commissioner for equal opportunities for men and women. The majority of the members of the state government are also members of the Landtag. However, administrative specialists, local politicians or experts are frequently enlisted as so-called “career changers”.



## Regional development, regional policy and regional planning

The drastic political, social and economic changes of the past years, the increasing globalisation and the growing pressure of ecological duties, in particular climate protection, have led to a lasting change in the general conditions for the development of Baden-Württemberg and, above all, its planning. One key and fundamental task of state politics is thus regional planning – a field that appears just as complicated to the general public as the tasks that have to be overcome. Planning and regional policy are implemented not just on the relevant state levels but on all levels in the political system.

The spatial development of the state has to be planned and designed in a European context. With the European metropolitan regions of Stuttgart and Rhine-Neckar as well as the European agglomeration area of the Upper Rhine, Baden-Württemberg contains several key European areas and thus has a driving function. These are joined by the Lake Constance region as a further up-and-coming region, particularly in cooperation with Austria and Switzerland. Baden-Württemberg is one of Europe's front-runners: its economic power is far above the European average and it continues to have a strong industrial presence, above all in high-tech industries. The Baden-Württemberg economy is very export-oriented. The integration of Baden-Württemberg in the European space and coordination of a common European regional policy are key development policy objectives against this background.

The political responsibilities and decisions of the EU are already having a great effect on the European subregion of Baden-Württemberg. These first and foremost include the EU competence for the fields of agriculture, transport, research and technology as well as the environment. The EU regional policy pursues the goal of reducing the economic and social gap between the various regions in the common space. The state of Baden-Württemberg will be receiving around 140 million euros in subsidies from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for the funding period 2007 to 2013.

Below the European level it is initially the Federal Regional Policy Act (ROG) that specifies corresponding targets for the state's regional planning laws. Allowing for ROG, Baden-Württemberg has the planning authority for its territory. The most important planning instruments in regional planning are the regional development plan and the regional plans. The



The infrastructure of the state is an important factor for the competitive strength of Baden-Württemberg. The photo shows the Kochertal bridge at Braunsbach-Geislingen near Schwäbisch Hall, Germany's highest motorway bridge.

Photo: Siegfried Geyer

principles and goals of regional policy and regional planning are set out in the regional development plan (LEP) of 2002. The general principle of the LEP is a sustainable development of settlement and open spaces based on social justice, economic efficiency and the frugal use of natural resources that reconciles social and economic aspects of the area with its ecological function and strengthens the region as a European habitat as well as cultural and economic region. The sustainability strategy of Baden-Württemberg can also be understood in

this sense. The ecological sustainability of the state is being further developed with concrete projects under the motto "Planning tomorrow today".

The regional development plan specifies settlement and open space structures as well as the infrastructure. It identifies, amongst others,

spatial categories (agglomeration areas, fringe areas around the agglomeration areas, rural areas and densely populated areas in rural areas), regional centres ("Oberzentren"), local centres ("Mittelzentren") and local areas ("Mittelbereiche"), development axes and areas with special development tasks. However, it also regulates the utilisation and protection of open spaces.

Regional planning is organised on two levels in Baden-Württemberg: the superior regional policy and planning authority is the Ministry of Economics. One of its most important tasks is to draft and update the regional development plan. The four Regional Governing Offices in Stuttgart, Tübingen, Karlsruhe and Freiburg come below this as higher regional planning authorities. The twelve regional associations created in 1973 are responsible for

implementing the regional plans. Their most important task is to draft and update the regional plan for the relevant region.

The lowest level are the municipalities in Baden-Württemberg, which are responsible for building plans with land utilisation and development plans. Local planning is no longer

the state. The state of Baden-Württemberg has upheld a regional policy plan that has encouraged decentralisation ever since its foundation. Focal regions have, however, developed in the sense of a European spatial development whose effects are also felt on the other side of the borders. Furthermore, the pressure of globalisation is leading to increased competi-

ate the necessary conditions for business and industrial development. But the driving function of central locations will at the same time be strengthened, and networks of areas and thus concomitant synergy effects will be encouraged. Furthermore, the further development of settlements should ease the unilateral burden on densely populated areas and orient itself more on the local spatial structure of the state so as to improve the development chances for rural areas.



considered a part of regional planning. The planning authority here lies with the municipalities (Art. 28, para. 2 Basic Law). Nevertheless, the leeway open to a municipality is limited by the goals defined in regional planning.

### Goals of regional planning

The overall concept of spatial development puts into words the aims for the development of an area, namely to reconcile the social and economic demands on the area with its ecological function. Environmental protection plays an important role in the goals of regional planning: lasting effects on the natural resources soil, water and air should be kept as low as possible. The basic goal of regional planning is to cope with demographic, social and macroeconomic change and to attempt to create equal living conditions for all parts of

The new exhibition centre was opened in 2007 on the "Fildern" near Stuttgart – right alongside the airport. This had been the biggest building project in Germany over the past years and increased the appeal of both Stuttgart and the whole of Baden-Württemberg as a trade fair and business location.

Photo: Projektgesellschaft Neue Messe GmbH

tion between locations, so that the strategy of decentralisation is being put to the test. In the field of information and communication services in particular we find concentrations of companies right through to training and further education facilities at one location.

Nevertheless, the regional development policy of Baden-Württemberg will continue to be dominated by a local approach so as to cre-

## Minister Presidents and governments of the state of Baden-Württemberg since 1952

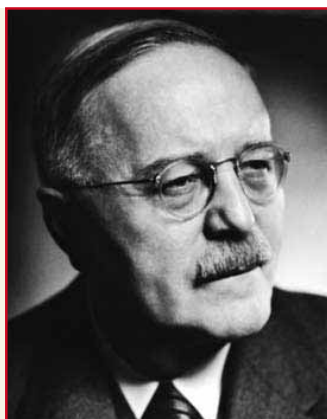


Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

### **Reinhold Maier** 1889–1971, FDP/DVP

was the Minister President of the provisional government of SPD, FDP/DVP and BHE from April 1952 until October 1953.

Born in Schorndorf in the Rems valley, this lawyer is regarded as one of the greatest liberals in the southwest of Germany, as a representative of the people in the best sense of the word. He had already proven himself as Minister of Economics for Württemberg in the Weimar Republic. Maier was assigned the office of Minister President of Baden-Württemberg by the US military government immediately after the war. The staunch democrat was one of the pioneers of the Southwest State. Maier enjoyed great trust and popularity in the state. He can also take the credit for ensuring that the members of the constitutive state assembly quickly got down to work despite numerous differing positions. The law on the provisional exercise of authority in the southwest German state – the so-called “bridging law” (Überleitungsgesetz) – was resolved in May 1952. In 1953, Maier made the elections to the Bundestag a plebiscite on his regional policy. Following the election victory for the CDU, he vacated his official residence. His commitment to the creation of the new state is uncontested.



Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

### **Gebhard Müller** 1900–1990, CDU

was Minister President of an all-party government of CDU, SPD, FDP/DVP and BHE from 1953 until 1958.

Frugality, piety and a down-to-earth attitude, duteness, thoroughness and integrity were the main traits of Gebhard Müller, who hailed from Upper Swabia. He was succinctly characterised as a Christian, lawyer and politician. Theodor Eschenburg aptly called him the “state’s first civil servant” and thus characterised Müller’s sense of duty. Müller shaped the establishment of the constitutional, economic and cultural principles of the young state. He saw his job as an “honest broker” in the integration of the different parts of the state. The state assembly resolved the constitution for Baden-Württemberg on 11 November, 1953 during his term in office and thus completed its constituent work. Important questions of cultural policy were also solved by the regulation on teacher training. Under Müller, the all-party coalition succeeded in creating a basic feeling of identity in the new state through compromises, the majority of which were seen as fair. When Müller finally believed that the young federal state was well on its way, he succumbed to the repeated calls from Karlsruhe in 1958, where he became the President of the Federal Constitutional Court.



Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

### **Kurt Georg Kiesinger** 1904–1988, CDU

was the Minister President of a coalition of CDU, SPD, FDP/DVP and BHE from 1958 until 1960. Between 1960 and 1966, he was the head of a government made up of CDU and FDP/DVP.

Kurt Georg Kiesinger is to date the only Minister President of the state who came to Stuttgart from federal politics. Generous and affable as he was, he was also held in high esteem in state politics. His merits primarily lie in the integration of the young state. The work of his government also concentrated on preserving natural resources as well as economic and financial policy questions. He believed that one of the main jobs of the states in the federal system was the formulation of ambitious education policy goals. He made the expansion of universities in Baden-Württemberg a personal matter that had to be dealt with by the “boss”. Unlike his predecessor, Kiesinger placed great store in representation and an elegant image. His style of government matched the altered social conditions in the 1960ies. The economic and financial crisis in 1966/67 finally put paid to his dynamic politics. Ludwig Erhard’s resignation broke in the middle of this phase. Kiesinger was appointed as candidate for chancellor by the CDU and led the first grand coalition in Bonn between 1966 and 1969.



Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

**Hans Filbinger  
1913–2007, CDU**

led a grand coalition in the state from 1966 until 1972. Between 1972 and 1978, he was the Minister President of a sole-party CDU government.

Born in Mannheim, this lawyer was the first and to date only person from Baden to lead the state. The CDU won an absolute majority in the state for the first time in 1972 under Filbinger. The Kiesinger era, which was characterised by very dynamic developments, was followed by years of consolidation under Filbinger. The biggest reforms between 1971 and 1976, above all the local government and administrative reform under the management of the SPD Minister of the Interior Walter Krause, stood for the initiatives of these very rational politics. During Filbinger's term of office, the question of the denominational schools could be solved. The referendum in June 1970 marked a milestone in his term of office, with the population of Baden subsequently approving the formation of the Southwest State with a large majority. Disputes about university constitutions and energy policies, where Wyhl was planned as the site of a nuclear power plant, on the other hand, gave rise to some heated controversies. Filbinger was forced to resign in 1978 on account of his activities as a marine judge during the final phases of the Second World War. He remained a controversial politician even after his time as Minister President and died in April 2007 at the age of 93.



Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

**Lothar Späth  
born 1937, CDU**

was the Minister President of a sole-party CDU government between 1978 and 1991.

Lothar Späth was born in Sigmaringen and was regarded as being restless, creative and pragmatic. He quickly earned the nickname "Cleverle" as a visionary and moderniser of politics and the economy. The final balance of the numerous projects he initiated in the state is by all means positive despite certain ideas that failed and certain plans that fell by the wayside. By the end of his term of office, he was seen as the "motor of cultural life" who repeatedly emphasised the state's responsibility as a patron and as a promoter of the economy as well as research and technology policy. One of the benchmarks in Späth's government was the state media act that was passed in 1985 and the concomitant privatisation and liberalisation of the radio landscape. The politician was unable to complete another big project – the fusion of Süddeutscher Rundfunk and Südwestfunk. Späth also adopted new approaches in "external" relations and left his mark on European politics. He was forced to resign in 1991 following allegations that he had mixed his office with private and party interests ("Traumschiff-Affäre"). When his political career came to an end, Lothar Späth spent some time with Jenoptik. Now he works for an investment bank.



Photo: Baden-Württemberg Ministry of State

**Erwin Teufel  
born 1939, CDU**

was Minister President from 1991 until 2005. Between 1992 and 1996 he was the leader of a grand coalition, and from 1996 until 2005 he led a coalition of CDU and FDP/DVP.

The business administrator was born in Rottweil and was forced to enter into an unpopular grand coalition in 1992. He attempted to reduce new debts through great savings and to realign the state in the face of increasing globalisation. This included extensive work on the infrastructure such as the extension of Stuttgart airport. Other projects were begun to create competitive structures and concentrate the state's strengths. During Teufel's term in office, the former regional energy suppliers fused to form EnBW and the two public broadcasting services SDR and SWF also merged to form Südwestrundfunk (SWR). Teufel also left his mark with the administrative reform that came into force in January 2005 and with structural measures in economic and education policies. He was very committed to European politics and represented the German states in the EU Constitutional Council. Consistency, perseverance and an adherence to principles, a high workload, detailed knowledge and direct contact with the people are typical features of Erwin Teufel's work in government. He is to date the longest-serving Minister President of the state of Baden-Württemberg.

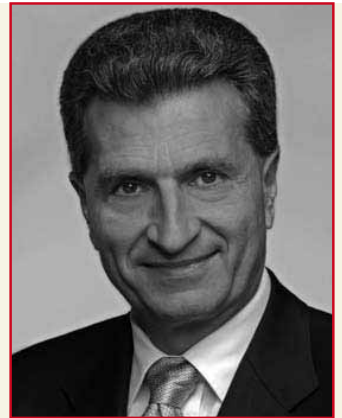


Photo: Baden-Württemberg Ministry of State

**Günther H. Oettinger  
born 1953, CDU**

has led a CDU and FDP/DVP coalition as Minister President since April 2005.

By the time a successor had to be picked for Erwin Teufel, the head of the parliamentary party and "Crown Prince" Günther H. Oettinger had already been knocking loudly at the door for some time. He had led the CDU parliamentary party in the Landtag for 14 years. In November 2004, he defeated his rival candidate, the Minister of Education Annette Schavan, in the first ever poll amongst members of the CDU. On 21 April, 2005, Günther H. Oettinger was elected Minister President by the Landtag. A native of Stuttgart and a Protestant, he is seen as modern and urban compared to his predecessor. Oettinger was also elected the State Party CDU Chairman in April 2005. Günther H. Oettinger had to face up to a public election for the first time in March 2006 and only narrowly missed out on an absolute majority in the Landtag with his party. The governing coalition of CDU and FDP/DVP was continued under Oettinger. The work of his government concentrates on the economy and the labour market, education and families ("children's state"), energy policy and, not least, the reduction of the public debt in the state as an important goal.

# BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG IN THE FEDERATION AND IN EUROPE

Baden-Württemberg acts as an independent state on the level of the German Federation ("Bund") and the European Union.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg



Baden-Württemberg acts independently as a German state. Within the scope of the constitutional order in the Federal Republic of Germany it has the legal status and political quality of a member state with the right to organise its own politics. Nevertheless, state politics are greatly influenced by a double involvement: firstly through the integration in the federal order of the Federal Republic and then through the integration in the Euro-

pean Union. Baden-Württemberg is involved in the EU both indirectly, in other words through the Federal Republic as a member country, and directly, whereby the state acts as an independent protagonist in the EU decision-making system. This double involvement on the one hand places restrictions on the "freedom" Baden-Württemberg has in shaping its own politics; then again, it also opens up scope for action.

## Baden-Württemberg in the Federation

According to Art. 20 para. 1 of the Basic Law, the Federal Republic of Germany is a federal state. The state constitution defines the state of Baden-Württemberg as a member state of this federal state. The basic principle of existence for the federal state is federalism (lat. foedus =

the federation). Baden-Württemberg acts and reacts on four different levels within the framework of the federal system: the state level, the federal level (Bundesrat), the inter-state level and the Federation-States level.

### Power-distributing federalism

In a federal country, the implementation of state tasks and authority is divided between the federation and the member states. A principle applies in the Federal Republic of Germany stating the states are responsible unless the federation is accorded powers and duties in the Basic Law (Art. 30 Basic Law). This idea is substantiated for the field of legislation in Art. 70 para. 1 Basic Law, where we can read: “The Länder shall have the right to legislate insofar as this Basic Law does not confer legislative power on the Federation.”

In fact, the authorities in the fields of legislative power (legislature), government and administration (executive) and jurisdiction (judiciary) are distributed very differently. The biggest part of legislation is carried out by the Federation whereas the states (Art. 83 Basic Law) are responsible for implementing the laws. Jurisdiction is split between the Federation (last instance) and the states (first and second instance). This distribution of competences leads to the necessity of a close cooperation between the Federation and states. The items that fall under the legislative power of the Federation are listed individually in catalogues in the Basic Law (incl. Art. 72-74 and Art. 105 Basic Law).

### Exclusive and concurrent legislative power

The Federation has the following legislative powers:

- an exclusive legislative power and
- a concurrent legislative power.

The exclusive legislative power of the Federation covers areas such as foreign affairs and defence policy, questions of nationality, the currency system, the exchange of goods and payments with foreign countries, border protection, etc. In the case of concurrent legislative power, the Federation can enact laws wherever there is a need for a federal regulation. The states, however, have the power to legislate so long as and to the extent that the Federation has not exercised its legislative power. Over the years, however, the Federation has made very extensive use of its concurrent legislative power.

Up until the reform of the federal system in 2006, the Federation could specify a legal framework through the framework legislation wherever there was a need for a federal regulation. This framework legislation, however, had to leave room for filling in by the legislative bodies in the states (Art. 75 Basic Law). But

### POLITICAL INTERLACING

#### Political interlacing between the Federation and the states and on the inter-state level

The aspiration to “equal living conditions” (Art. 72,2 Basic Law) throughout Germany has led to a growing cooperation and coordination between the Federation and the states. There are large numbers of links between the Federation and states in the performance of tasks and their financing. These are expressed in common expenses and fiscal alliances, which now account for around two thirds of all tax receipts. There are hundreds of Federation-State committees below the minister level as well as planning councils. The most familiar are the conferences of the heads of the state governments and the conferences of the departmental ministers of the Federation and states (Conference of the Ministers of Education, Standing Conference of the Ministers of the Interior, etc.). The consequence: the German federal system has developed its own special character over the years. There has been a continuous unitarisation and an increasingly denser network, for which the term “political interlacing” has been coined. The governments and their bureaucracies dominate in this interlocking system – at the cost of the parliaments. Which is why this is sometimes called “executive federalism.”

the Federation and states often disagreed on the depth of detail in this framework legislation and to what extent the states had to be left their own substantial regulation possibilities. The reform of the federal system cancelled Art. 75 of the Basic Law and transferred the regulatory matters to both the exclusive and concurrent legislative powers of the Federation.

### REFORM OF THE FEDERAL SYSTEM

The parents of the Basic Law clearly favoured a federal principle for the Federal Republic. But federalism has not always developed to its advantage. Complaints became louder and louder: about a system of mixed financing that is almost impossible to keep track of and offers false incentives; about the blurring of responsibilities; about absurd consequences of the financial compensation between the Federation and states. A debate on the future of federalism in Germany and the reorganisation of the responsibilities of the states, the federation and the EU was overdue. One goal is also to restrengthen the decision-making competences of the states – not least in the field of financial autonomy and fiscal legislation.

The states thus have only a limited legislative leeway. The most important is the so-called cultural sovereignty, covering schools and universities, the support for art and the sciences as well as the statutory regulation of press, radio and television. Municipal law, the state planning law, police law, building law as well as the laws pertaining to roads, water and waterways are examples of exclusive state responsibility. The reform of the federal system in 2006 strengthened the responsibilities of the state, above all in the fields of educational policy and civil service law, though also environmental law.

A first step towards the reorganisation is the reform of the federal system resolved in 2006 by the Bundesrat and Bundestag with the necessary two-thirds majority. This is the most extensive change to the Basic Law in the history of the Federal Republic of Germany and regulates in particular the relations between the Federation and states with respect to legislation. Its aim was to accelerate the legislative procedure and make this more transparent by drastically reducing the number of laws that have to be approved by the Bundesrat. Nevertheless, the Bundesrat still has to ratify laws that cause significant expenses in the states. In return for the

states foregoing this cooperation in the national legislative process, they will in future receive exclusive legislative competence for the pay, pensions and allowances of the state and municipal civil servants, for the penal system law, for the law on shop opening-hours and the law pertaining to restaurants and public houses. In the field of education and environmental law, the states have received a so-called “deviation right” through which they can resolve their own, divergent laws from the federal regulations. Educational policy is also largely a matter exclusively for the states. In addition, a joint obligation of the Federation and states to budgetary discipline was also resolved.

The financial relations between the Federation and the states, however, will only be reorgan-

as representative of the Bundesrat is the Minister President of Baden-Württemberg, Günther H. Oettinger. The recommendations of the commission are intended to adapt the financial relations between the Federation and states to the altered basic conditions inside and outside Germany and strengthen the individual responsibility of the local authorities and their funding in accordance with the tasks.



Minister President Günther H. Oettinger of Federal and European Affairs and in the Ministry of State, Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Reinhart, in the Bundesrat.

Photo: Ministry of State Baden-Württemberg

## BUNDESRAT

### Duties and rights of the Bundesrat (Federal Council)

- The Bundesrat shares in the legislative power of the Federation. No federal law is passed without it being discussed by the Bundesrat. Many laws, in fact, can only come into force if they are expressly approved by the Bundesrat.
- The Bundesrat participates in the administration of the Federation. Certain statutory ordinances and administrative regulations require its consent.
- The Bundesrat has various rights of instrumentality in the case of external and internal crisis situations. It also has a number of different rights of appointment and nomination (e.g. in the choice of judges for the State Constitutional Court).
- With the increasing European integration, the cooperation of the Bundesrat in EU matters is becoming increasingly important. Its rights range from a comprehensive right to information, the possibility to make statements on all EU bills that affect the interests of the state, through to the delegation of representatives to the council.

ised in a second phase. In December 2006, the Bundestag and Bundesrat resolved the constitution of a joint commission on the modernisation of the financial relations between the Federation and the states (in short: Federalism Reform II). The chairman of this commission

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE FISCAL REVENUES

### The states receive, amongst others:

- inheritance tax
- motor vehicle tax
- beer tax
- property transfer tax

Art. 106 para. 2 Basic Law

### The Federation receives, amongst others:

- customs
- the majority of consumption taxes (e.g.: mineral oil tax, tobacco tax)
- insurance tax
- special levies on income tax

Art. 106 para. 1 Basic Law

### The states and Federation together receive:

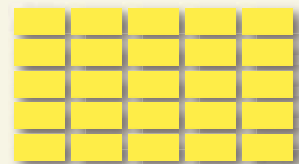
- income tax on wages and salaries
- corporation tax
- value added tax

Art. 106 para. 3 Basic Law

### The municipalities receive, amongst others:

- land and business tax
- other municipal taxes (e.g. dog licences)
- shares of income tax and value added tax

Art. 106 para. 5 to 8 Basic Law



© 8421 medien.de

The constitutional rules governing public finance are very important in the Federal state. They basically assume that the Federation and the states have separate revenues, finance their expenditure separately and are also “independent of each other” in terms of their budgets.

This would correspond to the separate responsibilities to the electors. But this principle is often ignored. Today, there is a complex system of financial interlacing between the Federation, states and municipalities.

**Cooperation on a federal level:  
the Bundesrat**

The states cooperate in the legislative work and administration of the Federation through the Bundesrat, the chamber of the state representatives (Art. 50 Basic Law). Thus, around half of all federal laws can only be enacted with the express ratification of the Bundesrat (“laws requiring approval”). In the case of other laws, the Bundesrat can postpone their enactment through objections (“protest laws”) whereby a Bundestag majority can dismiss this objection.

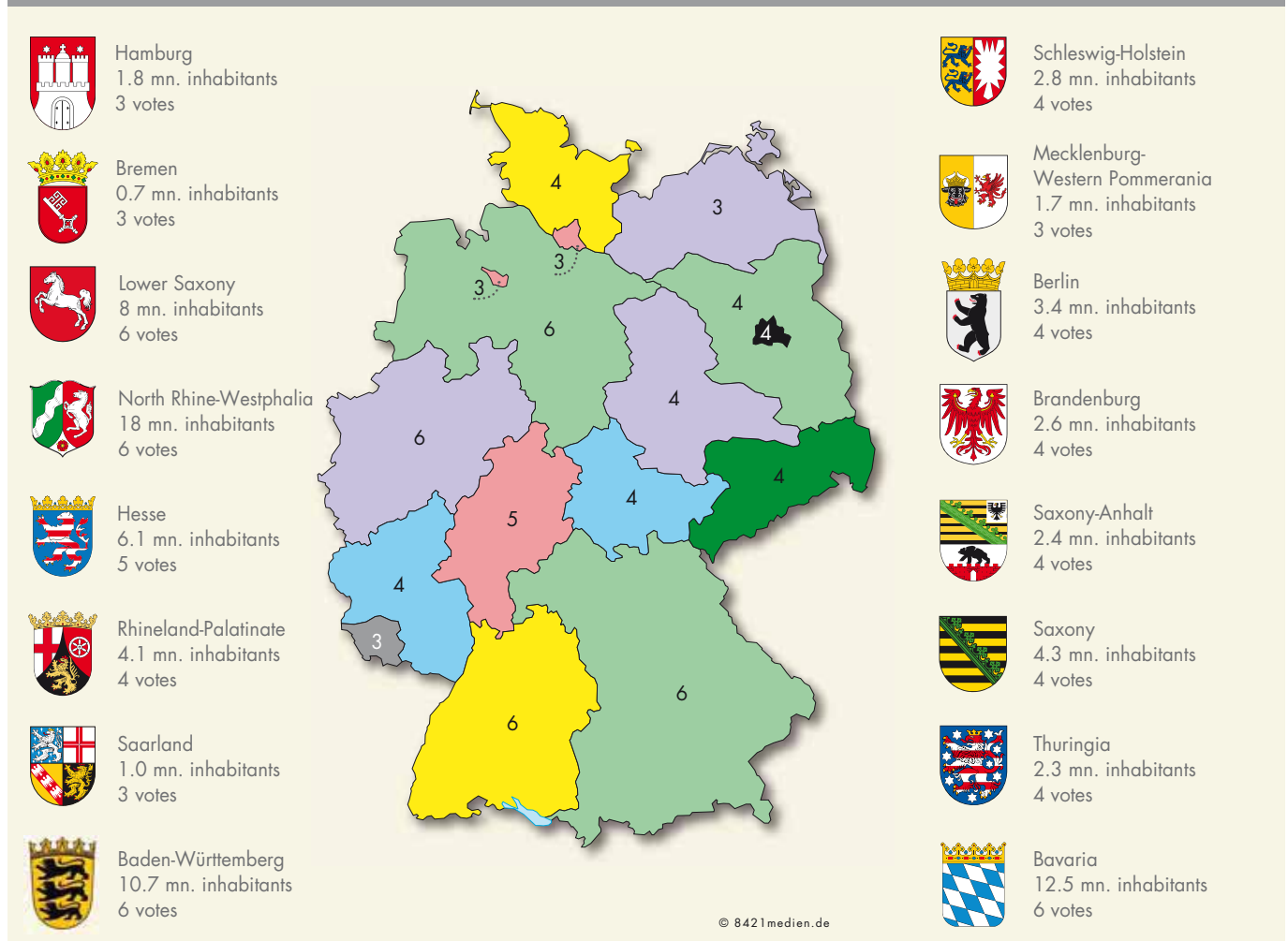
A person cannot be elected to the Bundesrat; he or she is appointed. Members can only be appointed from cabinet members of a state government with the right to vote. In Baden-Württemberg this is the Minister President, the

Ministers and some of the political Secretaries of State. The Bundesrat is thus an assembly of members of the state governments (Art. 51 para. 1 Basic Law).

Art. 51 para. 2 of the Basic Law stipulates that each state has at least three votes in the Bundesrat. States with more than two million inhabitants have four, states with more than six million have five and states with more than seven million have six votes. The four biggest states North Rhine-Westphalia, Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg and Lower Saxony thus have a blocking minority, which makes it impossible for smaller states to change the constitution to the disadvantage of the larger states. Each state can only cast its votes as a unit. An agreement thus has to be reached within the state government

before each decision. The work of the Bundesrat committees is very important. This is normally carried out by the ministerial civil servants delegated by the states. The draft statutes of the Federal government are hereby “enriched” by the expert knowledge of the state administrations. If no agreement can be reached on a legislation between the Bundestag as the representative of the people and the Bundesrat as the chamber of the states, an “arbitration committee” can be convened by the Bundestag and Bundesrat. Its task is to settle and balance the differences of opinion on draft statutes.

THE GERMAN STATES AND THEIR VOTING POWER IN THE BUNDES RAT







An architecturally attractive and unmistakable building: the representation of the state of Baden-Württemberg in the Federation in Berlin.

Photo: Representation of the State of Baden-Württemberg in the Federation

### The state representation in Berlin: outpost and shop window for Baden-Württemberg

The architect Dietrich Bangert produced an unmistakable building of high architectural quality in the Embassy district on the south side of the Tiergarten in Berlin, only a few minutes from the Bundestag, Bundesrat, Office of the Federal President and Office of the Federal Chancellor. The modern design presents the state's "embassy" in the federal capital as a light, clear, open and inviting building. The Representative of the State of Baden-Württemberg in the Bund acts on behalf of the interests of Baden-Württemberg from here.

Baden-Württemberg has an important voice in federal politics through its position in the Bundesrat. The state representation prepares the meetings of the Bundesrat for Baden-Württemberg in the federal capital, cooperating closely with the Ministry of State and specialist Ministries in Stuttgart. It helps prepare documents in the Bundesrat committees, draw up statements,

word applications and coordinate its own submissions with other states. The political and expert work of the state representation also includes maintaining close relationships with the Bundestag and federal government. The Representative of the State in the Bund and the employees of the state representation regularly attend important Bundestag plenary and committee meetings. This allows the current status of new legislations, developments and trends to be communicated to Baden-Württemberg at an early stage. This means that the state representation can express the state's wishes in committee meetings and thus have an influence on the legislative procedure.

In addition, the state representation acts as a "shop window" for Baden-Württemberg in the federal capital. Talks with representatives of numerous umbrella organisations help affirm the leading position of the state. Cultural and social events such as the presentation of regions in Baden-Württemberg help to portray the great diversity of the state. As the outpost of a very export-oriented federal state, the state representation maintains good and friendly contacts with foreign embassies. At the same time, it is a meeting place for federal, state and local politicians, for representatives from the economy, unions, associations and churches.

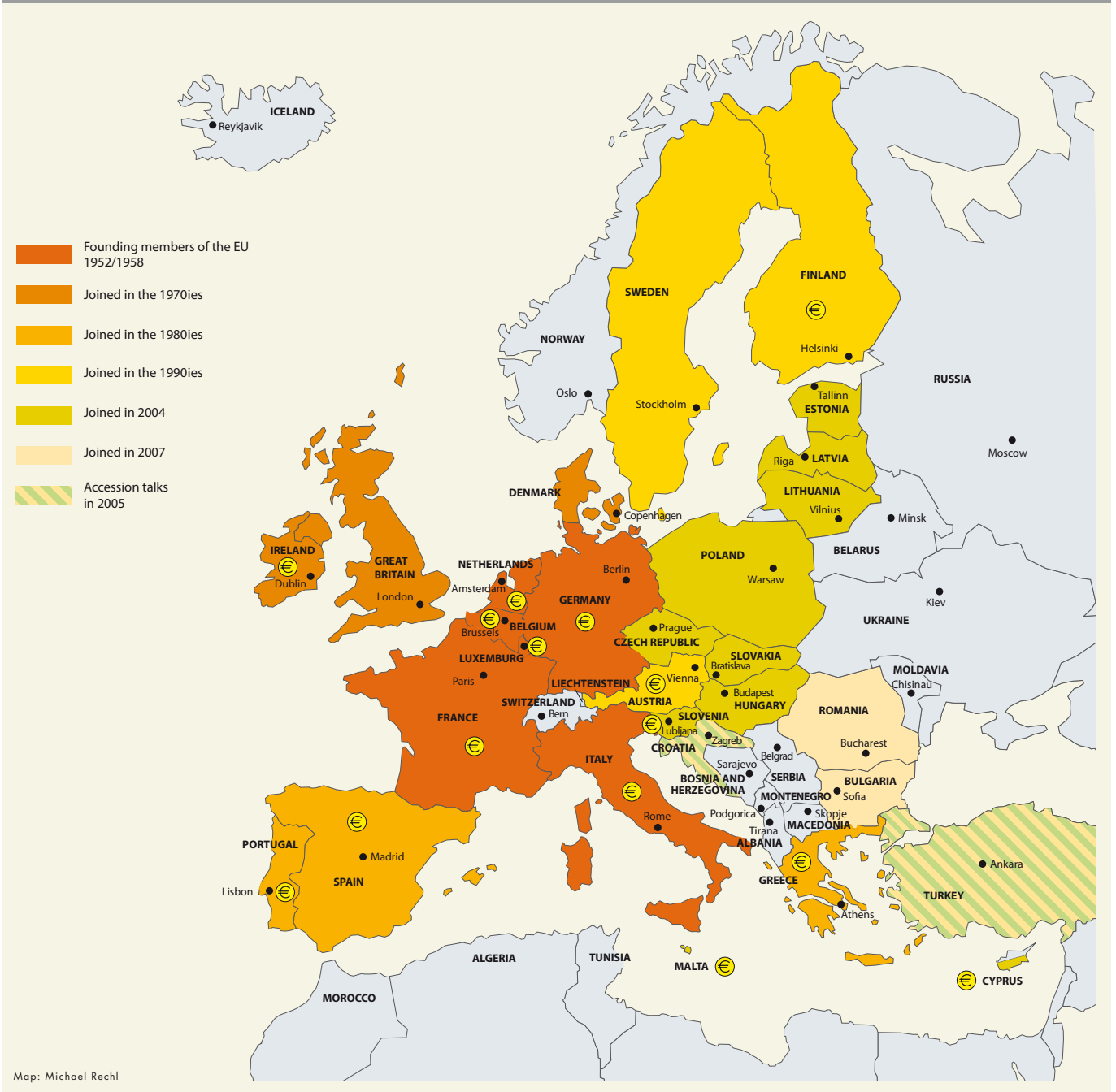
### Baden-Württemberg in the European Union

Baden-Württemberg has always felt a special obligation to the concerns of European integration. This is reflected in particular in the preamble to the state constitution, where since 1995 we read "[resolved] ... to organise this democratic state as a vital part of the Federal Republic of Germany in a unified Europe whose structure corresponds to federal principles and the principle of subsidiarity and to actively cooperate in the creation of a Europe of regions and encourage cross-border cooperation ...". This programmatic approach is expressed in various concrete forms and through a consensus across all parties in state politics.

The consolidation of European integration has been strongly upheld by Baden-Württemberg. It was a particular concern of the state that the principle of subsidiarity be anchored in the contractual foundations of the EU and it insisted on its implementation and enforceability. Since a united Europe would be inconceivable without the history of its towns and regions, subsidiarity is a crucial point for a democratic and grass-roots EU, along with municipal and regional self-rule and the federal ideal. Subsidiarity means that tasks are only shifted to a European level if they cannot be better dealt with "locally" – in other words in the municipalities, states or member countries.

The former Minister President Erwin Teufel pleaded strongly in favour of the treaty establishing a constitution for Europe as representative of the Bundesrat in the EU constitutional council and hereby emphasised federal aspects and the principle of subsidiarity. The representatives of Baden-Württemberg have also been heavily involved in the Committee of the Regions (CoR), an EU institution that has existed since 1994. The President of the Landtag, Peter Straub, was President of the Committee of Regions from 2004 until 2006. The state's commitment to European politics is also reflected in a whole number of provisions that have been made over time. For example, one member of the state parliament is responsible for EU affairs and represents the state in the Conference of European Ministers

## THE EUROPEAN UNION – MEMBER STATES AND THE EUROZONE



of German states that was established in 1993. Baden-Württemberg was one of the first German states to open an office in Brussels in 1987. The state has considerably strengthened its presence in Brussels by moving into the new and enlarged representation of the state in the EU in 2004. Special EU officers are ap-

pointed in every ministry within the state government. Employees of the state administration are regularly delegated to EU institutions and the state representation in Brussels with the aim of strengthening the state's "Europeability" through the knowledge, experience and contacts made there.



Photo: Representation of the State of Baden-Württemberg at the EU

## Representation of the State of Baden-Württemberg at the EU

The state representation is an interface between Baden-Württemberg and Brussels for European politics. It represents the state and protects the interests of Baden-Württemberg in the EU. The state representation is seen as a reliable and qualified dialogue partner in Brussels. It informs the state government and pertinent offices in due time of current developments on a European level. Conversely, it brings the state's concerns into the decision-making processes of EU institutions at an early stage. The state representation is simultaneously a dialogue partner for politics, business, associations and chambers, research institutions and universities as well as societies and politically interested groups in Baden-Württemberg who want to learn more about current developments in Brussels at first hand or who want to present themselves on the European stage.

The state representation is the hub of a network of employees from EU institutions, regional representations and other protagonists in Brussels. The strengths of the state and its justified interests in a European context are advertised, and an awareness is created for the state in Brussels through events and seminars on current topics that are related to the state and participants from both the state and EU organisations in Brussels. Since the Brussels offices of EnBW AG, Robert Bosch GmbH, the Würth Group and the Steinbeis-Europa-Zentrum moved into the building, the state representation has gained an even higher profile as a place where business contacts can be made and cultivated. This also underlines the significance of Baden-Württemberg in Brussels as a high-tech location, as a top region for research and development and an exporting state.

## Cross-border cooperation

Cross-border cooperation is a key element in the state's European policy, particularly in view of its 500 km long border to its neighbours France and Switzerland. The governments of the riparian states around Lake Constance have been cooperating in the International Lake Constance Conference (IBK) since 1972. The goal of the IBK is to maintain and promote the Lake Constance region as an attractive living, natural, cultural and economic area and to strengthen the sense of regional fellowship. Joint projects such as the Lake Constance Model, the Lake Constance Agenda 21, the International Lake Constance University as well as grants for young artists, climate protection studies or the EUREGIO Day Ticket clearly illustrate the wide range of topics in the IBK.

The German-French-Swiss Upper Rhine Conference (ORK) has provided the institutional framework for cross-border, regional cooperation in the Upper Rhine region since 1975 and links the governmental and administrative authorities of the Upper Rhine on a regional level. It involves the states of Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate, the cantons Basel-City, Basel-Country, Aargau, Jura and Solothurn as well as the French state, the Région Alsace and the Alsatian Départements Haut-Rhin and Bas-Rhin. The main task of the ORK is to tackle cross-border questions and to try and find a solution to these. With its nine study groups, the ORK provides a permanent platform for around 600 experts from the partner administrations and attempts to further facilitate the cohabitation of citizens from the Southern Palatinate, Baden, Alsace and North-West Switzerland – and at the same time develop the Upper Rhine Region into a transnational model for Europe.

The Upper Rhine Council (ORR) was founded in 1997 to deepen the cooperation. It consists of parliamentarians and elected representatives of the municipalities. The German-Swiss High-Rhine Commission (HRK) began its work in 1997 and is concerned with the diverse links and common cultural heritage on the High-Rhine. It was extended in 2006 to include the canton of Schaffhausen on the Swiss side.

## REPRESENTATION OF THE REGIONS IN THE EU

The internal regionalisation of Europe began to take on an institutional character from the 1980ies. In 1985, the Assembly of European Regions (AER) was founded with offices in Strasbourg, and today represents around 250 European regions. Baden-Württemberg is represented in the AER as one of the founding members.

The Committee of the Regions (CoR) was set up in 1994. This was the first time that an allowance was made for the existence and efficacy of a "third level" in Europe on a common legal basis. The CoR sees itself as the "Guardian of Subsidiarity" in the EU. It is an advisory organ consisting of more than 340 representatives of the regional and municipal authorities in Europe. Its aim is to ensure that these can express their opinions on EU policies and that regional and local identities and prerogatives are respected.

Baden-Württemberg is also a founding member of the new group of regions with legislative powers (REGLEG) that was founded in 2000.

### Partner regions and study groups

Baden-Württemberg maintains a lively cooperation with the regions Rhône-Alpes, Catalonia and Lombardy within the "Four Motors for Europe" study group. The four economically strong and research-intensive "motors" regard themselves as a "pacemaker" within their national states and the EU with a whole range of cooperations in the fields of economy, science, culture, environmental policy and social affairs.

Baden-Württemberg was and is prepared for the EU expansion, too. Traditionally close political and cultural ties exist with the PHARE countries in Central and Eastern Europe, through which the state has helped them on their way to democratic and free market economy structures. Very intensive contacts exist with Hungary, the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovenia, Croatia, Bulgaria and Romania.



The Danube is a European river that has always served as a bridge between cultures. The photo shows Erbach on the Danube, near Ulm on the edge of the Swabian Alb.

Photo: Manfred Grohe

### Baden-Württemberg: a model of European possibilities

Baden-Württemberg is a core state in an extended Europe. The state lies in the heart of Europe and with its around 10.7 million inhabitants and one of Europe's highest per capita incomes, it is larger and economically stronger than several EU member countries. Baden-Württemberg is also well equipped for the cooperation with and competition between European regions: It has various links to its European neighbouring and partner regions. The good starting position of the state

in the race for competitive advantages on the European common market can be traced back to the structure of its industries, the advantage of its location in the heart of Europe, the good education and training of employees as well as the high share of research institutions. But Baden-Württemberg has also encouraged the further growth of a sense of European togetherness for many years, which is why the first Federal President, Theodor Heuss, is often "misquoted" in the state. He described the Southwest State as a "model of German possibilities", which people nowadays rephrase as a "model of European possibilities."

# BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG'S ADMINISTRATION

The state capital Stuttgart.

Photo: Manfred Grohe



“Administration is control over day-to-day business” is how the sociologist Max Weber put it. And it is true: if politics is to become a social reality, it needs an administration. This implements what has been resolved politically. But it also prepares the political resolutions with its expert knowledge, experience, contact to daily life right down to the smallest village, with the aid of an excellent, specialised

bureaucracy. The administration also provides politics with feedback on just how appropriate the political resolutions, programmes and instruments are to actually achieve the set goals. Since the states are in principle responsible for implementing federal resolutions within the political system of the Federal Republic, the state administrations represent the basis of all politics in Germany.

The administration of a state includes not only those people who are employed directly by the state but also the civil servants in public corporations within the scope of their self-administration, especially those of municipalities and rural districts. It is thus no coincidence that the state administrations have the most personnel: of the 4.6 million civil servants, only 481,000 are employed by the Federation; in contrast,

there are 254,000 civil servants of the state in Baden-Württemberg alone. These are joined by 208,000 employees of municipalities and associations of local authorities as well as 82,000 persons employed in the indirect civil service here in the state, in other words a total of around 544,000 civil servants.

### Three-tier administrative structure

As in other large states in the Federal Republic of Germany, the administration in Baden-Württemberg is split into three regional levels: at the top, we find the Ministries – responsible for the entire state but with separate specialist competences. The administration below the ministerial level is classified according to spatial responsibilities so that the political decisions can be implemented harmoniously, “from the same mould” as it were, beyond their specialist limitation, and local peculiarities can be taken into account. This is why Baden-Württemberg is divided up into four administrative districts, named after the seat of the relevant Regional Governing Offices (Regierungspräsidium):

- Stuttgart: 10,557.7 km<sup>2</sup>;  
4.003 mn. inhabitants
- Karlsruhe: 6,919.9 km<sup>2</sup>;  
2.732 mn. inhabitants
- Freiburg: 9,347.0 km<sup>2</sup>;  
2.191 mn. inhabitants
- Tübingen: 8,917.7 km<sup>2</sup> ;  
1.805 mn. inhabitants

Until a short time ago, there were also numerous special authorities for individual fields. These were located outside the normal administrative structure, for example, four higher school authorities on the Regional Governing Offices level and state school authorities on a



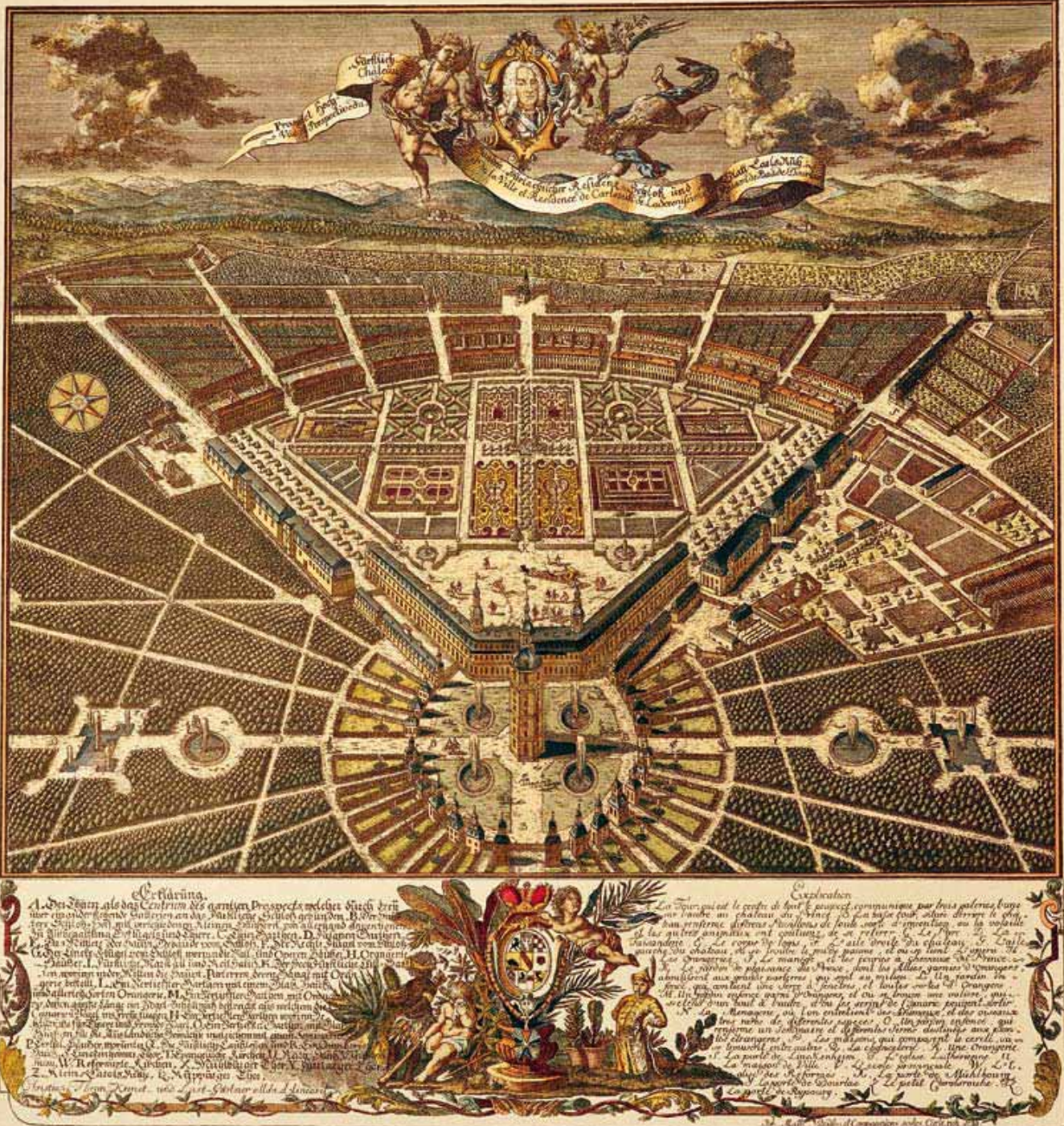
Administrative units in Baden-Württemberg.

Map: Landesvermessungsamt Baden-Württemberg

district level; five state police authorities (for the four administrative districts and the city of Stuttgart) and police departments for the districts; two forestry authorities (Tübingen and Freiburg) with subordinate forestry offices; health authorities; agricultural authorities, highway board departments as well as the State Office for Historical Monuments with state-wide tasks.

The administrative reform which was implemented by the Minister President Erwin Teufel shortly before the end of his term of office incorporated all of these special authorities into the existing three-tier administrative

structure: in the four Regional Governing Offices (in each of which personnel thus quadrupled) and the local authorities. The Regional Governing Offices and County Council Offices thus profited from this reform since it ensured their continued existence. A total of 350 such special state authorities were incorporated into the three-tier administrative structure. Even if this administrative reform, which came into force on 1 January, 2005, has not been without controversy – it has at least led to greater clarity.



Karlsruhe, the former seat of the court and state capital of Baden, today is the home to the Karlsruhe Regional Governing Office. The "Fan-Shaped City" of the Margraves of Baden-Durlach was

planned on the drawing board with a ruler and compasses. The town planning structure with the castle tower in the middle clearly reflects the absolutist way in which the sovereigns thought.

The engraving from 1739 shows Karlsruhe from the north.

Illustration: IMZ Baden-Württemberg

## The authorities of the state administration in Baden-Württemberg

Ministries	StM Ministry of State	JuM Ministry of Justice	IM Ministry of the Interior	KM Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport	MWK Ministry of Science, Research and Art	FM Ministry of Finance	WM Ministry of Economics	MLR Ministry of Food and Rural Areas	SM Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	UM Ministry of the Environment	General Accounting Office for Baden-Württemberg
Upper State Authorities	State Agency for Civic Education <sup>1)</sup>		State Appointee für Data Protection <sup>2)</sup> State Office for the Protection of the Constitution State Office of Criminal Investigation		State Archive	Higher Finance Authority State Office of Statistics State Salaries and Pensions Office		Regional Surveyor's Office			
Regional Governing Offices			Regional Governing Offices	Regional Governing Offices	Regional Governing Offices		Regional Governing Offices	Regional Governing Offices	Regional Governing Offices	Regional Governing Offices	
Higher Special Authorities								Corporate Forestry Institutions			State Auditing Offices
Lower Administrative Authorities			County Council Offices Urban Districts Large District Towns State Administrative Communities	County Council Offices Urban Districts	County Council Offices Urban Districts	County Council Offices Urban Districts Large District Towns State Administrative Communities	County Council Offices Urban Districts Large District Towns State Administrative Communities	County Council Offices Urban Districts Large District Towns State Administrative Communities	County Council Offices Urban Districts Large District Towns State Administrative Communities	County Council Offices Urban Districts Large District Towns State Administrative Communities	
Lower Special Authorities			State School Authorities <sup>3)</sup> Schools <sup>4)</sup>		Tax Offices						

Notes:

- 1) The State Agency for Civic Education is an unincorporated public body in the portfolio of the Ministry of State.
- 2) The State Appointee for Data Protection exercises his office independently and is only amenable to the law. He has his offices in the Ministry of the Interior (cf. § 26 ff State Data Protection Act).
- 3) State School Authorities only exist in the field of urban districts.
- 4) Schools are regarded as a lower special authority within the scope of § 23 para. 3 of the Schools Act.

Original: Fritz Endemann, 2007

© 8421 medien.de

## Municipalities as the basis of the state

“The municipalities are the basis of the political union”, says the constitution of the Kingdom of Württemberg from 1819: this held true at that time, as it did beforehand, and still holds true today. The municipalities are in principle responsible for all problems and duties that arise within their territory (general responsibility; principle of universality). They can only be deprived of this general responsibility in individual cases by way of law. And then only if they are out of their depth or further interests make a more comprehensive solution desirable or even necessary. This is laid down in the principle of subsidiarity, according to which each task is to be performed on the lowest possible level.

The municipalities are corporations of self-administration, in other words the citizens themselves bear the responsibility, though almost all of their tasks are performed by elected bodies: the municipal council and the mayor. The council is not a parliament but an administrative body that is in charge of the administration as a committee. The chairman of the council is the mayor. He (or, naturally, she), too, is elected directly by the citizens. He prepares the resolutions of the committee and then carries them out. He is the external representative of the municipality. In addition, the state uses the mayor and his full-time administration and assigns them state duties (e.g. police work, vital statistics, performance of elections). The mayor is hereby integrated in the normal official channels of the state and has to follow instructions from “above”.

## The rural districts

Duties which arise between the municipalities (e.g. connecting roads, public transport) or for which one municipality is too small (e.g. hospitals, vocational schools, special schools, waste disposal) are carried out by associations of local authorities (rural districts). The state also uses the County Council Offices to perform its tasks – even more so since the 2005 administrative reform, when school authorities, forestry authorities, etc. were incorporated into the county councils. In the meantime the ratio between self-administration tasks and state tasks on the rural district level has roughly been reversed: from 2:1 to 1:2. The state tasks of the County Council Offices have always included the supervision of municipalities. The relevant Regional Governing Office is





responsible for supervising municipalities with more than 20,000 inhabitants. After all, municipalities are not an autonomous level under state level within the political system but part of the states. This is why the states specify the frame of action (municipal code) for the municipalities, control the administration and budgetary frameworks. So it is not really surprising to learn that the municipalities are the level with the lowest debts in the political system of the Federal Republic of Germany.

### Local government reform in the 1970ies

Local government reforms were carried out throughout Germany in the 1960ies and 70ies so that municipalities and rural districts could perform their self-administration duties appropriately in view of the increasing problems in a densely populated state and the growing demands of its citizens. The maxim was: “A better administration is a specialised administration, and a specialised administration has to be a big administration.” For Baden-Würt-

Heidelberg is a place of pilgrimage for tourists from throughout the world. For hundreds of years the palace of red Neckar sandstone was the splendid residency of the Electoral Palatinate. It was not restored following its final destruction in the War of Palatinate Succession, also known as the Nine Years’ War, in 1689 and 1693. Only the Friedrichsbau has been fully rebuilt.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

temberg this meant that the 63 former rural districts were combined into just 35 with effect from 1 January, 1973. The nine urban districts in which the municipal and district levels overlapped remained unchanged.

The municipal reform that was completed on 1 January, 1975, reduced the number of political municipalities to around one third of its original number: from 3,379 to 1,108 (status: 2007), plus a municipal-free district, the Münsingen estate area which up to now has been used as a military training ground (275

## THE STUTTGART REGION

The Verband Region Stuttgart (Stuttgart Region Association) is a regional association of outstanding quality. Not simply because twenty percent of the state’s inhabitants live around Stuttgart within its boundaries: not just the state capital but a further 178 municipalities and five rural districts (Böblingen, Esslingen, Göppingen, Ludwigsburg, Rems-Murr). Here, where the problems of settlement development and traffic, countryside and environmental protection are particularly serious, and where there can also be some cutthroat competition between the municipalities, great efforts are needed to coordinate and control the problems between the city and its surrounding area. Apart from the normal planning tasks of a regional association, the Verband Region Stuttgart also has its own responsibilities and executive tasks: For example in public transport – the association is responsible for the suburban railway (S-Bahn) traffic –, in subareas of waste disposal, in tourism marketing, cultural and sports events as well as fairs and exhibitions, wherever these are of supra-regional importance. The association has founded its own company as an instrument of business development: the “Wirtschaftsförderung Region Stuttgart GmbH”.

Unlike the other regional associations, the Verband Region Stuttgart has a directly elected regional assembly that is elected at the same time as the municipal councils, though without any accumulation and splitting of votes. It normally has eighty members; following the election in 2004 the number currently stands at 93 members due to “Ausgleichsmandate” (compensatory seats). Mayors and county councilors are members of the regional assembly, which can be seen as an indication of the importance of the association. At the same time, the heads of local politics make sure that the association does not take too many liberties. Unlike structures on a municipal level, the association has a “double-headed” leadership, with an honorary president of the regional assembly and a full-time association director. This should make it clear that the association is not a further municipal level.

inhabitants; there are no municipal elections here; it is administered by a civil servant appointed by the Higher Finance Authority in Stuttgart).

Unlike other federal states, namely North Rhine-Westphalia (18 mn. inhabitants, only 396 municipalities), Baden-Württemberg has remained a state of small and medium-sized municipalities. Only four cities in the state have over 200,000 inhabitants: Stuttgart (593,000), Mannheim (308,000), Karlsruhe (285,000) and Freiburg im Breisgau (216,000). Five more towns have over 100,000 inhabitants: Heidelberg (143,000), Heilbronn (122,000), Ulm (121,000), Pforzheim (119,000) and Reutlingen (112,000). 89 municipalities have the legal title “Große Kreisstadt” (large district town) with a population between 20,000 and 100,000; and the head of their administration can call him or herself “Oberbürgermeister” (mayor). On the other hand, half of the municipalities in the state (53 %) only have up to 5,000 inhabitants. 311 municipalities in Baden-Württemberg are allowed to bear the title “Town”.

Furthermore, smaller municipalities often merge to form administrative communities in which some of the duties for all member municipalities are handled jointly, for example, scheduling the budget. Districts with municipal councils can be formed within municipalities that consist of several districts. A district constitution can also be introduced for cities such as Stuttgart.

The municipal councils are elected directly by the citizens; the district councils are constituted by the town councils, at the suggestion of the groups in the town council and according to the voting strengths of the lists for the municipal council elections in the relevant district. Municipal and district councils generally have an advisory function.



The Minster in the old Imperial City of Ulm on the Danube, the permanent meeting place of the Swabian Imperial Circle in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century, has the highest church tower in the world (161 m).

Photo: UNT / Stadtarchiv Ulm

### The twelve regional associations

There are a total of 12 regional associations in Baden-Württemberg so as to enable supra-local planning within the scope of the regional policy:

- Stuttgart
- Ostwürttemberg
- Franken
- Unterer Neckar
- Mittlerer Oberrhein
- Nordschwarzwald
- Südlicher Oberrhein
- Schwarzwald-Baar-Heuberg
- Hochrhein-Bodensee
- Neckar-Alb
- Donau-Iller
- Bodensee-Oberschwaben

The job of these regional associations is the large-scale control of settlement and traffic developments, business promotion, supplies and waste disposal, environmental protection, culture. Since these problems do not end at state frontiers, the Donau-Iller regional association spans the border and cooperates with its Bavarian neighbour. The regional associations are a planning instrument and have no executive functions – with the exception of the Stuttgart regional association.

# LOCAL POLITICS

The Town Hall – like the half-timbered Town Hall in Bad Urach shown here – is the symbol for citizen spirit and self-administration of the municipalities in Baden-Württemberg.

Photo: Kurverwaltung Bad Urach



The outstanding position of municipalities is underlined by the fact that the Basic Law and state constitution expressly guarantee the right of municipal self-administration (“institutional guarantee”, Art. 28,2 Basic Law, Art. 71,1 State Constitution of Baden-Württemberg): “Municipalities must be guaranteed the right to regulate all local affairs on their own responsibility, within the limits prescribed by

the laws. (...)The guarantee of self-government shall extend to the bases of financial autonomy; these bases shall include the right of municipalities to a source of tax revenues based upon economic ability and the right to establish the rates at which these sources shall be taxed.” (Art. 28,2 Basic Law)

The duties of the municipalities, however, go beyond simple self-administration. Certain responsibilities are obligatory, and are joined by state tasks. The duties of the municipalities can thus be divided up into the following groups:

- Voluntary tasks, whose fulfilment is decided solely by the municipal council: these include, for example, the construction of a municipal hall, swimming baths, the establish-

## THE POWER OF CITIZENS IN BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

ment of museums or a theatre. They may also include the redevelopment of the town centre or grants to clubs.

- Obligatory tasks without instructions: these have to be fulfilled, but the municipal council decides on “how”. These include kindergartens, schools, cemeteries, sewage plants. Nevertheless, their leeway is restricted by the specifications of the state or through allocation criteria for grants and subsidies.

- Obligatory tasks with instructions: in this case, the state prescribes how the task is to be performed. Examples include the organisation of local elections.

- State tasks in which the state (be this the “Land” or the Federation) only uses the municipal administration for reasons of convenience: these primarily include the field of the administration of law and order. The sole responsibility lies with the mayor, who thus quasi becomes part of the state administration. The municipalities are reimbursed for the concomitant expenses.

There has been a quantitative and qualitative increase in the scope of municipal tasks in the course of industrialisation and the expansion of the welfare state. The municipalities take care of the infrastructure such as roads and paths, energy, water supplies and sewage disposal, environmental protection; they develop residential areas, though also provide their own housing; they develop industrial estates and canvass companies willing to move to the area; they provide child care facilities and old-peoples homes as well as leisure facilities.

Despite numerous state specifications, the municipalities have an enormous leeway, particularly if they use their creativity. Competition also pays off on the municipal level, in local politics, unlike in centralistic states where everything comes from and is expected from “above”.

The citizen comes before the municipal council and mayor in the municipal code of Baden-Württemberg. This embodies the maxim that the institutions are there for the citizens, can only legitimise themselves by referring to the citizens, to their mandate and the services they render for them. The citizen in Baden-Württemberg has an important influence over local affairs because

- he or she decides directly who is to be mayor (plebiscite);
- he or she has a great influence on who is elected to the municipal councils by means of vote-splitting and aggregation.

The elements of direct democracy have a firm tradition in local politics in Baden-Württemberg:

- a certain quorum of citizens can enforce an open council (§ 20a Municipal Code);
- a maximum number of eligible voters, that is graded according to the size of the municipality, can enforce the discussion of certain matters in the municipal council per “citizen’s motion” (§ 20b Municipal Code);
- the referendum is the most important possibility for a direct participation of citizens in local political decisions: the citizenship takes the place of the municipal council in a referendum. Accordingly, a referendum can be held on all matters for which the municipal council is otherwise responsible.

Ideally, the citizens should monitor the work of the mayor and decisions of the municipal council with a critical eye without degenerating into bellyachers. Politics in the municipality is by all means understandable for citizens. This is inconsistent with the fact that the participation in mayoral and municipal council elections is relatively low, with a downward trend, though this could also be interpreted as a sign of mobility, which is an obstacle to closer ties with the municipality in which one lives. At the same time, this can be understood as a sign of satisfaction with the services of the municipality: the more content the citizens are, the lower the incentive to get involved – and vice versa.

If a popular mayor is up for reelection with no rivals, a low turnout is not really surprising. But the turnout falls the larger the town or city is – an indication of the associated loosening

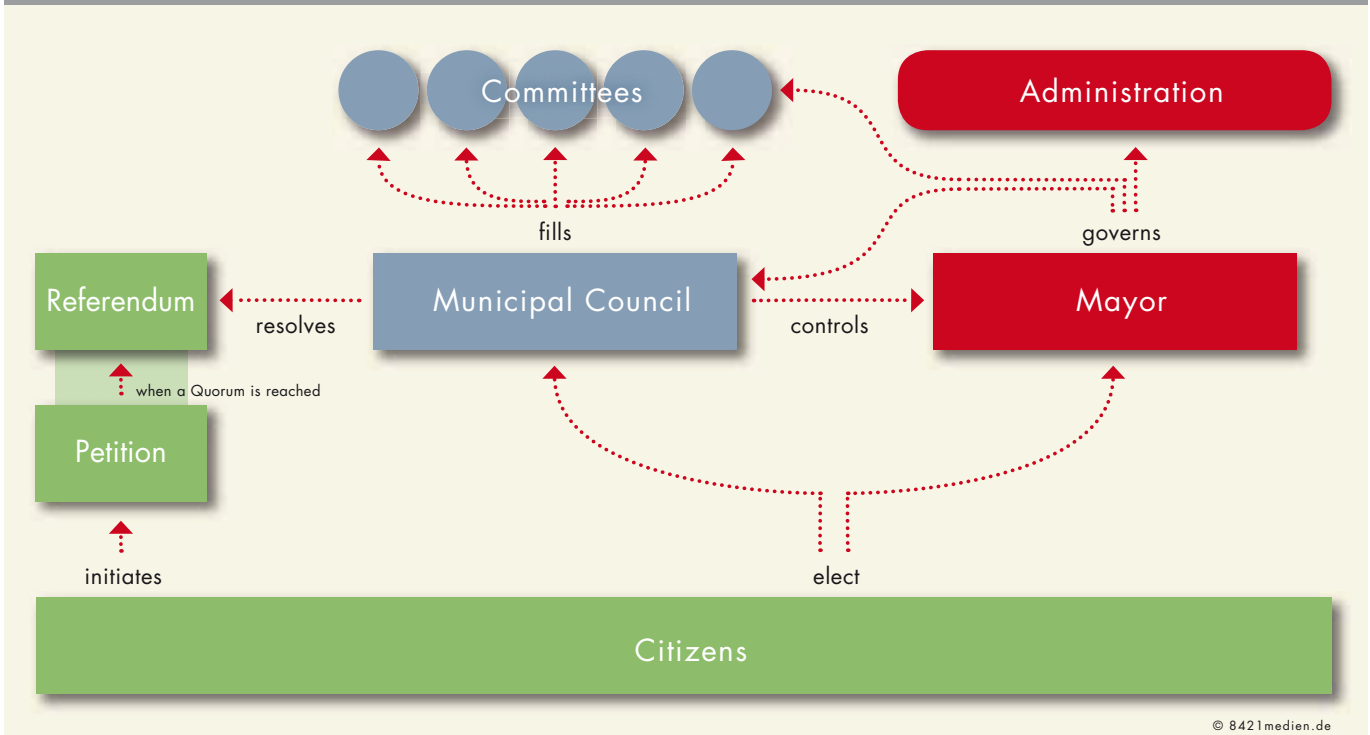
Nevertheless, certain affairs are excluded from a referendum through a negative catalogue, for example the legal status of the mayor, the municipal councils and municipal civil servants; the budget and fees; master building plans and building regulations – on the assumption that citizens may think only of themselves in such matters. A referendum can be enforced through a corresponding petition or be initiated by a resolution of the municipal council (with a two-thirds majority; “council request”). A referendum is validated if the majority accounts for at least 25 percent of the persons eligible to vote (§ 21 Municipal Code). The significance of this instrument becomes apparent not only from its – relatively rare – use. Much more important is its very existence: if the municipal council has to fear being “called to order” by the citizenship, it will try harder to listen to the citizens’ wishes. The council thus has competition – and as we all know, competition is good for business. In the end, a referendum is an instrument to control the quality of local politics.

## VILLAGE AND DISTRICT CONSTITUTION

The mayor, municipal council and central administration are institutions of local politics with a frame of reference that encompasses the entire municipality. District and village mayors, district and village councils and, in many places, local administrations act on a district level.

The Municipal Code for Baden-Württemberg includes the possibility of a district constitution (§§ 64–66 Municipal Code) for municipalities with more than 100,000 inhabitants or spatially separate districts and a village constitution (§§ 67–73 Municipal Code) for municipalities with spatially separate districts.

Unlike the district councillors, who have been appointed up to now by the municipal council despite the possibility of direct elections, the village councillors are elected to their office by the citizens in the village or district.



of ties to the municipality, which is sometimes no more than a somewhat “chance” abode. The municipality is then regarded as a service provider that consistently performs its work satisfactorily – thanks to the mayor and his administration as well as the municipal council. Apart from an emotional link to the municipality, “concrete” interests are then more of an

incentive to become involved, even between elections. This can by all means be seen as a theoretical dilemma for democracy.

### Constitution and administration for the municipalities

Local politics takes place in a given legal space. The competence to enact the municipal code rests with the state legislative bodies. This freedom of scope has been used by the states. Each of the German states today has its own

### STRONG MAYORS IN THE “LÄNDLE”

The municipal council elected by the citizens of Baden-Württemberg is to all intents and purposes the “main institution in the municipality”. It resolves municipal laws, controls the mayor and administration, employs municipal civil servants and resolves tax collection rates and spending. But municipal reality looks much different: the main protagonist on the local politics stage is the mayor. Even if the “business” has become more difficult: the office of the mayor in Baden-Württemberg can still be seen as a “dream job”.

The south German council constitution, the municipal constitutional system in Baden-Württemberg, creates the best prerequisites for the mayor’s strong position. The head of the municipality simultaneously combines three functions in his office and position:

- he is the chairman with voting power of the municipal council and all of its committees;
- he is the head of an administration tailored to his needs;
- he is the figurehead and legal representative of the municipality.

The mayor is the only member of the municipal council who plays a decisive role in all three phases of municipal affairs: the phase in which decisions are prepared, the phase in which consultations are held and legal decisions made in the municipal council and finally the phase in which the decisions are implemented. In addition, the municipal code in Baden-Württemberg grants the head of the municipality a further instrument of power, even if this is rarely used: the mayor is entitled to decide “in lieu of the municipal council”,

namely in “urgent matters (...), whose settlement cannot be postponed until a municipal council meeting can be convened without notice and informally.” (§ 43,4 Municipal Code).

#### The “higher order” of a direct election

The mayor’s position is strengthened by a further factor: citizens in Baden-Württemberg have always elected their mayor themselves. This plebiscite generally speaking bestows a “higher order” on the respective office bearer. The direct election means not only more citizen participation, it also strengthens the authority of the mayor, who stands before the municipal council as the elected representative of the people and can claim to enforce his ideas with reference to the will of the people. This is an incentive for a strong, authoritative personality to stand for the office.

municipal administrative system. The most important features of the municipal code in Baden-Württemberg are:

- The municipal council is elected as the representative of the municipal citizens for a period of five years.
- The strong position of the mayor: he is chairman of the council, manages the administration and is the external representative of the municipality.
- The (lord) mayor is elected directly by the citizens in Baden-Württemberg for a period of eight years.
- Numerous elements of direct democracy: the initiation of open councils; a citizen's request that the municipal council deals with a certain topic; petitions and referendums.

### The municipal council

The municipal council is the “main institution of the municipality” (§ 24,1 Sentence 1 of the Municipal Code). It is the political representative of the citizenship that “determines the principles for the administration of the municipality (...) and [decides] on all affairs of the municipality, unless the mayor is responsible by operation of law.” (§24,1 Sentence 2, Municipal Code)



Meeting of the municipal council in the town of Stühlingen in the south of the Black Forest: one of the few municipalities in Baden-Württemberg with a Lady Mayor.

Photo: Municipality of Stühlingen

The municipal council is responsible for controlling the municipal administration. The most important rights of the municipal council are:

- the statutory law (the “legislative right” of the municipality);
- the budget law;
- the planning authority;
- the personnel authority (the employment of municipal civil servants).

The municipal councillors have a five year term of office. Like the district councillors, members of the state and federal parliament, they are elected in a universal, direct, free, equal and secret election by the citizens. The number of municipal councillors depends on the population of the municipality.

Mayors with a background in administration are preferably elected in Baden-Württemberg even though the municipal code makes no demands on the qualification – apart from a minimum age of 25. Applicants from outside the municipality are also given preference, so that they can assume their office as a mayor for all citizens with no encumbrance. This also means that they maintain a distance to the parties. Almost half of the mayors are in fact neutral. More than anything else, a good mayor needs to be in contact with the grass roots. What's more, he has to have ideas on how the municipality is to progress, or put differently: visions. He has a very good chance of reelection if people see that he goes about his business in a good and neutral way. Although mayors in this country are worried because the number of mayors who have not been re-elected

has increased, this is still a very rare occurrence. In most cases, these mayors had lost contact with the citizens. Over the past 30 years, there have been no more than 170 cases, where the mayor was not reelected, hardly more than four percent, relative to the office bearers who stood for reelection. It is not possible to prematurely vote someone out of power in Baden-Württemberg. After the election, all of the persons involved have to be prepared for eight years of work together. The municipal council, on the other hand, is elected for five years, but there is a high level of personnel continuity here, too.

### A rarity: the Lady Mayor

There are currently (July 2008) 35 Lady Mayors amongst the more than 1,000 full-time mayors in the state, eight of whom are Lord Mayors. This accounts for just 3.3 percent of the total number, though 8.2 percent of Lord Mayors. Before 1990, when Beate Weber was elected Lady Mayor in Heidelberg, only men had filled this post in Baden-Württemberg. Since then, a total of a further 40 women have been elected. In this sense it can be said that women have in fact caught up a little.



The baroque Town Hall in Wangen im Allgäu.

Photo: Rupert Leser

## The municipal regional associations

There are three municipal regional associations in Baden-Württemberg:

- the “Städtetag Baden-Württemberg” (Association of Baden-Württemberg Cities and Towns) with 179 members;
- the “Gemeindetag Baden-Württemberg” (Association of Local Authorities in Baden-Württemberg), representing 1,062 member towns and municipalities;
- the “Landkreistag Baden-Württemberg” (Association of Administrative Districts in Baden-Württemberg) as representative of the 35 administrative districts.

The three municipal regional associations represent the manifold interests of their members toward the state government, state parlia-

ment and the general public. The municipal representatives have a right to a hearing that is anchored in Art. 71,4 of the State Constitution: “Before general questions that affect the municipalities and municipal associations are settled through a law or ordinance, these or their associations are to be heard in due time.” This has led to a close cooperation between the individual ministries and the three municipal regional associations.

The extensive right of participation is based on the special significance of the municipalities in the governmental organisation of the state. The decisions taken in the state parliament are implemented in the municipalities. Important questions, for example, of environmental protection, transport policy, educational and cultural policy, cannot be solved without the participation of the municipalities.

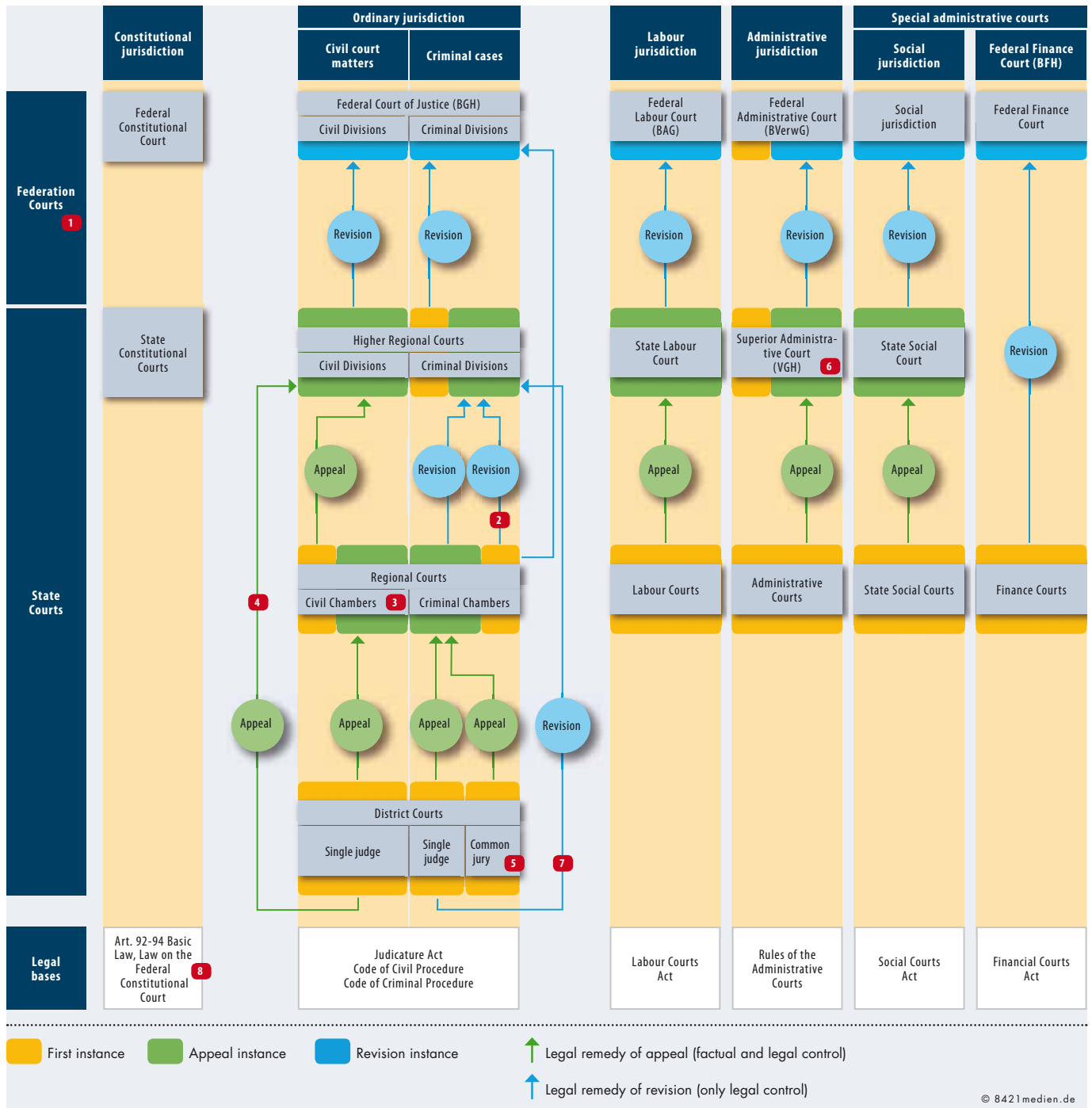
## MUNICIPAL FINANCES

The municipalities need money to carry out their work. It is hereby important just how “self-administration-friendly” the revenues are; i. e. to what extent can the municipalities influence the amount of the revenues, but also how freely can they dispose of these. The municipalities receive their income from three main sources:

- Own tax revenues: these include the real taxes: land and business tax (the municipalities can set their own collection rates), as well as a share of the income and value added tax. These are joined by entertainment duty, dog licence fees, second residence taxes as “petty taxes”. Around three quarters of the tax revenues come from the business tax and income tax. Business tax revenues are very cyclical, income tax flows more steadily.
- Grants from the state, federation and the EU: grants can be awarded freely, and then flow like taxes for free use by the municipalities. These include payments that are intended to balance disparities in the funding of the municipalities to a certain extent (“financial equalisation”). These are joined by grants for statutory tasks, for example, the construction of schools or welfare services. In these cases, the municipalities demand full compensation for the costs they have to bear (“principle of connexity”, anchored in Art. 71,3 of the State Constitution). Grants can also be tied to projects. This should induce the municipalities to adopt a certain behaviour, i. e. the giver specifies whether and on which terms money can be given (“golden reins”). The municipalities are free to decide whether they wish to accept such offers.
- Payments, fees, contributions for services rendered by the municipalities: kindergartens, swimming baths, issuing identity documents, marriages, cemeteries, waste disposal and sewage treatment as well as development fees for residents of streets.

Each of the different types of income makes up around one third of the municipal budget on average, though the deviations from this average may be considerable in some cases. Other revenues from the sale of property, rents, forest ownership also have to be included. If the revenues are not high enough, loans can be taken out to finance investments, but these have to be approved by the municipal supervisory authorities – as do the overall budgets of the municipalities.

# LEGAL CHANNELS AND APPEALS



- 1 BGH, BAG, BVerwG, BSG and BFH, the supreme federal courts, form a joint chamber to preserve the uniformity of decisions (Art. 95,3 Basic Law).
- 2 Only if the violation of state law is to be exclusively enforced.
- 3 Including chambers for commercial matters. Single judges decide in civil chambers at first instance; disputes from certain legal fields are excepted, e.g. medical law, copyright; these disputes can, however, be transferred by a chamber resolution to one of its members under certain circumstances.
- 4 Only in family matters or if pertinent to other countries.

- 5 A common jury only exists in larger district courts.
- 6 In other federal states, the court is called the Higher Administrative Court (OVG). VGH/OVG and the Federal Administrative Court also have responsibilities at first instance.
- 7 Revision against the decisions of the single judge that cannot be contested in the appeal.
- 8 With respect to the State Constitutional Courts, please refer to the pertinent state constitution and the corresponding law on the state constitutional court; the names are different: "Staatsgerichtshof", "Verfassungsgerichtshof", "Landesverfassungsgericht".

The diagram can only show the jurisdictions expressly prescribed by the Basic Law in Art. 95,1. The following can also be named alongside these: disciplinary courts of the Federation and states, judicial services courts of the Federation and states, military service courts (Federation), Patent Appeal Tribunal (Federation), restitution courts (Federation), naval courts (for certain ordinary courts), private appeal tribunals for professional occupations (e.g. doctors, lawyers).

Original: Fritz Endemann, 2007

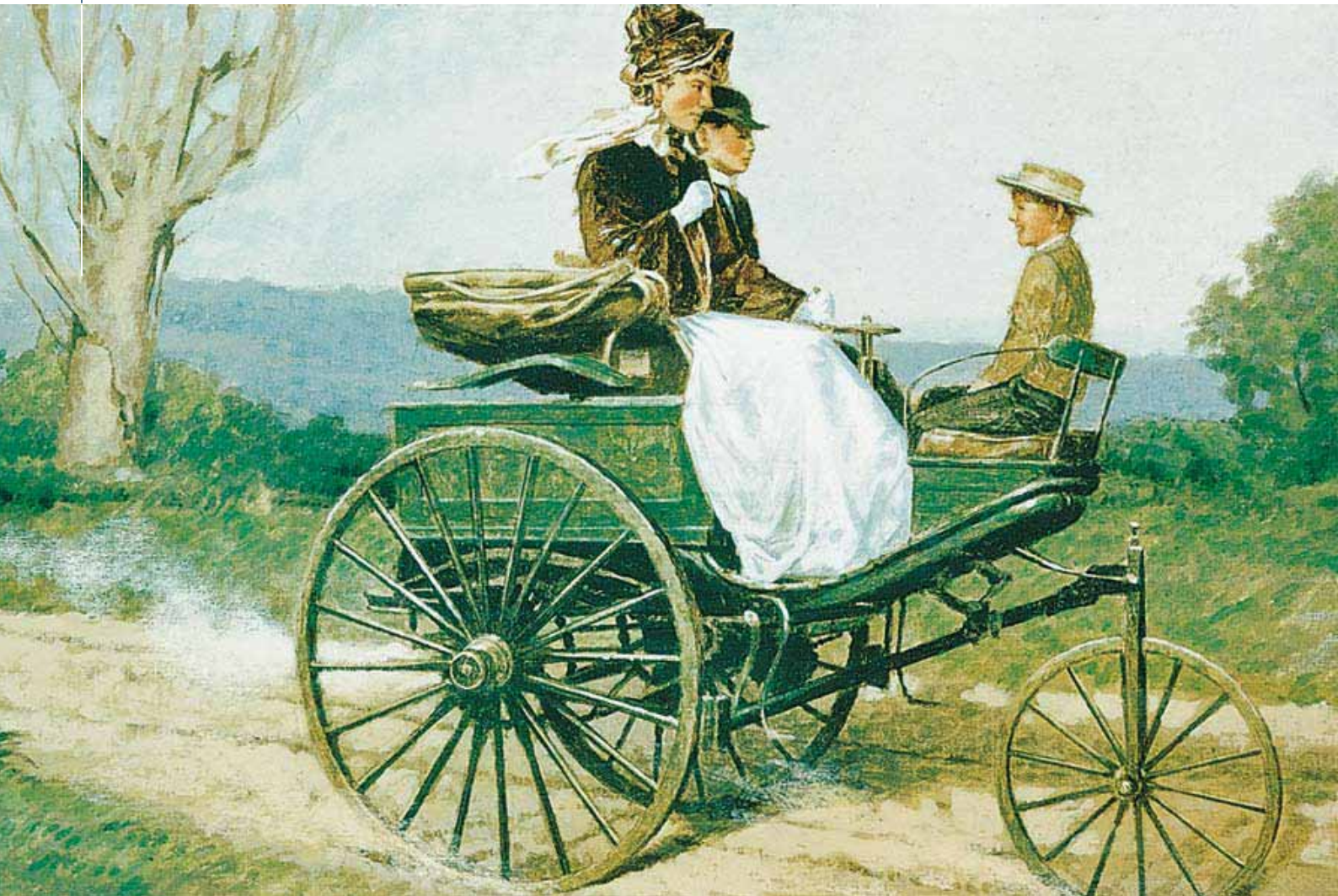


# THE ECONOMY IN BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

Probably the most famous invention from the "Ländle": the automobile. Gottlieb Daimler from Schorndorf developed the fast running 4-stroke engine together with the "King of Designers" Wilhelm Maybach in a garden shed in the grounds of his villa in Cannstatt, an invention that was to revolutionise transport around the globe. The first motorbike rattled over the cobblestones of Cannstatt in 1885, followed

in 1886 by the first automobile, at that time a motorised carriage. Carl Friedrich Benz from Karlsruhe in Baden had built an automobile with a 4-stroke combustion engine and electric ignition the previous year, which he also presented in 1886. Berta Benz (illustration) tested her husband Carl Friedrich's invention.

Photo: Daimler AG archive



The southwest of Germany today is one of the most prosperous regions in Germany and Europe. The rise of this economic area began with industrialisation in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It was a gradual change from an agrarian to an industrial society – slower than in other industrial regions in Germany. This structural change gathered momentum in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century – industrialisation gained

more ground. Over the past fifty years, the living conditions and economic structure have changed faster and more lastingly than ever before.

Today we can see that Baden-Württemberg has successfully faced up to the challenge posed by globalisation over the past decades. It is one of the most efficient and productive

German states and is almost always amongst the leaders in any comparison with other German states. It is an industry and export-oriented state, home on the one hand to industrial giants with international reputations such as Daimler, Bosch and IBM Deutschland, though on the other hand it still has an SME economic structure (SME = small and medium-sized enterprises). And finally, Baden-Württemberg is

tural change and will have to keep developing its traditional innovative strength if it wants to retain its leading position. The goal of the state's economic policy is to maintain the above-average level of employment and prosperity by creating effective parameters for the economic policy and hereby help companies in the state to successfully face the changing

## Structural change and business sectors

Over the past years, the service economy has made an above-average contribution to the economic performance and, above all, employment in Baden-Württemberg. The service sector now accounts for way over sixty percent

### A COMPARISON OF GERMAN STATES

	Area Share of federal territory in percent	Inhabitants Share of federal territory in percent	Employees Share of federal territory in percent	Unemployment rate in percent for all civil wage earners	GDP per wage earner in euros	Foreign trade Share of federal territory in percent
<b>FEDERAL TERRITORY</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>57,899</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Baden-Württemberg</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>61,236</b>	<b>15.7</b>
Bavaria	19.8	15.1	16.2	8.9	63,512	16.3
Berlin	0.2	4.1	3.9	21.5	51,736	1.3
Brandenburg	8.3	3.1	3.1	19.9	47,772	0.8
Bremen	0.1	0.8	0.7	18.3	64,231	1.6
Hamburg	0.2	2.1	2.2	12.9	76,084	2.9
Hesse	5.9	7.4	7.5	10.9	65,270	5.0
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	6.5	2.1	2.0	22.1	44,520	0.4
Lower Saxony	13.3	9.7	9.3	13.0	53,464	7.6
North Rhine-Westphalia	9.5	21.9	20.9	13.2	58,163	18.2
Rhineland-Palatinate	5.6	4.9	5.0	9.9	54,770	4.3
Saarland	0.7	1.3	1.2	11.7	54,230	1.5
Saxony	5.2	5.2	5.0	20.0	45,521	2.2
Saxony-Anhalt	5.7	3.0	2.8	21.7	48,701	1.0
Schleswig-Holstein	4.4	3.4	3.4	13.0	56,296	2.1
Thuringia	4.5	2.8	2.8	18.6	44,649	1.0

Source: Statistisches Bundesamt Wiesbaden, 2007 (status 2005)

© 8421medien.de

one of the most attractive locations for investors in Europe.

The strengths of the Baden-Württemberg economy are the distinctive clusters for automobile and production technology, its technology competence, the internationality and interaction between big companies and SMEs. Nevertheless, the state is undergoing a struc-

tural change and will have to keep developing its traditional innovative strength if it wants to retain its leading position. The goal of the state's economic policy is to maintain the above-average level of employment and prosperity by creating effective parameters for the economic policy and hereby help companies in the state to successfully face the changing

national and international challenges. It is important to create space where ideas and initiatives can develop and flourish in an export-intensive state such as Baden-Württemberg so that these can then be turned into innovative and competitive products and services.

of the value creation and employment. In the course of this structural change, the sectoral economic structure of Baden-Württemberg has developed more and more into a "tri-partite" system of industry, business-related service providers and personal and consumeristic services. Thus, the sector of mainly knowledge-intensive and business-related services (R&D, data processing services and software develop-



ment, information and communication, consulting services, engineering and architectural services, advertising and financial services, the credit services sector, insurance companies, etc.) contributes almost as much to value creation in the state as industry (28 percent compared to 31 percent). The predominantly personal and consumeristic services (above all trade, transport services, hotel and restaurant industry, leisure sector, health, culture, education, etc.) contribute almost 34 percent.

Nevertheless, the shares of value creation and employment in the service sector are lower than the national average – which also has a historical background. Although the small-scale, decentralised structure in the Southwest with its tradition of small trades and handicrafts offered favourable conditions for the development of highly-specialised industrial enterprises, the chances of success for large service companies were only modest. Technical services, on the other hand, have a higher-than-average showing in Baden-Württemberg. The economic structure that has evolved here

Innovation has a tradition in the Southwest: the region around Freiburg im Breisgau is one of the centres of innovation in the state. The photo shows the solar factory in Freiburg. This factory building is the first in Europe that can boast zero emissions for solar electricity modules and covers its electricity and heat requirements exclusively with regenerative energies.

Photo: Solar-Fabrik AG, Freiburg

with its technical focus has also established itself in the service sector.

### Leading position in an inner-German comparison

The level of services offered by the local economy remains high. Baden-Württemberg takes a leading position in a comparison of all German states with

- a much higher-than-average per capita income;
- a high wage level;
- a favourable development in employment;

- a relatively low unemployment rate;
- an above-average development in productivity and a high speed of technological innovation;
- a strong orientation to the world market, reflected in a high export quota and high corporate assets abroad;
- a high financial power and thus a high contributor share in the horizontal financial equalisation between states.

One reason for the state's economic success is its location. Given the lack of natural raw materials, it is qualification, innovative work and a high flexibility of the people that are the real sources of the state's strength. The great love of "tinkering around" can be seen in the patent statistics and the high level of expenditure for research and development. This also determines whether the positive economic trend will become stable and whether the state can tackle the problems of the 21<sup>st</sup> century: tougher international competition

## A PARADISE FOR TINKERERS

### Leading position for patents

Baden-Württemberg takes first place in the European Union when it comes to innovative ability. No other region in Europe has more employees in high-tech industries and nowhere – relative to the population – are more patents registered than in Baden-Württemberg. Inventive talent has a tradition in this region: almost a quarter of all patent registrations in Germany each year come from the innovative descendants of Johannes Kepler, Philipp Matthäus Hahn, Gottlieb Daimler, Carl Friedrich Benz and Count Zeppelin.

through European integration and the EU expansion, globalisation, the continued spread of new communication and information technologies, demographic change, social equality in the state and, not least, the demand for comprehensive sustainability.

## ECONOMIC DATA FOR BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

	Unit	1995	2000	2005
<b>POPULATION</b>				
Inhabitants	1,000	10,319	10,524	10,736
Foreigners	1,000	1,348	1,284	1,278
Excess of births over deaths	Number	14,726	10,842	201
Net immigration	Number	32,572	37,641	18,145
<b>WAGE EARNERS</b>				
Wage earners	1,000	4,735	4,910	5,093
Labour force participation rate <sup>1</sup>	%	49.7	49.4	51.1
Self-employed (without agriculture)	1,000	418	437	486
Foreigners	1,000	600	606	609
Share of wage earners				
Agriculture and forestry	%	2.7	2.4	2.0
Industry	%	42.8	40.7	38.3
Mining and processing trade	%	34.8	33.2	31.5
Building trade	%	7.3	6.9	6.1
Commerce, catering trade and transport	%	20.2	19.4	20.3
Other services	%	34.2	37.5	39.4
Property market, renting				
Services for companies	%	5.8	8.0	9.2
Public and private services	%	18.0	19.5	20.5
<b>ECONOMIC POWER</b>				
Gross domestic product				
in relevant prices	mn. euros	261,064	297,393	330,715
per inhabitant	euros	25,358	28,343	30,818
Share of the gross value added (relevant prices)				
Agriculture and forestry, fishing	%	1.1	1.2	0.7
Industry without building trade	%	33.1	33.6	34.4
Processing trade	%	31.1	32.0	32.7
Energy and water supplies	%	1.9	1.4	1.5
Building trade	%	5.7	5.1	4.2
Commerce, catering trade and transport	%	15.4	15.9	16.2
Financing, renting and corporate service providers	%	26.0	25.5	26.1
Public and private service providers	%	18.8	18.7	18.5
<b>LABOUR MARKET</b>				
Unemployed	1,000	328.3	281.5	385.3
Short-time workers	1,000	24.9	8.1	17.8
Unemployment rate <sup>2</sup>	%	7.4	5.4	7.0

<sup>1</sup> Share of wage earners in the population <sup>2</sup> Relative to all civil wage earners

Source: Statistisches Landesamt Baden-Württemberg

### Typical and important sectors

The industrial structure proved to be a decisive factor for prosperity in the past. The capital goods sector, accounting for almost two thirds

of all jobs in industry, takes precedence. The majority of these jobs are in the three industrial branches of mechanical engineering, vehicle construction and electrical engineering. These are followed by the consumer goods

industry with the segments textile, clothing, wood and plastics processing as well as the printing trade. The industrial core in Baden-Württemberg is more pronounced than in the national average: around one eighth of the

population of Germany live in the Southwest, but almost one fifth of all industrial employees work here. The primary and producer goods industries, on the other hand, are clearly under-represented in the state. This means that Baden-Württemberg is not home to those lines of industry that have been hardest hit by the international structural change (coal, steel, shipbuilding, etc.).

### The industrial conurbations

The southwest of Germany traditionally has a decentralised industrial and economic structure. Nevertheless, more than one third of all inhabitants and almost half of the state's production facilities are concentrated in the industrial conurbations of Baden-Württemberg – in the Stuttgart region, the Rhine-Neckar/Mannheim region and the Middle Upper Rhine/Karlsruhe region. The core region is the Stuttgart region, one of Germany's biggest industrial conurbations, whose dynamic

and innovative power is constantly emitting stimuli for all parts of the state.

### Small trades: the second biggest economic sector

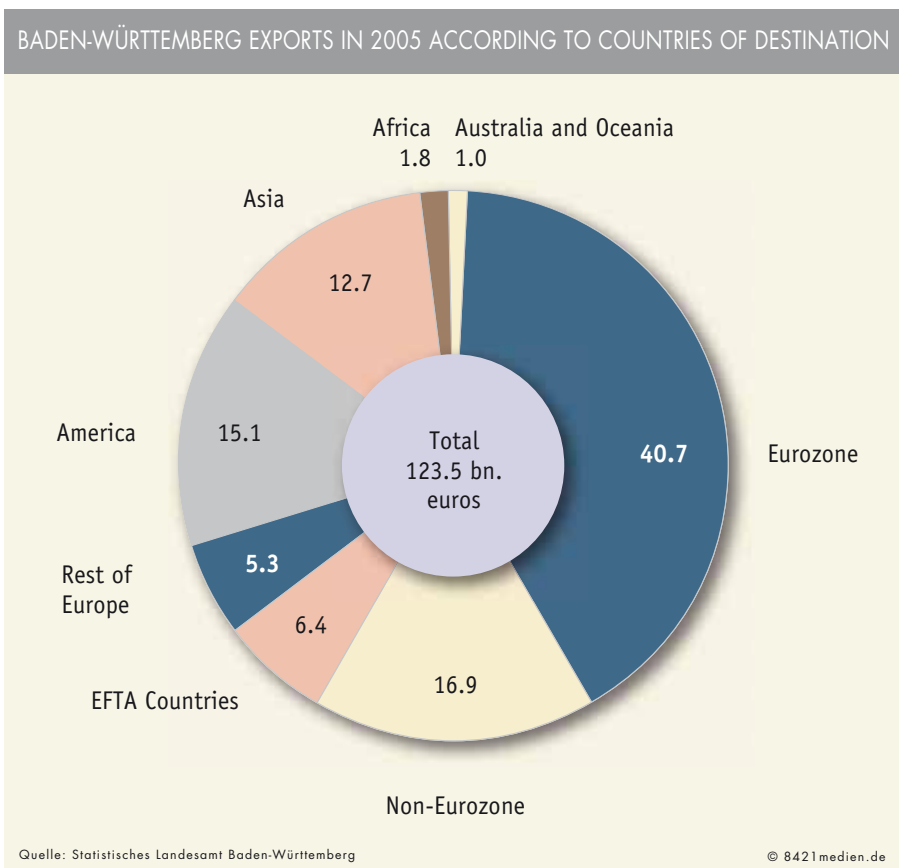
Small trades in Baden-Württemberg are particularly formidable – despite the downward trend. They stand for continuity, loyalty to a location, though also innovation. With over 80,000 companies and around 700,000 employees in almost 125 different trades, around 60,000 apprenticeship positions and a total annual turnover of over 60 billion euros, small trades are an important economic factor in the state. They are dominated by small-scale structures: a maximum of four people work in more than half of all companies, less than two percent of the companies employ fifty people and more.

### Foreign trade

There is hardly any other state whose economy is more involved in foreign business than Baden-Württemberg. It stands its ground in international competition, since more and more companies are supplying the markets in other European and non-European countries. The export quota – in other words the share of exports in the gross domestic product – is almost forty percent; one in three jobs in industry in Baden-Württemberg depends on exports.

Exports focus on the capital goods sector. Cars and automobile parts, machinery, chemical products and electrical engineering account for large shares of industrial exports, followed at a respectable distance by textiles. Goods totalling around 120 billion euros are exported every year. Goods are exported world-wide, but mainly to EU countries. The biggest recipients are France, Great Britain and Italy. On the whole, Baden-Württemberg has an above-average presence on markets outside the EU compared to other German states. North America and East Asia are two main foci of economic cooperation. The significance of developing countries in Central and Eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America as economic partners for Baden-Württemberg will continue to grow steadily in future. The up-and-coming national economies of China, India, Russia and the new member states of the EU will become more and more important.

Foreign trade is not a one-way street: Baden-Württemberg's exports are offset by substantial imports from around the globe. Thanks to its high level of income, the state is an important sales market for imported goods. Goods worth a total of almost 97 billion euros were imported in 2005. The most important imported goods are above all chemical products, cars and automobile parts, machinery, though also textiles and foods. More than half of all imports come from EU countries, followed by the USA.





In the exhibition rooms of the State Museum for Technology and Labour in Mannheim, visitors can trace the development of today's Baden-Württemberg from an agricultural state to a prosperous industrial state. The photo shows a two-reel rotary printing press from 1922.

Photo: State Museum for Technology and Labour, Mannheim

### **Baden-Württemberg: one of the strongest economic regions in the EU**

Baden-Württemberg is also one of the strongest economic regions within the European Union. With a share of over three percent of the EU's gross domestic product, it is more important than nations such as Sweden, Austria or Denmark. Export strength is also decisive in the European Union: Baden-Württemberg profits from the EU expansion through its central location.

### **ECONOMY AND SCIENCE**

There has been a long tradition of cooperation between the economy and science in Baden-Württemberg. The export-driven, high-income state can only remain successful on global markets if it develops top-rate technological products, processes and services. Apart from the expansion of and support for universities, polytechnic colleges and extramural research institutions, technology centres form the core of the research and technology policy.

Baden-Württemberg has the densest network of research institutions of all German states. Apart from the universities, polytechnic colleges and science-oriented Max-Planck Institutes, there are a number of extramural research institutions that are specially aligned to the needs of the economy which still retain close links with the universities. These include the institutes of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, the joint industrial research institutes, research institutions at the universities and the large-scale research facilities in Stuttgart and Karlsruhe. These research institutions have economic interests and form the bridge between the basic research that goes on in universities and the technical development of new products and processes in companies.

Baden-Württemberg also has a widespread system of technology transfer. Companies in the state can call on a dense network of contact offices with trade organisations (such as the Chambers of Industry and Trade). The Steinbeis Foundation primarily supports small and medium-sized enterprises through advice, training and the performance of development orders with its more than 300 specialist transfer centres, most of which are located at the polytechnic colleges throughout the state.

There are around thirty technology and start-up centres in the state to encourage technology-oriented business start-ups. The classic "SME state" of Baden-Württemberg thus makes sure that small and medium-sized enterprises can also profit from the scientific know-how for their start-up and innovative work.

# AGRICULTURE

Haymaking below the Wurmlinger chapel near Tübingen.

Photo: Manfred Grohe



No other economic sector has felt the effects of the structural changes since the end of the Second World War more than agriculture. Farming has lost its significance in Baden-Württemberg, too – a traditionally strong agrarian region. More than a quarter of a million farming and forestry operations have been abandoned since 1950. While a farmer provided food for ten people in 1950, revolutionary inventions and

technical improvements had increased this number to over 120 by the year 2000. Supplying the population with organically grown and cheaply-produced food is still one of the main jobs of farming in Baden-Württemberg.

## Sideline farming

The importance of small businesses in the form of family-run farms and the traditionally high share of sideline farmers who pursue a profession during the day and work their farm in the evening is still characteristic of agriculture in the Southwest. This is in part a consequence of the relatively high density of popula-

tion, above all in those areas that practise the division of real property, though also in the catchment areas of the larger towns and cities. These have always lured workers with better-paid jobs in trade and industry. Significantly more than half the farms in the state are now sideline operations and their share has grown steadily over the past years.

### Specialised crops

Baden-Württemberg is a state of specialised crops: “Schwetzinger” asparagus, “Tettnanger” hops, “Bühler” damsons, “Filderkraut” (a species of pointed cabbage), Germany’s most important producer of apples, tobacco and strawberries, the second largest wine-growing state in Germany – these examples prove that the cultivation of specialised crops is very important in Baden-Württemberg. They place great demands on growth factors, require a lot of labour input and high requirements on the harvesting technology and further processing. But local farmers also make the majority of their income from vegetable products with specialised crops.

In addition, the Southwest can boast a diversified agricultural system with cereals, root crops, oleiferous fruits and fodder growing as well as pastures and forestry. Regional foci have developed depending on the climate, soil, altitude and sales opportunities. The promotion of regenerative energies has also left its mark on the use of agricultural land: there has been a significant increase in the cultivation of silage corn and winter rape, both of which can be used as energy plants. In other parts of the state, farming is dominated by animal breeding and husbandry, with their products being an important source of income.

### Organic farming

Several food scandals over the past years have sharpened the consumer’s awareness of nutritional behaviour and opened up a better economic perspective for regional agriculture as well as organic farming. The numerous – and growing number of – organic farms in the state farm more area on average than conventional farms. The basic principle of organic animal

husbandry means that the average livestock numbers are much lower and dairy farming no longer plays such an important role. Direct marketing and guest accommodation are much more widespread amongst organic farmers. In the meantime, more than one in twenty farms in the state are run according to the criteria of organic farming.

### Wine paradise Baden-Württemberg

Baden-Württemberg is the second-largest wine-producing state in Germany with around 66,700 acres, corresponding to roughly one quarter of the total area in Germany covered by vines. Viticulture in the state is famous for its variety and regional specialities. The long growing season and different climatic and soil conditions offer ideal prerequisites for the development of subtle nuances in flavour. Both wine-producing areas in the state, Baden and Württemberg, are renowned for their specific varieties of grapes and specialities. White wines are predominant in the wine-producing area in Baden, along with the cultivation of Burgundy grapes: full-bodied Grauburgunder or Ruländer, lively Spätburgunder and elegant Weißburgunder. These are rounded off by the tangy Gutedel, flowery Riesling (which is called

A common feature of wines from Baden and Württemberg is their high quality: production is limited almost exclusively to “Qualitätsweine” (designation of better-quality German wines) and “Qualitätsweine mit Prädikat” (former designation of the best-quality German wines, since 2007 shortened to “Prädikatswein”).

Photo: Stuttgart-Marketing GmbH



Evidence of farming culture in Baden-Württemberg can be seen in the regional open-air museums. The photo shows the imposing Haldenhof, a Black Forest house from Schonach. The farm building now stands in the open-air museum in Neuhausen ob Eck in the district of Tuttlingen. Many other open-air museums for cultural history can be found in Baden-Württemberg. They are a testimony to a past era and a popular excursion not just for families, because they make cultural history a “hands-on” experience for everyone.

Photo: Open-Air Museum Neuhausen ob Eck

Klingelberger in Ortenau), luscious Müller-Thurgau wines and hearty Weißherbst.

Red wines, on the other hand, rule in Württemberg. Fruity Trollinger, full-blooded Lemberger, Schwarzriesling, Portugieser and Samtrot are found almost exclusively in the wine-producing area of Württemberg, where there is a long tradition of growing new, cross-breeding and refining different types of grapes in the “Staatliche Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt für Wein- und Obstbau” (State Teaching and Testing Institute for Viticulture and Fruit-Growing) in Weinsberg. This is also where the Kerner grape was created, a new cross-breed between Trollinger and Riesling, named after Justinus Kerner, the Swabian romantic poet. Fruity Riesling, Silvaner, Grauburgunder and Gewürztraminer round off the range of Württemberg grapes for white wines.



# ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

There are some close causal relationships between energy production and climate change. The photo shows a photovoltaic system to produce environmentally safe solar energy.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa



As a densely populated industrial state with a heavy traffic load, intensive agriculture and high income and consumption levels, Baden-Württemberg is faced with environmental problems. Although a number of environmental impacts have been able to be relieved over the past thirty years, with state actions and efforts by industry and commerce leading to some remarkable successes, a lot still has to

be done. The central environmental problems, however, are not as easily perceptible as before. Mountains of foam on rivers and streams are images of yesteryear, as are factory chimneys spewing out smoke. The causal relationships between an environmentally harmful behaviour and its consequences are much more complex with today's challenges. The rise in the average global temperature is just as incon-

spicuous as the gradual rise in sea levels. The consequences of these anthropogenic (man-made) effects are gradual processes that take place over decades. The accumulation of extreme weather conditions over the past years may be a precursor of a noticeable change in our living conditions.



## Comprehensive public service

The preservation of natural resources is a goal with a constitutional status. Baden-Württemberg has had a separate Ministry of the Environment since 1987, whereby the Ministry of Food and Rural Areas has been responsible for the living environment and the complete field of biodiversity, in other words the protection of nature and species, since 1996. Environmental policy is understood to be a comprehensive and sustainable public service by the state government so as to preserve the living conditions and opportunities for individual development for future generations. State politics has a duty to this principle of sustainability. But environmental policy is not just a matter for a few politicians and experts; it is a task for everyone in society.

The “Baden-Württemberg Environmental Plan” gives all social forces the opportunity to cooperate in a long-term orientation framework. A new positioning and environmental policy goals based on this are drawn up in a cross-media approach. At the same time, the environmental plan answers the call of the United Nations Agenda 21 from the Conference of Rio (1992) to prepare plans of action and objectives as to how a permanently environmentally-sound development can be realised.

A scientific Sustainability Advisory Board (NBBW) was set up in 2002 with experts from various specialist disciplines to accompany the dialogue-based implementation process for the environmental plan. In 2005 the NBBW assessed the progress made in achieving the goals of the environmental plan and determined that important milestones had been reached, but that great efforts were still needed in some sectors. This is particularly true of groundwater protection (in particular

nitrate pollution), watercourse morphology, air pollution control (in particular particulate matter and nitrogen oxide, both mainly produced by traffic), the protection of species and living spaces as well as the reduction of waste amounts, for example. The climate protection goals (above all the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the use of fossil fuels), land consumption and state-wide noise control, could not be achieved. The Baden-Württemberg Sustainability Advisory Board thus recommends that the unsolved problems be given special attention in the updated environmental plan and that the environmental plan be developed further in the direction of sustainability.

This is where the sustainability strategy of the state of Baden-Württemberg comes in. Sustainable, environmentally sound actions are no longer simply a matter of environmental policy but are increasingly affecting other fields of politics. The challenges are manifold: prosperity and further economic development, fair welfare systems and an intact environment with a just distribution of resources have to be tackled simultaneously. This calls for an integrative approach offering a long-term orientation for society, the economy and politics: the sustainability strategy. This sustainability strategy is not a rigid plan but a working concept that can be used to deal with central topics for the future. Apart from the Ministries, all social groups should get involved since sustainable development affects everyone and can only be realised together. Representatives from the economy, environmental and nature protection, special interest groups, churches, unions, clubs, municipalities, though individual citizens, too, are taking an active part in this sustainability strategy.

Environmental protection is a comprehensive public service. Sustainable, environmentally sound actions affect all fields of politics and areas of society.

Photo: Angelika Schober-Penz

In the end, sustainability must permeate all areas of our life as a guideline for action. The goal of the initiative is thus to secure the idea of sustainability one step at a time in as many fields of politics and society as possible. Starting points are subject areas such as

- **Sustainable energy supply**  
How can this be made climate-compatible, safe and competitive? How can we all learn to handle energy more efficiently?
- **Working world, production and work**  
How can we produce sustainably and with an efficient use of resources? How can the working world be organised so that family and profession are reconcilable with one another, so that young people and older employees both find a meaningful job?
- **Quality of life**  
How can we create a healthy world to live in with good air, clean water, little noise and unpolluted foods?
- **Sustainable development of towns and regions**  
How can we increase the appeal of our towns, retain free spaces and bring living, working, leisure time and mobility requirements into harmony?

The sustainability strategy is an ambitious project that goes far beyond simply ecological questions. The initiative has thus been created to span a space of time that goes beyond a legislative period.

As sustainable development calls for a change in the way in which all of us think and act, Agenda 21 thus names education as a key instrument on the way to sustainable development. The state government has been working at anchoring the idea of sustainability in various fields of education for many years with a variety of different projects such as the “Schools on course for environment” promotional programme, teaching material and further education courses. The UN decade of “Education for a sustainable development” proclaimed by the United Nations for the years 2005 to 2014 has given this process additional momentum. The state government resolved the “Shaping the future – Education for a sustainable development in Baden-Württemberg” plan of action at the end of 2005. It is aimed at anyone who wants to get involved in the UN decade of sustainable development, for example, in the “Learning sustainability” network.

### **Cross-border and international environmental protection; environmental research**

Sustainable, ecologically sound action affects not only all fields of politics, the economy and society but also has cross-border aspects. Air and water pollution as well as detrimental effects on the climate know no national frontiers. One example of a successful and long-standing cross-border cooperation is the Lake Constance area. A cooperative dialogue and joint measures by the European regions are called for both here and along the Rhine. The state has been cooperating in the International Water Protection Commission for Lake Constance (IGKB) since 1959 with the neighbouring states and cantons for the preservation and sustainable protection of the Lake Constance ecosystem.

Commensurate with the global character of important environmental problems such as climate protection, the state is also involved in environmental development cooperation. A state like Baden-Württemberg has to allow developing and threshold countries to share in its innovative concepts and solutions. This is done, for example, with concrete projects in China on energy efficiency in buildings and

sewage treatment as well as the cooperation with EU accession states. Apart from improving the environmental situation and living conditions of the people in these regions, these initiatives also offer opportunities for the domestic economy on the fast-growing export market for environmental technology, where Baden-Württemberg has a leading position. This is due not least to the specific support for research work into solving environmental problems.

### **Climate protection and climate change**

Climate change is in full swing and its effects are being felt in Baden-Württemberg, too. The question of whether mankind is changing the climate or whether natural fluctuations are responsible for the climate change has been categorically answered by climate research in the meantime: the carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere has been rising due to our economic development since the Industrial Revolution. This increase strengthens the natural greenhouse effect and leads to global warming of the earth’s surface and in the lower layers of air.

The consequences of climate change for nature and the environment, the economy and for the health of people are considerable, as demonstrated by the storms, floods and periods of drought over the past years. But in the case of Baden-Württemberg, and with today’s level of knowledge, it can be assumed that adjustments to these new conditions will, by and large, be possible. In certain sectors such as summer tourism or viticulture, we can even expect some advantages. Nevertheless, winter tourism will have to be prepared for changes.

Scenarios for the future are much more dramatic in some of the earth’s other climate zones, beginning in the Mediterranean region. Climatic conditions in the tropics and subtropical areas as well as near the poles often mean a life under extreme conditions for the people that live there, which are often a threat to their very existence. The intensity of climatic catastrophes such as floods and desertification as well as the melting and breaking apart of ice sheets could reach dimensions that lead to the reshaping and destruction of entire regions in

which millions of people, animals and plants are living today.

The worst consequences of climate change can only be prevented if we succeed in checking the global rise in temperature. The time window in which any further rise in temperature can be prevented will close within the next two decades. Rapid and resolute action is thus needed to reduce the greenhouse gases. Even more so if one considers that consistent climate protection also reduces the dependency on energy imports, spares energy resources and leads to lower pollutant emissions thanks to a lower consumption of fossil fuels, alongside lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The state of Baden-Württemberg has thus developed the “Climate Protection Concept 2010”. It should be possible to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on average by between two and four million tons per year in the period 2008 to 2012 if its measures are implemented. The key measures to achieve effective climate protection are to save energy, use energy more efficiently and expand the use of regenerative energies.

Baden-Württemberg is thus aiming to reduce the per capita energy consumption over the next ten years by twenty percent and to double the share of regenerative energies by the year 2010 (compared to 1997). The next step will be a twenty-percent share of regenerative energies for electricity production by the year 2020.

The share of regenerative energies in primary energy consumption was 5.1 percent in 2005, and a continued dynamic development is expected. The latter also applies for energy efficiency and energy saving: these fields have great potential that can largely be exploited by measures which pay off. But none of this should distract from the fact that enormous efforts are still required to achieve effective climate protection. Climate protection calls for staying power – none of us can afford to take a breather.

## Air pollution

The great improvement in the quality of air since the mid 1980ies is primarily due to the consistent renovation of industrial plants and power stations, the use of low-sulphur fuels and the introduction and constant further development of computer-controlled catalytic converters in vehicles. These measures led to a significant reduction in the classic air pollutants sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and dust. Nevertheless, there is still a lot of work to do in the field of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide and ammonia in view of the high ozone levels in summer, acid rain and nutrient contamination. In addition, the improvements that have been made, are not adequate to comply with the new European limits for particulate matter in ambient air (since 2005) and nitrogen dioxide (as of 2010) in areas of heavy traffic.

In order to further improve the quality of air, air purification plans and plans of action have been drawn up with local and regional measures, with a great emphasis on road traffic. This is why measures to reduce emissions from traffic take priority. Measures such as a ban on old, high-emission vehicles are unavoidable. But measures on a German and European level are also needed. The aim is a further significant reduction in the pollutant amounts emitted directly at their sources in traffic, industry, commerce and domestic combustion (e.g. wood-fired heating systems). Climate protection through the use of wood as a fuel may not be at the expense of air purification.

## Protection of water and protection against flooding

Baden-Württemberg has an abundance of water. Around three quarters of the state's drinking water comes from ground water and spring water. Groundwater is a resource of elementary importance. But it is contaminated by numerous – man-made – pollutants: from industry and commerce, energy supplies, traffic, sewage disposal, agriculture, air pollutants and abandoned polluted areas. Water protection is thus one of the most important tasks in

environmental policy. Over the past forty years or so, numerous measures have succeeded in greatly improving the quality of the bodies of water throughout the state. The water protection areas could be almost doubled to help protect groundwater. But it is not just the state that is responsible for the groundwater: cross-border programmes for water monitoring exist

of more frequent extreme rainfall and an un-stopped increase in soil sealing through building activities. Within the scope of the flood protection strategy, the flood damage risks in the state and across the borders should be moderated in future through joint action and the actual damage caused by flooding reduced or even eliminated completely through spe-



with the neighbours France, Switzerland and Austria and in a pan-European context with the EC Water Framework Directive (applicable since 2000), which covers the protection of groundwater and surface water. The valuable ecological habitats and reservoirs can only be protected on an international level in this network.

A total of more than 2,600 water protection areas have been established in Baden-Württemberg. This corresponds to roughly 21 percent of the total area of the state. By the year 2010, it is planned to identify 29 percent of the total area of the state as protection areas to guarantee the quality of the groundwater throughout the state.

Protection against flooding remains a never-ending task, not least against the background

The drinking water reservoir of the Lake Constance Water Supply Joint Authority (BWV) in Sipplingen on Lake Constance: this is where the treated water from Lake Constance is fed into the network of pipelines that reaches to the northernmost tip of Baden-Württemberg. Around four million people in Baden-Württemberg are supplied with roughly 140 million cubic metres of water from Lake Constance every year.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa

cific flood water management. This will take into account issues related to water ecology. Technical flood protection will concentrate, for example, on continuing the programmes that have been started on the Rhine, Danube, Neckar as well as regional flood protection plans.

Measures will also be taken for the management of areas affected by flooding. The aim of these provisions for endangered areas is to prevent new buildings in and the reckless use of areas susceptible to flooding in future. The state government regards the natural retention of water on the surface, particularly through preventive flood protection – which is also relevant for regional planning – as a key instrument to help reduce the floodplain discharge quantities and rates. In addition, former floodplains (containment areas) should be recovered. The development of near-natural watercourses and the restoration of floodplain dynamics also contribute to an effective protection against flooding.

Furthermore, the organisational premises to effectively combat remaining flood risks will be improved. A reliable and prompt flood warning helps greatly in reducing the remaining risks. The state's flood warning centre is regularly improved to keep up with the state-of-the-art. The water level measuring network and precipitation measuring network are indispensable as bases for data.

### Land use management

One urgent environmental topic – particularly in the sense of sustainability in general and in view of the protection against flooding – is the excessively high use of land through the conversion of open spaces (usually agricultural land) into settlement and traffic areas. The environmental damages associated with the use of land are sometimes gradual and only appear after a longer period of time. This leads to continuous losses of ecological functions in the soil as well as habitats for flora and fauna.

Other consequences of uncontrolled development are the increase in the volume of traffic and energy consumption as well as the costly ex-



The Rhine floodplains near Oberhausen-Rheinhausen: they form important flooding areas and are thus instrumental in protection against flooding.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

pansion of the infrastructure – a problematic development in view of the demographic changes that are taking place in our society. Housing estates for young families on former “green fields” outside the settlement cores can lead to isolated areas which then have a poor infrastructure for older people in the medium term.

Over the past fifty years, the areas for settlements and traffic have more than doubled in Baden-Württemberg while the population has only risen by two thirds. Mass motorisation benefits a dispersed settlement structure, the reduction in the size of households brings about a rise in the number of apartments that are needed. The average living space per inhabitant has almost doubled since 1965 from 22 to 43 square metres.

There was a drop in the conversion of free space into settlement and traffic space from 11.8 to 8.8 ha/day between 2001 and 2005 – but there still is no permanent reversal from an external to an internal development in sight. On the contrary: 2006 once again saw a slight rise to 9.4 ha/day, probably due to the economic recovery. The great potential for internal development (fallow areas, conversion areas, gaps between buildings, renovation of existing buildings) will have to be mobilised in future more than ever before to prevent an over-planning of open spaces.

According to the environmental plan and a resolution of the Council of Ministers from 2004, the state is pursuing a long-term strategy to combat land consumption. The use of as yet undeveloped areas for settlement and traffic purposes is to be significantly reduced by the year 2012. But this is only possible together with the municipalities as institutions of the local planning authority. Catchwords here include space efficiency, the precedence

of internal development and intensification of the cooperation between municipalities and regions. The state also created an action alliance “Win space in Baden Württemberg” in October 2004 to accompany this measure. Municipalities, the economy and nature conservation associations are now working on changing attitudes in settlement development. The successes of this land use management are reported on a regular basis.

The coalition agreement of April 2006 also schedules a significant reduction by 2012, a stringent enforcement of administrative rules and planning guidelines, a tightening up of approval procedures for zoning plans, a coordination of existing support programmes and greater efforts to clean up abandoned polluted areas. This was underlined by Minister

President Oettinger in his government policy statement in June 2006 where he proclaimed “Net Zero” as the long-term goal for land consumption, for demographic reasons, too, analogous to the “Net Zero” for the state indebtedness.

The daily evening rush hour on the A5 motorway near Karlsruhe: the increased volume of traffic continues to claim more and more space.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa



# EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

In a state with no appreciable raw materials and in a knowledge and service society that is governed by the laws of globalisation, human education is the capital and insurance for the future.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa



The politics of education and science is at the heart of the cultural sovereignty of the states. It is a key part of their independence. The reform of the federal system that was resolved in 2006 places the relationship between the federation and the states on a new footing in the field of education, science and research. By unravelling the responsibilities, new opportunities arise for the states, par-

ticularly in the fields of personnel, university admissions, right of choice and university construction.

The states remain responsible for the school politics. Vocational training and further education as well as the grants system still lie within the competence of the federation. The possibility of cooperation between the federation

and states in research of national interest is still possible.

The states cooperate in the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education on the topics of learning and education, universities and research as well as culture. One of the main jobs of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education is to ensure a high level

of mobility within Germany. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and the Ministry of Science, Research and Art represent the interests of the state of Baden-Württemberg in their respective fields of responsibility.

### A profusion of educational and research institutions

Baden-Württemberg has a very diversified educational system: it offers not only primary, secondary, grammar and special schools throughout the state but also has more universities than many other German states. The state has set examples with its functioning vocational school system and the expansion of technical colleges, polytechnics as well as “Berufsakademien” (higher education institution in Germany with professional orientation and on-the-job training) – an “invention” from Baden-Württemberg.

### General education schools

Following a drop in the number of pupils at general education schools in the 1980ies, the numbers have been rising again in Baden-Württemberg since 1990. There are currently just over 1.3 million young people attending a school in the state. Nevertheless, forecasts

assume another decline in the number of schoolchildren.

The four-year primary school is the common basic level in the school system. Its duty is the development of the various abilities of children in a common course of education. The main concern is to give every child the chance

Targeted industrial placements encourage the vocational orientation and aptitude for training. Weaker pupils have the chance to receive intensive support in cooperation with vocational schools. Particularly gifted children are offered a tenth year at a central “Hauptschule” that teaches an extended general education. It is concluded with a final exami-



More than 1.3 million pupils attend one of the numerous schools in Baden-Württemberg. Following a rise in the number of pupils since the 1990ies, forecasts are assuming a drop in the number of schoolchildren.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa

of individual learning according to their abilities. The encouragement of children – from slow learners through to highly gifted – thus runs through the reform projects of past years like a central thread. The educational package “A new approach to starting school” is based on the developmental stage and individual potentials of the children.

Baden-Württemberg has decided to retain the traditional three-tiered school system. Comprehensive schools thus did not survive the trial phases. Nor do all-day schools have a legal basis as standard schools. After primary school the “Hauptschule” (general secondary school) takes pupils through to year 9 and concludes with a state-wide, central final examination. Learning in the “Hauptschule” with “Werkrealschule” (secondary technical school) takes its bearings from the educational requirements and demands of the learners.

nation that is equivalent to a leaving certificate from a “Realschule” (secondary school leading to higher education). The goal of the “Hauptschule” with “Werkrealschule” is to ensure the pupil’s aptitude for connectivity and training. The project examination as part of the “Hauptschule” final examination tests technical, personal, social and methodical competences. The economy places great store in the examination since it allows a verification of the competences expected by the firms offering apprenticeships and traineeships.

## STATE CONSTITUTION

### Article 11,1

“Every young person is entitled to an education and training commensurate with their capabilities, regardless of their origins or economic situation.”





The six-year “Realschule” offers an additional core subject to the regular combination of subjects as of year 7: technology, mankind and the environment or French. This differentiation allows priorities to be set in line with a pupil’s aptitude. The leaving certificate from a “Realschule” opens up a number of chances for further training and education. An apprenticeship in industry, trade, business and administration can lead to an advanced technical college entrance qualification through the successful attendance of a “Fachschule”. At the same time the young people receive a state certificate, for example as technician or business economist. The advanced technical college entrance qualification can also be obtained through a professional apprenticeship in a “Berufskolleg” or after professional training by attending a one-year “Berufskolleg”. Pupils from a “Real-

schule” often choose to attend an academic and vocational upper-secondary school or grammar school after the “Realschule” to gain their higher education entrance qualification. In addition, pupils can also attend an “Aufbaugymnasium” after year 6 and 7 – and later, too, in individual cases – so as to gain their higher education entrance qualification.

The grammar school normally follows the primary school and lasts eight years. Pupils from a “Hauptschule” or “Realschule” can also gain the higher education entrance qualification in courses at an “Aufbaugymnasium mit Internat”. Within the grammar school course of studies pupils can choose between certain subjects and foreign language preferences. Most pupils choose a science or arts profile, though some schools also offer music,

Children and teenagers should be taught curiosity and open-mindedness, the power of concentration and perseverance, though also the joy of learning, experimenting, observation as well as an interest in music and arts at school.

Photo: picture-alliance /dpa

fine arts or sport as main subjects. More and more schools are offering not just classical languages as well as English and French, but also other modern languages such as Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Russian or – as later foreign languages – Turkish, Chinese and Japanese. During the last two years in the sixth form, pupils learn in a course system. Since the school year 2002/2003 there are numerous optional choices that can be made within a group of subjects alongside the obligatory core subjects of German, mathematics and one for-

eign language. The scope for work in school has been extended by optional modules for the individual subjects and specialisations.

Handicapped pupils visit normal schools if the circumstances at these schools can guarantee the teaching and educational objectives. A number of different types of special schools throughout the state cater for children and adolescents with handicaps who have a high level of special educational needs. These



Learning in groups and in subject combinations is becoming increasingly important. We have to broaden our horizons and look beyond the narrow constraints of a single subject.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa

schools offer the same leaving certificates as the normal schools. Pupils can change from a special to a normal school or vice versa at any time.

The Basic Law (Art. 7 para. 4 sentence 1) and the Law on Private Schools of Baden-Württemberg guarantee the foundation and existence of private schools. There are currently around 400 private general education schools in the state including evening schools, free Waldorf schools, private special schools and other private vocational schools.

## The vocational schools

The state and private vocational schools (including health care schools) in Baden-Württemberg are attended by around 410,000 full-time or part-time students. Trade schools account for the majority of vocational schools. The main quality factor is the close link between theory and practice, taught in two places, the company and the vocational school. This dual system gives every young person the opportunity to learn a qualified trade or profession allowing them to start work directly after leaving school. Around two thirds of one age group currently begin a dual vocational education.

The vocational schools in the state offer vocational and general education leaving certificates ranging from a "Hauptschule" certificate through to higher education entrance qualifications. The flexibly structured system of schools in Baden-Württemberg ensures that

The dual educational system with schools and companies has proven itself and is a cornerstone of vocational training in Baden-Württemberg.

Photo: Bosch



each school leaving certificate leads to the next stage of learning. Pupils can thus achieve the next level of qualification and exploit their individual talents.

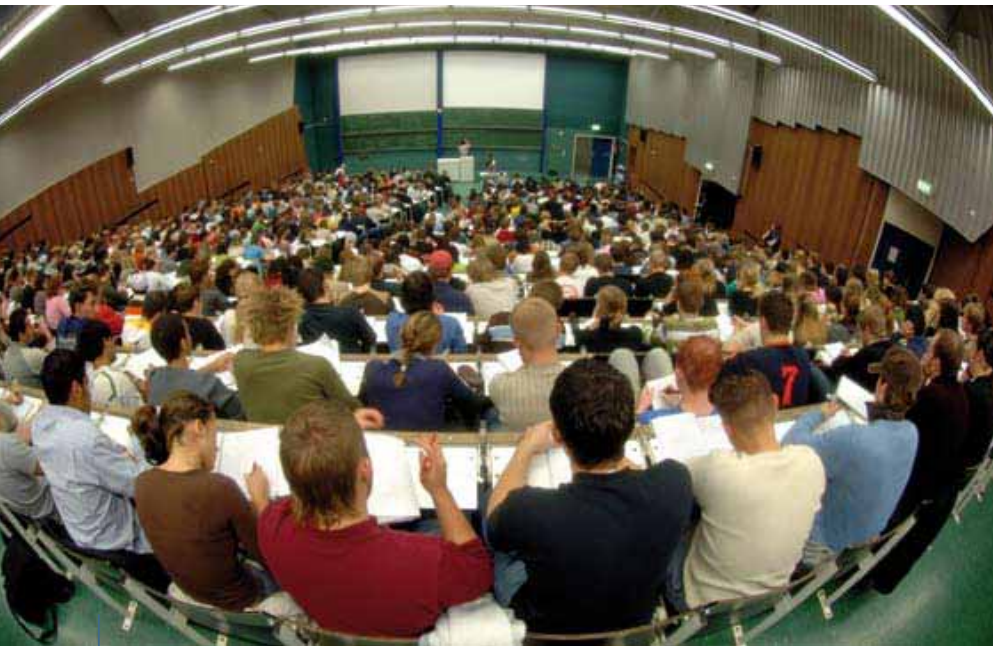
## STATE CONSTITUTION

### Article 22

"Adult education must be encouraged by the state, municipalities and administrative districts."

## Further education in Baden-Württemberg

Baden Württemberg is at the forefront in Germany with around 65 percent of the working population holding some form of vocational or professional qualification. The range of further education and training courses available stretches from publicly funded further education (e.g. adult education centres, church-supported organisations, union further education institutions), non-supported, privately organised courses through to in-company and interplant further education. There is a growing



More than 240,000 young people are studying at universities in Baden-Württemberg.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa

demand for the “softer” forms of further education such as informal further education and self-controlled learning.

Against the background of comprehensive economic, technological and social challenges, further education is becoming increasingly important alongside schools, universities and professional training as an independent part of the education system within the context of lifelong learning. In its various forms, further education allows the creative use of new opportunities and a personal confrontation with complex contemporary and future social, cultural, economic and technical developments.

### Education, science and research

With over 52 state universities and “Berufsakademien” as well as around twenty church and private universities, Baden-Württemberg has one of the most diverse higher education landscapes in Germany. The nine universities, six colleges of education, eight art and music academies, 23 technical colleges and the “Berufsakademie” with its eight study centres

offer the most up-to-date teaching conditions in numerous subjects and fields. These are joined by the Film Academy in Ludwigsburg, the Pop Academy in Mannheim and the Academy for Visual Arts in Ludwigsburg, three more excellent teaching institutions for important genres. All of this is rounded off by the private universities with courses in the fields of social studies, economics and communication. More than 240,000 young people are studying at one of the institutions of higher education in the state, including around 36,000 foreign students, proving the international appeal of Baden-Württemberg as a university location.

The universities are characterised by theory-based education and by the combination of research and teaching on a high level. They regularly achieve top positions in the various nationwide rankings. The universities in Baden-Württemberg have also been very successful in the excellence initiative of the “top universities”. By encouraging the up-and-coming generation of academics and scientists, through technology transfer, further education courses and intensive communication with the economy, the universities in Baden-Württemberg help to guarantee an internationally competitive centre for science and research. Apart from the three classical universities in

Freiburg, Heidelberg and Tübingen, each of the younger universities in Hohenheim, Karlsruhe, Constance, Mannheim, Stuttgart and Ulm offer students a special focus. The state has its very own type of university to train teachers with the various colleges of education. The future teachers for primary, secondary and special schools are educated here concerted and on a high academic level. The academies of art and music train young talents as musicians, designers, filmmakers, music journalists and visual artists.

The technical colleges provide scientific teaching with a high degree of practical orientation. Apart from the classic subjects in engineering sciences, business administration and social studies, new courses in the fields of media, information and communication are also on

### STATE CONSTITUTION

#### Article 14, 1 and 2

“General school attendance is compulsory.”  
“Instruction and schoolbooks and equipment in state schools are free. (...)”

#### Article 20, 1

“The university is free in its research and teaching.”

#### Article 21, 1 and 2

“Young people are to be educated in schools to become free and responsible citizens and are to be involved in the organisation of school life.”  
“Social studies is a regular subject in all schools.”

offer. Students at a Berufsakademie already have an apprenticeship with a partner company during their course of studies. The close links between theory and practice are characteristic of this dual education.

On account of demographic developments and double the amount of sixth formers, there will be an almost twenty percent increase in the number of young people eligible to attend university in Baden-Württemberg by the end of 2012. Around 16,000 new places for first-year students will be needed by then. The

state is facing up to this challenge through an intensive dialogue with the economy in the “University 2012” initiative.

### Practice-oriented with Bachelor and Master

The universities and “Berufsakademien” in Baden-Württemberg have been undergoing a process of internationalisation and modernisation for many years. This essentially involves a change from the former “Diplom” and Magister courses to the tiered course structure with Bachelor and Masters degrees. The first level,

the Bachelor course, normally ends after six to eight terms with the first degree that entitles the bearer to practice a profession. A Masters degree can then be earned in a two to four-term postgraduate course that deals with the topics in more depth. The basis and reason for this change is the Bologna declaration from 1999, in which the European Ministers of Education initiated the creation of a European university area and the harmonisation of their systems of higher education. This fundamental reform of the higher education system, aimed at a high-quality course of studies with shorter study periods, should be completed by the year 2010.

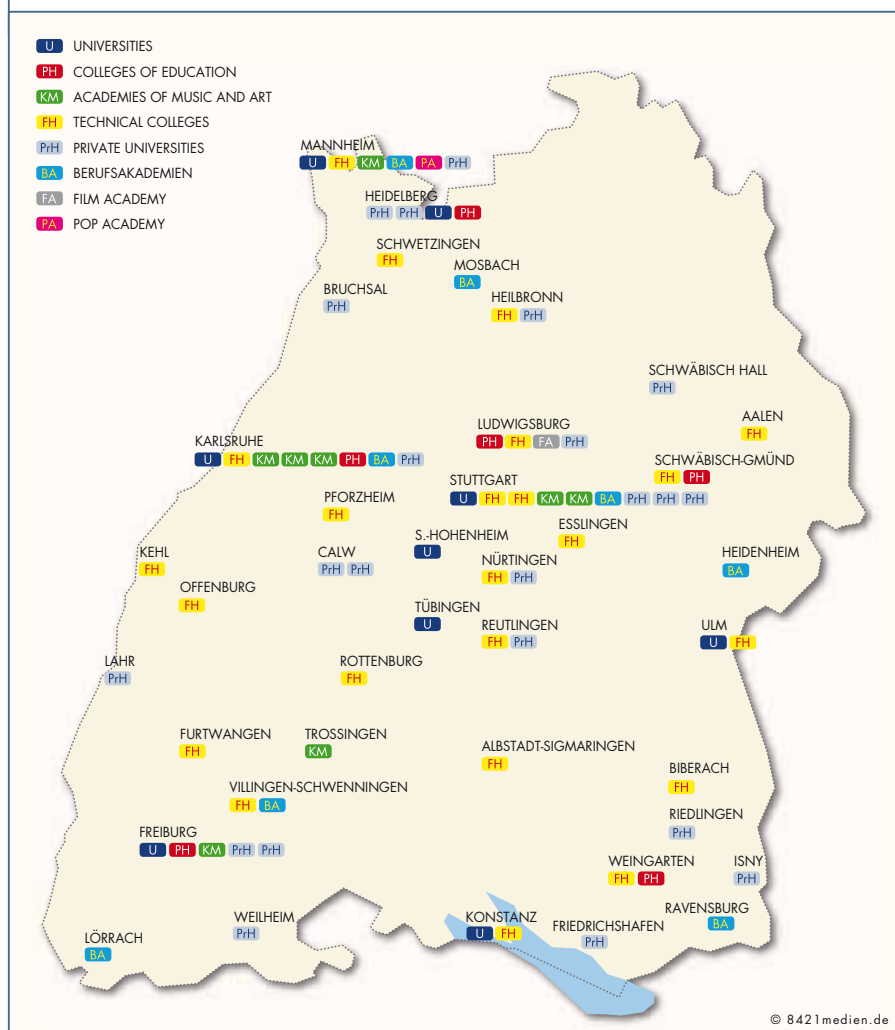
state politics. The income from the tuition fees will be used to improve the syllabus. Anyone who is unable or unwilling to pay the tuition fees is entitled to a loan. This has to be paid back two years after the final degree – but only if a certain income has been reached. There are also numerous exceptions to the charging of fees.

### Research in Baden-Württemberg

Baden-Württemberg is one of the richest research regions in Europe. Around 3.9 percent of the gross domestic product goes into research and development work – a top international figure. The universities are the biggest research institutions in the state and centres of internationally recognised basic research. They are home to almost twenty percent of all Collaborative Research Centres of the German Research Foundation: twelve institutes of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft are located in the Southwest and a further 14 institutions of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft. One quarter of the research capacity of German national research centres is concentrated in Baden-Württemberg, for example the German Cancer Research Centre in Heidelberg. The more than 100 extra-mural research institutions are often networked with the state’s universities. This efficient infrastructure of universities, technical colleges and research centres with various competences in basic and applied research is of vital importance for the future of the state.

### Institutions of higher education in Baden-Württemberg

Institutions of higher education in Baden-Württemberg



© 8421medien.de

## ART AND CULTURE

The open-air performances on the steps in front of St. Michael in Schwäbisch Hall began in 1925 with "Everyman" by Hugo von Hofmannsthal. The photo shows a scene from this traditional play, which still enjoys great popularity in Schwäbisch Hall.

Photo: Freilichtspiele Schwäbisch Hall, Jürgen Weller



Thanks to its historically developed, decentralised structure, Baden-Württemberg has an immensely dense cultural landscape whose richness lies in its regional diversity and intensity. In addition, state culture has always existed as a double act: the former capitals and residencies of Stuttgart and Karlsruhe still have important institutions so that there are two of each in the state: State Theatre, State

Gallery and State Art Gallery, State Museum, State Library.

But the presence of the cultural centres of the old Electoral Palatinate, Mannheim and Heidelberg, the former Further Austrian Freiburg or cities such as Ulm and Heilbronn are also beyond their own regions. Support and encouragement of the cultural life is one of the consti-

tutional duties of the state and municipalities in Baden-Württemberg. Public cultural institutions on a state and regional level, though also private patrons and non-profit clubs and initiatives, help keep the state's cultural diversity alive, even in financially difficult times.

Art and culture have long been recognised as not just a factor for the quality of life but also

a motor for society, politics and the economy. A functioning and diverse cultural landscape is a location factor: for companies, qualified employees, immigration. It is a source of creativity and innovation – and attracts visitors to Baden-Württemberg.

### A lively local history

The historical legacy of the Southwest is its diversity. This is reflected by a wealth of attractive old towns with their mediaeval centres, world-famous religious buildings, castles and palaces from every era of art history. Each year, more than three million people visit the “State Castles and Gardens” alone, including the Wilhelma in Stuttgart as a highlight – a unique combination of historical park and zoo.

So it comes as no surprise to learn that Baden-Württemberg has three UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Maulbronn Monastery (since 1993), the most completely preserved monastery north of the Alps, the Monastic Island of Reichenau (since 2000) as outstanding evidence of early mediaeval architecture and literature in Central Europe and the Upper German-Rhaetian Limes (since 2005). The longest antique monument in Europe stretches for 548 km, a large part of it through Baden-Württemberg. Heidelberg with its palace and old city centre as well as Schwetzingen Palace have a good chance of being added to the list of UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites. All of these sites attract millions of visitors from Germany and abroad.

### Theatre landscape

The Württemberg State Theatres in Stuttgart and the Baden State Theatre in Karlsruhe assume central functions in the theatre landscape of Southwest Germany. The State Opera in Stuttgart has been voted “Opera House of the Year” several times in succession. Three regional theatres in Tübingen-Reutlingen, Esslingen and Bruchsal play for not only their home towns but also the surrounding areas. They bring good and local theatre to the entire state with numerous guest performances. The municipal theatres are a centrepiece of urban culture and an expression of municipal self-confidence. They make an important contribution to local culture with a very diverse programme: the traditional “Nationaltheater” in Mannheim as the biggest municipal mixed programme in Germany, the four other mixed programme houses with their own ensemble in Heidelberg, Freiburg, Ulm and Pforzheim as well as the theatres in Aalen, Baden-Baden, Heilbronn and Constance.

A plethora of privately-funded theatres often provide important artistic stimuli on financially thin ice. These range from classical theatre, local dialect theatre through to marionette and puppet theatres, dance theatre and cabaret. The free theatres are the independent basis of the theatre landscape, always in search of innovative working methods and forms of presentation. The “Free Scene” normally relies on young, up-and-coming actors who are given a “stage” and who in turn provide stimuli for the further development of the theatre.

Theatre pageants, festivals and open-air theatre exert a particular appeal with their seasonal attractions in the mostly “theatre-free” holiday period and in attractive historic venues. They are highlights of cultural life, crowd-pullers and gain recognition far beyond the state frontiers: the Ettlingen Palace Festival, Opera Festival in Heidenheim, Rossini Festival in Wildbad, Schwetzingen Festival and Ludwigsburg Palace Festival, the International Lake Constance Festival, the Marquee Music Festival in Freiburg or Händel Festival and European Culture Days in Karlsruhe. Furthermore, the biggest Opera House in Ger-

many can be found in Baden-Baden, namely the Festspielhaus.

Germany’s biggest and oldest open-air theatre can be found in Ötigheim. The Castle Festival in Jagsthausen began in 1950 at this historical location with “Götz von Berlichingen”. Open-



The Stuttgart Ballet is one of the best companies in the world and a treasured “export article”. It was founded in 1961 by John Cranko who took it to world renown. He was succeeded as director by Márcia Haydée and Reid Anderson. The photo shows a scene from “Voluntaries” (choreography Glen Tetley) with Maria Eichwald and Jason Reilly.

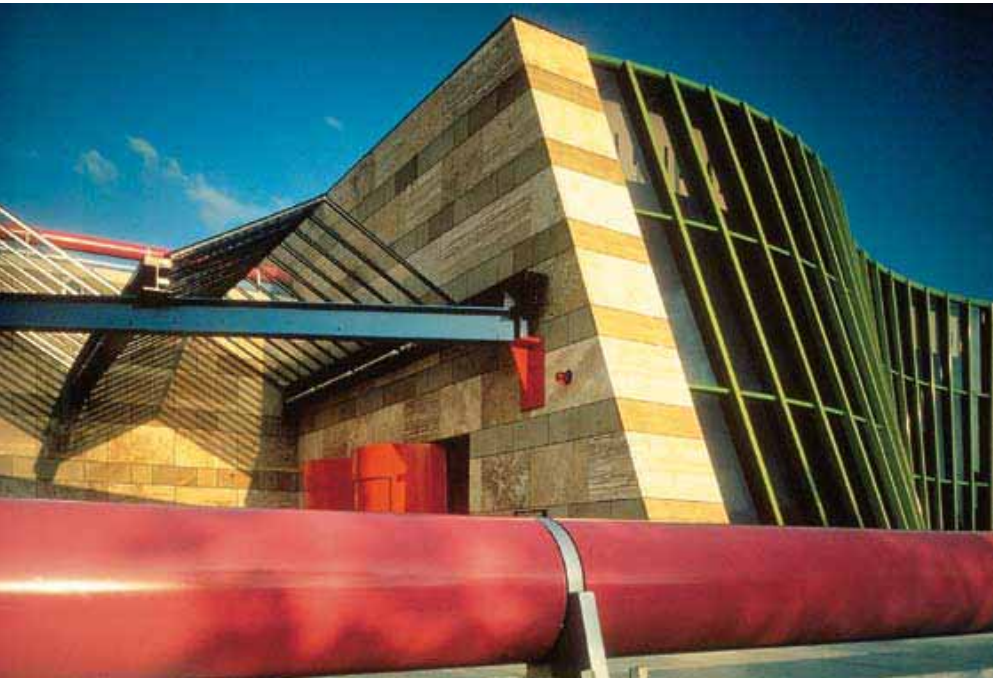
Photo: Stuttgart Ballet

air theatre is offered in Schwäbisch Hall on the steps in front of St. Michael. Other summer attractions include the open-air stages in Heidenheim, Hayingen, Grötzingen, Fridingen, Reutlingen and many other places.

## Music in Baden-Württemberg

Orchestras play an important role in the musical life of the state, many of them being famous beyond the state borders. Apart from the Radio Symphony Orchestras of the Südwestrundfunk in Baden-Baden and Stuttgart, a further eight professional orchestras in

music festivals. The “Kammermusikaufführungen zur Förderung zeitgenössischer Tonkunst” (“chamber music performances to encourage contemporary musical art”) were launched in 1921 in Donaueschingen, today’s “Donau-eschinger Musiktage”. The “Neutöner” (term used to describe contemporary composers and musicians who experiment with new sounds),



The New State Gallery in Stuttgart, built between 1977 and 1984 as a post-modern extension to the State Gallery by the British architect James Stirling (1926–1992), presents not only its permanent collections but also some sensational special exhibitions.

Photo: Stuttgart-Marketing GmbH

Stuttgart, Constance, Reutlingen, Heilbronn, Pforzheim, Mannheim and Freiburg ensure a dense and diverse programme of concerts.

The “Gächinger Kantorei” directed by Helmuth Rilling stands out amongst the various choirs in the state. Rilling also organises the “International Bach Academy” in Stuttgart each year, an unparalleled series of concerts. A number of famous institutions and ensembles are further highlights in the musical life of the state, which is rounded off by over a dozen large mu-

above all Paul Hindemith, left their mark here and helped the “Musiktage” achieve world renown. But jazz and pop are also firmly rooted in the state – with the Pop Academy in Mannheim, the “Jazzopen” in Stuttgart and the Baden-Württemberg Jazz Festival, which is held in a different town each year, as well as numerous local jazz clubs. The State Conservatories in Freiburg, Karlsruhe, Mannheim, Stuttgart and Trossingen offer teaching up to an international level and thus also provide new blood for the lively music scene in the Southwest.

### State, municipal and private art museums

Around 1,200 very different museums shape the multi-faceted museum landscape in Baden-Württemberg: from the large state institutions



The so-called “Feuerbachsaal” in the Karlsruhe State Art Gallery that was opened in 1846 houses some important works by the painter Anselm Feuerbach. The Karlsruhe State Art Gallery, one of the oldest museum buildings in Germany, owns important examples of old German painting, Flemish, Dutch and French baroque. 19<sup>th</sup> century art – from France as well as the German Romantic Period and art from Baden – also ranks highly in the collection. The modern collection with important works of art from the 20<sup>th</sup> century is on show in the Orangerie of the Art Gallery.

Photo: Felix Gross

of international rank, distinguished municipal and private collections, important special museums and regional rural open-air museums through to a whole range of small museums run on a voluntary basis. Around 13 million visitors each year speak for themselves.

A cultural mile of European importance runs through the middle of Stuttgart. The Stuttgart State Gallery is one of the most popular and frequently visited art museums in Germany. With its neighbours, the State Academy of Music and Visual Arts and the “Haus der Geschichte” (“House of History”, history museum), it forms an architecturally homogeneous complex of arts and museums in the centre of the state capital, directly opposite the Württemberg State Theatres, the Württemberg State Museum and complemented by the Municipal Art Museum, exhibiting the Stuttgart Art Collection in a striking “Cube”.

The State Art Gallery in Karlsruhe is one of the oldest and most important art museums in Germany. Opened in 1846, it is one of the

few art museums that has largely retained its old substance and fittings and exhibits works from eight centuries. With the Museum for New Art as a department of the Centre for Art and Media Technology (ZKM), the state boasts one of Europe's biggest museums for contemporary art. The "art KARLSRUHE" has established itself as a European art fair for classic modern art through to contemporary art and complements Karlsruhe's reputation as a city of arts. Further on up the Rhine, the State Art Gallery in Baden-Baden repeatedly attracts attention with special exhibitions.

A number of municipal museums and art galleries such as those in Mannheim, Tübingen and many other places provide the state with a comprehensive programme of exhibitions of international standing. Balingen, the Braith-Mali-Museum in Biberach or the Hohenkarpfen in Hausen ob Verena (near Tuttlingen) are shrines for art lovers.

Private collections of international rank are further glittering stars in the cultural landscape. These have been joined by internationally heeded attractions over the past few years: the entrepreneur and patron Reinhold Würth exhibits his collections in architecturally interesting buildings that have put Künzelsau and Schwäbisch Hall firmly on the European art map. The Museum Frieder Burda boosts the appeal of the spa town of Baden-Baden as a crowd-puller. In Waldenbuch near Stuttgart the Museum Ritter exhibits the Marli Hoppe-Ritter collection in a building that well deserves a visit.

The traditional Academies of Visual Arts in Stuttgart and Karlsruhe as well as the famous University of Design in Karlsruhe are art academies whose reputations are known far beyond Baden-Württemberg. The Academy Schloss Solitude in Stuttgart is an international working and meeting place for artists in all genres. The Baden-Württemberg Art Foundation devotes a lot of its time and energy to young, up-and-coming artists.



The art patron and media mogul Frieder Burda has created a crowd-puller with the Museum Frieder Burda in Baden-Baden. The Frieder Burda Collection with its focus on classic modern and contemporary art is exhibited in a breathtaking museum building designed by the New York architect Richard Meier – a "jewel in the park" on the Lichtentaler Allee in Baden-Baden.

Photo: Museum Frieder Burda

In Waldenbuch near Stuttgart, the Museum Ritter presents the Marli Hoppe-Ritter collection in a cubic building planned by the Swiss architect Max Dudler: a striking boundary post between the town and countryside, art and nature. True to the company motto "quadratisch, praktisch, gut" ("square, practical, good" a famous advertising slogan for Ritter Sport chocolate) this lively place of artistic encounter concerns itself mainly with squares in art.

Photo: Museum Ritter, Victor S. Brigola





## Culture, technology and history in the museum landscape

Important collections related to cultural history can be found in the Württemberg State Museum in Stuttgart (with a branch in Waldenbuch) and the Baden State Museum in Karlsruhe. These exhibit a large proportion of cultural history since the Middle Ages. The State Museums for Natural History in the two former residencies provide comprehensive illustrative material. The “Lindenmuseum” in the state capital is one of the most important ethnological collections in Europe. The State Museum for Technology and Work in Mannheim exhibits selected objects from technical, social and cultural history in an avant-garde building. The State Museum of Archaeology in Constance offers an exciting insight into the pre- and early history of the Southwest. Private highlights also attract international visitors to the state: Mercedes-Benz presents the history of the automobile in a museum whose architecture and exhibits have caused something



Not just an architectural feast for the eyes: the Mercedes-Benz Museum in Stuttgart has given the history of the automobile a very special home.

Photo: Stuttgart-Marketing GmbH

of a sensation throughout the world. Another premium brand from the state, Porsche, is following suit. Stuttgart thus has two pilgrimage sites for technology freaks and friends of nostalgia. The Vitra Design Museum in Weil am Rhein exhibits design in its most varied

forms in an unconventional building that was planned by the architect Frank O. Gehry.

In 1977, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the state, Baden-Württemberg began a series of “Large State Exhibitions”, which now has a long history, with the Stauer exhibition. These tend to concentrate on topics of cultural history re-



The Schillerhöhe in Marbach has been given a new face with the “Literaturmuseum der Moderne” – or “LiMo” for short. Apart from the monumental, luminous white Schiller-Nationalmuseum, the museum of modern literature is also an impressive work of modern architectural art, designed by the star architect David Chipperfield. The German Literature Archive exhibits treasures from its bequests from more than 1,200 authors and academics.

Photo: DLA Marbach

lated to the southwest of Germany. The “Haus der Geschichte Baden-Württemberg” (“House of the History of Baden-Württemberg”) in Stuttgart, one of the most important cultural projects of recent years, offers state history in its purest form. History of nationwide importance is also presented in impressive exhibitions at the Reichspräsident-Friedrich-Ebert Memorial in Heidelberg, the Bundespräsident-Theodor-Heuss-Haus Foundation in Stuttgart, the memorial for Matthias Erzberger in Münsingen-Buttenhausen and the memorial for

liberation movements in German history in Rastatt Palace.

The state museums are complemented on a municipal level by numerous independent museums with a specific regional reference. Everyday culture from the fields of home and housekeeping, craftsmanship, local and re-

gional history as well as agriculture are presented vividly and inspiringly. The regional open-air museums, which have been continuously expanded since the 1960ies, show the diversity of rural areas and the history of building, living and farming graphically and in context. The concept behind the museum for the history of Christians and Jews in Laupheim is quite unique and provides a vivid view of the history of how Christians and Jews lived alongside and with each other in the Upper Swabian town.

## Literature, film and media

Baden-Württemberg has a unique literary landscape. Over eighty literary museums and memorials in the state document the history of literature from a mediaeval monastic culture through to current trends. Whether Friedrich Schiller in Marbach, Faust in Knittlingen, Albert Schweitzer in Königfeld, Annette von Droste-Hülshoff in Meersburg, Berthold Auerbach in Horb, Heinrich Hansjakob in Haslach in Kinzigtal, Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel in Stuttgart, Friedrich Hölderlin in Tübingen,

Hermann Hesse in Calw, Eduard Mörike in Neuenstadt or Christian Friedrich Daniel Schubart in Aalen – the choice is arbitrary but shows that the state has produced important poets and authors in every age, in whose name top-ranking literature prizes are also awarded. The “Literarische Gesellschaft/Scheffelbund” (Literary society to promote the works of Joseph Victor von Scheffel) in Karlsruhe has set a very impressive record: with more than 5,500 members it is the biggest literary society in German-speaking countries. The more than 1,000 libraries and numerous adult education

Baden-Württemberg has a lot to offer when it comes to film: highlights such as the cartoon festival, the French Film Days in Tübingen-Stuttgart, the Indian Film Days in Stuttgart, numerous film festivals and not least the Film Academy in Ludwigsburg, plus a large number of clever minds, have given Baden-Württemberg a leading position as an El Dorado for the media and film industry. What’s more, the Centre for Art and Media Technology in Karlsruhe is a singular cultural institution in the entire world and a forum for encounters between science and art, politics and the economy. The state and non-profit initiatives encourage the film landscape and give Baden-Württemberg its “moving pictures”.

The “Haus der Geschichte Baden-Württemberg” is a forum for state history, the likes of which can be found nowhere else in Germany – a place for meetings, discussion and dialogue. The permanent exhibition and special exhibitions present a fascinating tour through 200 years of state history.

Foto: Haus der Geschichte Baden-Württemberg



centres also make an important contribution to cultural life in the state, and are developing more and more into communication centres that offer citizens a wide range of knowledge and cultural services.

## Socio-culture

Support for culture is a public and private affair. It thrives to a large extent from the voluntary commitment of citizens. This is proven not least by the numerous socio-cultural centres in the state, which play an important part in offering a broad range of cultural events from a variety of genres. Almost half of the more than fifty institutions in the state, who are members of the umbrella organisation of the “Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Kulturinitiativen und Soziokulturellen Zentren in Baden-



The Theatre Lindenhof in Melchingen on the Swabian Alb was founded in 1981 and evolved from the municipal student movement and young people from the countryside. It has been called “Germany’s most adventurous free theatre ensemble” – as one of the numerous examples of a freely-funded socio-cultural centre. The photo shows a scene from the summer theatre production “Die Steine selbst”.

Photo: Theater Lindenhof

Württemberg” (state working committee of cultural initiatives and socio-cultural centres in Baden-Württemberg), come from towns and villages with less than 50,000 inhabitants. Local organisation is one of the pillars of cultural policy here, too. This also demonstrates the indispensable contribution made by socio-cultural institutions to providing a comprehensive basic service in rural areas.

# MEDIA LANDSCAPE

A landmark and tourist attraction in Stuttgart: the television tower rises high above the city and went into operation in 1956. The 217 metre high architectural monument was planned by Fritz Leonhardt. It was the world's first ever television tower and has served as a model for a number of similar constructions around the world.

Photo: Stuttgart-Marketing GmbH



Media, and particularly the mass media, have some important functions in democratic societies. Democracy thrives on informed and critical citizens. Media thus provide not only entertainment but also information and criticism. They are an important factor in the decision-making process and fulfil a critical and controlling task. This is one of the main reasons why public radio and television stations have

controlling committees that are filled by representatives from a wide variety of different social groups. Journalists have special rights, but also a special responsibility. Whether at home, at work or in schools – our modern society is inconceivable without media. Press, radio, television and the Internet also largely determine the recreational activities of people and the business location Baden-Württemberg.

Baden-Württemberg is one of the leading IT and media centres in Germany. Consequently, the IT and media sector has developed into one of the state's strongest lines of industry. Baden-Württemberg also plays an important role for classical and new media. Apart from a distinctive regional TV and film landscape, Baden-Württemberg also provides an unusually wide variety of radio programmes with

and manages the joint German-French cultural channel ARTE. It contributes its own and co-productions to the children's programme KI.KA and to the current affairs and documentary channel Phoenix. In addition, the SWR coordinates the online website of the ARD with the radio stations in the other states.

tions vied with the public programmes from SWF and SDR for the listeners' attention. This number was far too large, the transmission areas for the individual stations too fragmented to ensure the economic survival of all radio stations. Consequently, the private radio market was successively reduced and profiled by the Baden-Württemberg State Office for Commu-

its numerous local and regional presenters, its state-wide programme for young people and nationwide radio programmes. The Stuttgart region is also one of the most active locations on the German Web 2.0 map. In this new understanding of the "world wide web", users increasingly provide the available content themselves.

### Public radio

Baden-Württemberg was the only state which had two ARD (Arbeitsgemeinschaft der öffentlich-rechtlichen Rundfunkanstalten der Bundesrepublik Deutschland (ARD) – Consortium of public-law broadcasting institutions of the Federal Republic of Germany, a joint organisation of Germany's regional public-service broadcasters) corporations on account of its history: the "Süddeutscher Rundfunk" (SDR) which was founded in Stuttgart in 1924 at the start of the radio age, and the "Südwestfunk" (SWF) in Baden-Baden, which was set up in 1946 after the end of the Second World War in the French-occupied part of Southwest Germany. The "Südwestrundfunk" (SWR) has been broadcasting since the fusion of SWF and SDR in August 1998. It broadcasts the pop music station SWR 3, the cultural station SWR 2, the state stations SWR 1 Baden-Württemberg and SWR 4 Baden-Württemberg, the digital information station SWR Cont.Ra and the multimedia programme for young people DASDING in Baden-Württemberg.

The SWR is the second-largest broadcaster in the ARD joint programme and is involved in around one sixth of all programmes. With two local TV programmes for Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate, the SWR offers topical and commercial-free reports from the Southwest. It also coordinates and supplies the programmes for the satellite station 3sat



### Private stations

Apart from the SWR, numerous local and regional TV stations also make an important contribution to the diversity of opinion. Private TV stations from Mannheim, Karlsruhe, Freiburg, Lake Constance, Stuttgart, Böblingen, Heilbronn, Reutlingen and the Ulm/Neu-Ulm area provide viewers with information and shows from the region. All of the regional programmes are broadcast in their transmission areas analogue via cable and digital throughout the whole of Baden-Württemberg. The programmes of the stations RNF, R.TV Karlsruhe and TV-Südbaden are also broadcast digitally via satellite.

Private radio stations have also been on air in Baden-Württemberg since the middle of the 1980ies. In the initial phase of the dual radio system, a total of 44 private radio sta-

Südwestrundfunk (SWR), the public broadcasting institution for Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate, stands for information and service, regionality, culture and entertainment.

Photo: SWR

tionation (LFK), which is responsible for the private radio broadcasters, in two amendments to the media act. Following the third licensing phase, three regional stations (Radio Regenbogen, Hit-Radio Antenne 1 and Radio 7), a young people's station (bigFM) and 13 local programmes have been sharing the private radio market in Baden-Württemberg since the beginning of 2003.

Open channel and commercial-free, non-commercial local radio (NKL) has also been provided in Baden-Württemberg since 1995. The organisers give all interested parties the opportunity to produce their own radio pro-

gramme without pursuing any commercial interests. The programmes are financed by membership fees, donations and grants. In accordance with the Baden-Württemberg State Media Act, frequencies for learning and campus radio stations can be assigned according to criteria defined by the LFK since 2003. Baden-Württemberg was the first federal state to launch a digital radio (DAB) pilot project in 1996, and digital radio has been broadcast routinely since 1999. DAB broadcasts digital radio and additional data in a better sound quality than by terrestrial means. This means that up to nine programmes can be broadcast on a single frequency.

### Print media

Even in this multi-media age, there is still a great interest in print media. Baden-Württemberg traditionally has a strong newspaper landscape. Despite a slight drop in coverage and circulation figures over the past few years – the “daily newspaper” is still a very credible source of information. More than seventy newspaper publishers in the state produce almost 230 different daily newspapers with an average sold circulation of 2.1 million copies. The daily newspaper editions are delivered with the “cover pages”

of 17 independent full editorial boards. The daily newspaper with the highest circulation in the state is the Stuttgarter Zeitung, which has a strong supra-regional significance as the voice of the state capital. This is followed in terms of circulation by the Südwestpresse (published in Ulm), the Schwäbische Zeitung (Leutkirch), the Badische Zeitung (Freiburg) and the Badische Neueste Nachrichten (Karlsruhe).

The varied and strong publishing landscape in Baden-Württemberg has over 500 book publishers and more than 200 magazine publishers. “Special-interest titles” and trade journals in particular are well represented. The state also has a leading position when it comes to the production of book titles. With almost

12,000 new editions each year, around one in five of all new books in Germany comes from a publisher in Baden-Württemberg. Famous traditional publishers such as Reader’s Digest, Reclam, Klett or Kohlhammer have their headquarters in the state along with smaller specialist publishers.

Print media, above all newspapers, are still a topical and important source of information for citizens in the state. The “Staatsanzeiger für Baden-Württemberg” is the political weekly for Baden-Württemberg.

Photo: Staatsanzeiger Verlag



The Centre for Art and Media Technology in Karlsruhe (ZKM) forms a unique media museum along with the State University for Design.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg

### Film, music and art

Baden-Württemberg has its own film funding system which primarily pursues cultural aspects but should also have economic effects. The interaction between political control and funding options helps distinguish the state as a film and media location with outstanding training facilities and innovative production areas.

MFG Filmförderung Baden-Württemberg has regarded itself as a competence and advisory

centre for the film and cinema landscape since 1995. The Filmbüro Baden-Württemberg and the “Film Commissions” in the state also act as advisory and service centres for film-makers from within and outside the state. In addition, the Film Academy Baden-Württemberg in Ludwigsburg is an important German training centre that has attracted attention through national and international awards.

Numerous film competitions take place in Baden-Württemberg, for example the “International Film Festival Mannheim/Heidelberg”, the “International Cartoon Festival Stuttgart”, the animated film festival “fmx”, the “Biannual European Short Film Festival Ludwigsburg”, the “Film Show Baden-Württemberg”, the “TV Film Festival Baden-Baden” or the “French Film Days” in Tübingen and Stuttgart. The Centre for Art and Media Technology (ZKM) in Karlsruhe is a cultural institution, the likes of which can be found nowhere else in the world. It forms an interface between production and research, exhibition and event, intercession and documentation.

Baden-Württemberg has a very lively music scene, which is why the state places an emphasis on networking when it comes to supporting pop music. The Pop Academy Baden-Württemberg which was founded in 2003 by the state, the City of Mannheim, SWR, Radio Regenbogen together with companies from Mannheim, Universal Music and the LFK, sees itself on the one hand as a trigger for the whole of Baden-Württemberg, and on the other hand as a creative partner for various regional pop centres.

## New media

Computers and the Internet are playing an increasingly important role alongside classical media. Almost seven million people in Baden-Württemberg use a personal computer, around 6.4 million are “online”. Thanks to efforts by the state, education authorities and the private economy, all state schools in Baden-Württemberg are equipped with multimedia computers. And because media competence is a key qualification, numerous institutions and media education initiatives are dedicated

to strengthening this in school, out-of-school and university projects.

The information and media sector is of vital importance for the competitive strength and future of Baden-Württemberg. With a ten percent share of the state’s gross value added and around 300,000 employees, it has now become the strongest branch of the economy. The economic performance in this sector has grown almost double and the number of employees treble that of the state economy as a whole since the middle of the 1990ies. Apart from efficient medium-sized enterprises, the state is also home to global players such as SAP in Walldorf or the German offices of IBM and Hewlett Packard in Stuttgart. Baden-Württemberg also leads the way in the fields of web design and usability: the “German Multimedia Congress Interactive Design” attracts experts, decision-makers and creative minds from the interactive industry to Stuttgart every year.

In order to maintain this good position and further strengthen the IT and media location Baden-Württemberg, the state government launched the “doIT” IT and media offensive

in 2002. All of the projects and protagonists who are active in the IT and media sector are coordinated in the “doIT” office in the MFG Baden-Württemberg: companies, educational institutions, associations, business promoters and junior staff. Another example of the range of topics is the innovative research project “FAZIT” for current and innovative IT and media technologies as well as their use in Baden-Württemberg. New possibilities for web applications and new types of digital networks are also emerging on the threshold of the second Internet generation. The MFG initiated the “Innovation programme web 2.0” in 2006 to exploit the various technical, economic and social potentials offered by Baden-Württemberg and establish its position in a nationwide context.

Computers and new media dictate our daily life, be this in schools, education, work or leisure-time.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg



# RELIGIONS AND DENOMINATIONS

One of the largest and most beautiful Baroque hall constructions in the south of Germany: the Neresheim abbey church was built to the plans of Balthasar Neumann and lies above the town of Neresheim in the Ostalbkreis.

Photo: MSW, Manfred Schindler Werbeagentur



A denominational map of Baden-Württemberg appears to be quite balanced at first glance: around 4.1 million Catholics face up against 3.6 million Protestants. But these figures conceal some very striking regional differences that have developed and become entrenched since the Reformation and confessionalisation. Despite the radical demographic and social changes that have taken place in the second

half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the basic denominational structures that have developed over the ages can still be seen in Baden-Württemberg.

The Peace of Augsburg in 1555 established the rule allowing sovereign princes to select the denomination in the domains they controlled (“*cuius regio eius religio*”). The denomination of the subjects was thus determined by the

authorities. If they objected, the only choice left was to emigrate. The different denominational areas thus also reflect the territorial fragmentation of the southwest of Germany in the era of the Holy Roman Empire before 1803 or 1806. Thus, a large majority of the population in the former Duchy of Württemberg are Protestants. The old power structures are also still clear in Baden: the Margraviate

of Durlach and the Electoral Palatinate are Protestant, Baden-Baden is Catholic, as are the former Further Austrian areas in Breisgau, the southern part of the Black Forest and in Ortenau. Upper Swabia, the new Württemberg territories in Eastern Württemberg, the possessions of the Teutonic Knights and the “scattered” episcopal and monastic areas are also mainly Catholic.

The two denominations only lived together directly in a few towns. The two former Imperial Cities of Biberach and Ravensburg had equal representation of both denominations and thus constitute an exception. A strong Catholic minority established itself in the Protestant Electoral Palatinate around Mannheim and Heidelberg in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

### Changes in denominational relationships

The traditional denominational relationships began to shift in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, initially in the larger towns and cities and above all due to the increasing mobility. The share in the population with a different faith thus rose above all in Ulm, Stuttgart, Mannheim, Heidelberg, Karlsruhe and Freiburg. But the closed denominational areas in Baden-Württemberg were only finally broken down by the radical movements of the population after the Second World War. The expellees who were admitted to the Southwest – the majority of them Catholics – brought about drastic changes in the local and regional denominational relationships. The share of Catholics in Baden-Württemberg continued to grow over the next decades, since the immigrants from the Romanic Mediterranean area were almost all Catholics. Furthermore, the birth rate amongst the Catholic share of the population was always higher than that of the Protestants.

This is why the ratios between the two main denominations shifted in favour of Catholics for the first time in 1966/67 – a trend that has continued to this day.

Today, around 7.7 million of the 10.7 million people living in Baden-Württemberg are members of the Catholic or Protestant church. Apart from the secessions from the churches, which have significantly increased since the mid 1960ies, and the increased immigration of nondenominational Germans from the former GDR, the structure of the non-German population also plays a role in the drop in the share of the denominational population.

The first generation of “guest workers” were mainly from Catholic countries (Italy, Spain, Portugal, Croatia) and often returned to their home countries. But the share of immigrants from Muslim countries, especially Turkey though also the Balkan countries ravaged by civil war, rose considerably. Aided by the higher birth rates amongst Muslims compared to the German population, the number of Muslims has doubled from around 270,000 in 1987 to an estimated 600,000 today.

### The Catholic Church

The Catholics in the state are members of either the archdiocese of Freiburg or the diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart. Both of these dioceses owe their formation to the rearrangement of the political and ecclesiastic circumstances following the collapse of the Holy Roman Empire and the end of clerical principalities at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The archdiocese of Freiburg, with around 2.1 million members the second largest of the 27 dioceses in Germany, covers the old parts of Baden and Hohenzollern. The diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart with its almost two million Catholics corresponds to the Württemberg part of the state.

Below the level of the two dioceses there is a middle level of deaneries and the lower level of parishes. Pastoral care in both dioceses is undergoing a radical reorganisation. The decline in the number of priests has led to a fusion of the parishes into counselling units. The various pastoral services (deans,

parish and pastoral assistants) work together in these counselling units under the guidance of a priest. The commitment of the Catholic Church in schools and in welfare work within the scope of the Caritas organisation is very lively and present.

#### ART. 4,1 BASIC LAW

*“Freedom of faith and of conscience, and freedom to profess a religious or philosophical creed, shall be inviolable.”*

### The two Regional Protestant Churches

The history of the two Regional Protestant Churches begins with the Reformation. The Protestant Church in Baden emerged in 1821 from the union of the reformed and Lutheran parts of the state. The church’s governing body is in Karlsruhe. Pietism was formative for the Protestant Church in Württemberg along with the Reformation. The Regional Protestant Church in Württemberg has around 2.3 million parishioners and today covers the territory of the former Kingdom of Württemberg, apart from some small adjustments of borders with Baden and Hesse. This was joined after the Second World War by Hohenzollern and Wimpfen, which used to be part of Hesse. The Regional Church has centred on Stuttgart as the seat of its governing body and Tübingen with its Faculty of Protestant Theology since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The Regional Protestant Church in Baden has around 1.3 million parishioners.

The Regional Protestant Church in Baden has the following organisational levels: the two church districts of North Baden (seat Mannheim) and South Baden (Freiburg), each of which is governed by a prelate. These in turn are divided up into around thirty church circuits and around 630 parishes as the basis of the Regional Church. The organisational structure of the Regional Protestant Church in Württemberg is a little different: the Regional Church consists of around 1,400 parishes and 90 collective parishes. These are compiled





The Protestant Art Nouveau church in Gagggstatt near Kirchberg an der Jagst in the north-east of Baden-Württemberg. The photo shows the interior of the village church looking towards the altar. It was built in 1904/05 by the architect Theodor Fischer.

Photo: Karin Wohlschlegel

into 52 deaneries. The deaneries in turn are assigned to four prelatures: Reutlingen, Stuttgart, Heilbronn and Ulm. The Regional Protestant Churches, too, are the supporting organisation behind several schools in the state and are very active in the welfare-charity field through the "Diakonisches Werk" with 300 supporting organisations, around 1,000 institutions and approximately 28,000 employees.

### Free Churches, Eastern Churches and special communities

Apart from the Regional Protestant Churches, there are a number of free evangelical churches in Baden-Württemberg:

- the United Methodist Church
- the Union of Evangelical Free Church Congregations in Germany (Baptists)
- the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Baden
- the Christliche Gemeinschaftsverbund GmbH Mülheim an der Ruhr (CGV) (a Pentecostal Church)
- the Salvation Army
- the Evangelical Unitas Fratrum, "Herrnhuter Brüdergemeine" (Moravian Church)
- the Mennonites

- the Independent Evangelical-Lutheran Church (SELK)
- the Union of Independent Evangelical Churches

All of the free churches are financed by voluntary contributions from their members independent of the state, unlike the Regional Churches. Their numbers place them in a minority. The Old Catholic Church is also present in Baden-Württemberg; this arose from a protest against the proclamation of the infallibility dogma at the First Vatican Council in 1870 and found most of its members in Baden. The Orthodox Churches in Baden and Württemberg have their origins in the court communities of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The number of parishioners has jumped since the late 1960ies and the immigration of Orthodox Christians from the Balkan states and Greece. The biggest Christian-based special community is probably the New Apostolic Church, which has its centre in Württemberg where it has spread since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### The Jewish communities

Around 7,500 Jews live in Baden-Württemberg today as members of the Israelitic Religious Communities of Baden and Württemberg. In 1933, before the Nazis seized power,

#### ART. 4,1 STATE CONSTITUTION

"The Churches and accepted religious and philosophical communities are free to develop the fulfilment of their religious duties with no intervention from the state."

there were over 31,000. The majority of them held German nationality. Most fellow Jewish citizens were banished or killed in concentration camps during the Nazi dictatorship.

Jewish communities reappeared after 1945, initially in the larger towns and cities, though they only had around 2,000 members up until the 1980ies. Their numbers did not grow significantly until after the fall of the Iron Curtain and the immigration of Jews from the succes-

sor states of the Soviet Union. Community life today consists of regular visits to synagogues as well as religious and cultural events in various Jewish community centres. The communities also provide their own religious instruction, kindergartens, care for the young and old as well as intensive integration and welfare work to nurture the Jewish identity. They are democratically organised as public corporations.

### Muslims in Baden-Württemberg

An estimated 600,000 Muslims live in Baden-Württemberg, some of them in the third and fourth generation. The majority are from Turkey. But Muslim life in Baden-Württemberg is multifaceted. It is shaped by Muslims from many more countries and cultures. It is hard to put an exact figure on the number of Muslims in the state because there are hardly any statistics. Conclusions can be drawn at best from nationalities and countries of origin.

The religious commitment of Muslims is very diverse. A small number describe themselves as strict Muslims, follow the religious commandments and visit a mosque regularly. Although religion is an important aspect for the majority of Muslims, adherence to religious commandments plays a rather subordinate role for them in everyday life. The construction and planning of mosques in certain towns and cities in Baden-Württemberg indicate that Muslims are here to stay. They no longer wish to practice their religion in back yards, but visibly and within the society.



The Mevlana Mosque in Schwäbisch Hall, named after one of the most famous Islamic mystics, was built by the Turkish-Islamic Community (DITIB) and opened in 2004. The mosque represents a new type of mosque building that draws more on modern regional architecture and styles of building than on historical archetypes.

Photo: Bernd Kunz

Freiburg im Breisgau: only a few Jews returned to the town after the end of the Nazi dictatorship. The town provided a room in a department store for the first Jewish service in September 1945. The synagogue was consecrated in 1987 in the direct vicinity of the cathedral after a period of interim solutions.

Photo: LMZ Baden-Württemberg



## MEMORIAL AND COMMEMORATION SITES

Seven Social Democrat members of the Landtag in Karlsruhe were publicly deported to the Kislau concentration camp on 16 May, 1933. Surrounded by SS and SA men, from left to right: Hermann Stenz, Adam Remmele, Erwin Sammet, Ludwig Marum, Gustav Heller, Sally Grünebaum and August Furrer.

Photo: Stadtarchiv Karlsruhe



The full force of the Nazi terror hit active members of the labour movement and other political and ideological opponents of the Nazi regime immediately after the “Machtergreifung” (seizure of power) on 30 January, 1933. The “early” concentration camps between 1933 and 1934/35 – Welzheim, Kislau, Ankenbuck and Gottszell, Heuberg and the Oberer Kuhberg in Ulm – were used

to intimidate and eliminate opponents of the regime. Well-known politicians such as the members of parliament Alfred Haag (KPD) or Kurt Schumacher (SPD) began their journey through the Nazi camp terror alongside arrested clergymen and other fellow sufferers. The Baden Social Democrat Ludwig Marum was murdered in the Kislau concentration camp in March 1934. Only a few opponents of the

regime were able to go underground or save themselves by going into exile.

The “later” concentration camps as of spring 1944 were aimed at accelerating the decentralisation and moving underground of the armaments production, which had become necessary due to Allied bombing raids. Dozens of concentration camps appeared in the South-

west as external and labour camps of the Natzweiler-Struthof concentration camp in the Vosges and the Dachau concentration camp. Despite the armaments goal, prisoners were ruthlessly forced to work under inhuman conditions within the scope of the “destruction through labour” ideology. The forced labour that had to be carried out by the tens of thousands of prisoners and the death marches following the dissolution of the external camps in April 1945 claimed thousands of human lives. Many of them did not find a grave in the camp cemeteries. Sinti and Roma, homosexuals and numerous ideological opponents of National Socialism such as Jehovah’s Witnesses were also victims of the Nazi terror.

The Nazi regime declared race ideology to be a state doctrine. The exclusion of German Jews from society was the goal of the Nazi movement from its very outset. The ostracism, disfranchisement, expropriation, displacement and deportation of the Jews, and finally their exploitation as drudges and their systematic annihilation, were a key and singular characteristic of Nazi rule.

It only took the National Socialist race ideology a few years to destroy what had developed over centuries: a lively and vital, religious Jewish culture. It was an important and largely self-evident part of society in the southwest of Germany. Over 150 synagogues and institutions of Jewish communities were destroyed in the “Reichspogromnacht” (Night of Broken Glass) from 9 to 10 November, 1938. In October 1940, the Jews in Baden were deported to the Gurs camp in the southwest of France, the Jews in Württemberg and Hohenzollern were deported to Riga as of December 1941. Many of them were later deported to the extermination camps in Eastern Europe. Very few survived.



On 29 October, 1940, the Chief of the Security Police reported to the Foreign Office: “The deportation of Jews has been completed smoothly and with no incidents from all parts of Baden and the Palatinate. The population hardly noticed the action itself.”

The photo shows the deportation of Jews from Lörrach on 22 October, 1940, to Gurs – in broad daylight and for all the world to see.

Photo: Stadtarchiv Lörrach

With the start of the Second World War, the regime implemented the deliberate and planned murder of physically and mentally handicapped people, referred to in Nazi jargon as the “Destruction of life unworthy of life”. Over 10,000 people were barbarously murdered with carbon monoxide gas in Grafeneck on the Swabian Alb in 1940. The perpetrators’ tracks can later be traced to the extermination camps.

There were also staunch supporters, followers and willing helpers in the southwest of Germany. And there were the everyday signs of Nazism and the terror of the concentration camps: not somewhere far away but overtly, literally on the doorstep. Baden-Württemberg, too, has a responsibility for the “Era of the destruction of values”, as the historian Peter Steinbach has called the “Third Reich”, and for a conscious and appropriate treatment of

victims and perpetrators, particularly since it would appear that the long time gap is threatening to relativise the horror.

Numerous memorials in the state are a reminder of the crimes and of the suffering of the victims. Their diversity reflects the systematic persecution by the Nazi regime and its racist-ideological blindness. The Nazi dictatorship usurped the uncontrolled power over the freedom of citizens, over the life and death of humans who were unpopular, excluded by their race or even deemed to be “unworthy of life”.

The memories were just as painful here as they were elsewhere. After a long period of sup-

pression, initiatives that were willing to confront the past began to appear at individual locations from around 1980 onwards. This was not always easy and called for courage and staying power. It often took until the 1990ies before their acceptance grew and found public support. The memorials today commemorate the victims. They are places of mourning and reflection. But most of them are not content with this alone and offer information and educational programmes within the scope of formal curricula, for youth and adult education. They also want to be places of encounter. In 1994, they joined together in the “Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Gedenkstätten und Gedenkstätteninitiativen in Baden-

Württemberg” (State Working Committee of Memorials and Commemorative Initiatives in Baden-Württemberg) so that they could better coordinate their work. A resolution in the Landtag placed this under the supervision of the State Agency for Civic Education (Landeszentrale für politische Bildung). This furtherance should ensure the academic basis and a contemporary range of educational offers for the memorials.

New forms of remembrance have developed locally over the past few years which are concerned primarily with remembering names: memorial books in which young and old can compile the names and biographies of the de-

ported and murdered and thus absorb them into the collective memory.

A similar effect is achieved by the “stumbling blocks” (Stolpersteine) that have been set into pavements in front of the houses of Nazi victims by individuals and action groups. They really are memorials that you can stumble across throughout the state.

But fortunately it is not just places of horror that are remembered. Some of Germany’s most famous resistance fighters came from the Southwest: Johann Georg Elser (Königsbronn), the siblings Hans und Sophie Scholl (Ingersheim near Crailsheim, Forchtenberg and Ulm) and the Stauffenberg brothers Claus and Berthold (Stuttgart and Albstadt-Lautlingen). Memorials have been set up at the places they were born and lived that are a reminder of their courageous actions in the resistance movement. Teaching the development of civil courage within a historical-political context can thus take its bearing from such personalities.

Other famous resistance fighters from the Southwest also deserve a mention: the former State President of Württemberg Eugen Bolz was executed in Berlin-Plötzensee in January 1945 because he had been let in on the plans of the conspirators in the July 20 plot of 1944. (The July 20 plot of 1944 was a failed attempt to assassinate Adolf Hitler and to take power by means of a plan called “Operation Walküre”.) Gertrud Luckner from Freiburg helped numerous victims of Nazi persecution flee and was officially recognised as a “Judenretterin” (rescuer of Jews from the Holocaust). She was deported to Ravensbrück concentration camp in March 1943 after the Gestapo found out about her courageous and unselfish activities.

It was often believed that the passing of survivors and direct witnesses to history would lead to a decline in the significance of memorials of the Nazi era. But the opposite is true. Over 200,000 mainly young people visit these sites each year. They are interested in the question: “What happened right here in the state?” But above all they are looking for an answer to



Prisoners in the Vaihingen/Enz concentration camp, which had been converted from a labour camp to a death camp, immediately after their liberation by French troops in April 1945.

Photo: KZ-Gedenkstätte Vaihingen an der Enz e. V.



Gertrud Luckner (1900-1995) from Freiburg im Breisgau: The "Judenretterin" survived Ravensbrück concentration camp and was honoured as a "Righteous Among The Nations."

Photo: Gedenkstätte Deutscher Widerstand, Berlin

Stuttgart, the memorial for Matthias Erzberger in Buttenhausen or the memorial for liberation movements in German history in Rastatt. The work of these memorials thus takes on both a civil and European dimension. They deal with the central questions of the constitution of a society and the exercise of political power: with the relationship between freedom and restraint as well as the risks to a democracy and the mechanisms of a dictatorship. They emphasise the threats to justice and human rights through totalitarianism, racism and anti-Semitism. They confront violence with respect for the individual, extremism with reason and basic democratic beliefs.

Baden-Württemberg has a very dense and decentralised memorial landscape that has developed primarily through a local civic commitment. The state of Baden-Württemberg, the municipalities and the Federation support the memorials that illustrate all of the categories of persecution and destruction under Nazi terror and make them tangible.

Illustration: Lucia Winckler

something that concerns them beyond the simple facts: "How could it happen? What mechanisms failed in society to allow fellow human beings to be robbed of their rights and their lives declared worthless? What signs and developments are particularly dangerous?"

These questions from young people go beyond a simple chronology of the twelve years of Nazi rule. They stretch from the 19<sup>th</sup> century through to the present day. Because the message from the victims of the Nazi terror goes beyond their physical and mental suffering. You cannot talk about this subject without thinking of the present and our future. It is not enough to create a feeling of sadness about yesterday's crimes; the main thing is to remain vigilant so that it cannot happen again.

This is why the memorials in Baden-Württemberg also include those that remind us of the great democratic tradition in the Southwest: the Reichspräsident-Friedrich-Ebert Memorial in Heidelberg as well as the Bundespräsident-Theodor-Heuss-Haus Foundation in



# A CHANGING SOCIETY

Baden-Württemberg is an attractive and thus densely populated state in Germany. A modern and dynamic society has evolved in the course of its economic development with an increasing share of migrants in the larger towns and urban centres.

Photo: picture-alliance / Godong



The society in Baden-Württemberg has undergone a fundamental change since the foundation of the state. Economic, scientific and technological developments have led to a lasting change in the living conditions of people. Their improvement is first of all the result of an economic success story. The “Musterländle” (model “statelet”) holds a great attraction for immigrants; it has the biggest growth in popu-

lation in Germany. It is home to the youngest population, who at the same time have the highest life expectancy of all Germans. Baden-Württemberg has the lowest unemployment rate in Germany and the highest per capita income of all German states (except Berlin, Bremen and Hamburg). Despite regional differences in the economic power there are no “poor”, economically underdeveloped areas.

But any growth region has its worries. Studies have shown that around ten percent of the households have to make do with less than 10,000 euros per year and thus live below the poverty line. On the other hand, another ten percent of the households have more than 50,000 euros per year at their disposal. The rift between the rich and the poor in the state has become wider. Under the auspices of de-

mographic change, the high life expectancy, for example, will be reflected by a growing demand for care and support. The persistent growth in population has made the state one of the most densely populated of all German states (except Berlin, Bremen and Hamburg). The result is not just generally a very high cost of living but also the highest property prices in Germany and a high land usage.

### **A mobile and differentiated society**

A modern, mobile and differentiated society has developed from a traditional post-war society that was still very much dominated by agriculture in many regions. Classic differentiators in the social structure have gradually lost their meaning. This relates to the traditional categories of the so-called lower, middle and upper classes, which were based on job status and possessions, just as much as the contrast between town and country or the imprint based on historical religious structures.

Other criteria, in contrast, have become more important. En route to a knowledge society, the lifelong chance to participate in education is increasingly determining the lives and social status of people. Flexibility and mobility, not just in a spatial sense, but also the willingness to obtain qualifications, are decisive for the professional career, income and the participation in education and culture. The term “non-academically inclined classes” is being used today to describe a new underclass whose difficult economic situation is largely due to deficits in education and training.

This development has consequences for political and government action. A differentiated, and in some areas individualised society, also calls for differentiated political concepts. It has

by no means become easier to deal with and develop social and socio-political models and instruments – not just because the financial scope has been curtailed. In fact, social policy is facing increasingly complex tasks, many of which can only be dealt with as cross-functional tasks.

### **Social and socio-political fields of action**

The keywords demographic change, family policy or the furtherance of children and adolescents, the integration of migrants and equal opportunities for women and men are still used to describe key socio-political problems.

#### **Demographic change and family policy**

The excessive ageing of society should be confronted by a strengthening of families in the state, combined with the aim of an increase in the birth rate. The parental allowance that has been provided by the Federal Government since January 2007 is aimed at safeguarding the income situation of families and the reconcilability of a career and a family. The parental allowance amounts to 67 percent of the average available earned income before the birth. Fathers are also rewarded for their commitment: if they take two months off for child-rearing, the parental allowance will be paid for fourteen instead of the normal twelve months. The good response to the project, from fathers, too, would appear to confirm its acceptance.

The state government under the Minister President Günther H. Oettinger wants to strengthen families, children and adolescents. The government policy statement pointed the way ahead to achieving the programmatic goal of creating a “Kinderland (children’s state) Baden-Württemberg”. Model projects for generation-spanning and family-based living together in particular are supported by the “Kinderland Foundation”. The reorganisation of the former state child support allowance should still benefit families. Furthermore, a State Appointee for Children has been appointed in the person of the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs.

The family report of 2004, prepared on behalf of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs,



The state needs new fathers: the parental allowance that has been paid since January 2007 is also being well received by fathers.

Photo: picture-alliance / Chad Ehlers

underlines the requirements of a forward-looking family policy that can no longer assume only classical family models. Although 83 percent of the almost three million children in Baden-Württemberg were living with married parents at the time of the report, it becomes clear that family patterns have changed. The patchwork family has become almost normal and there has been a particular increase in the number of single mothers.

The family report also explicitly addresses the living conditions of migrant families and documents not only a higher significance of classical family forms amongst migrants but also, and above all, a strong backlog demand for educational integration. The integration of children and adolescents from migrant families is a key



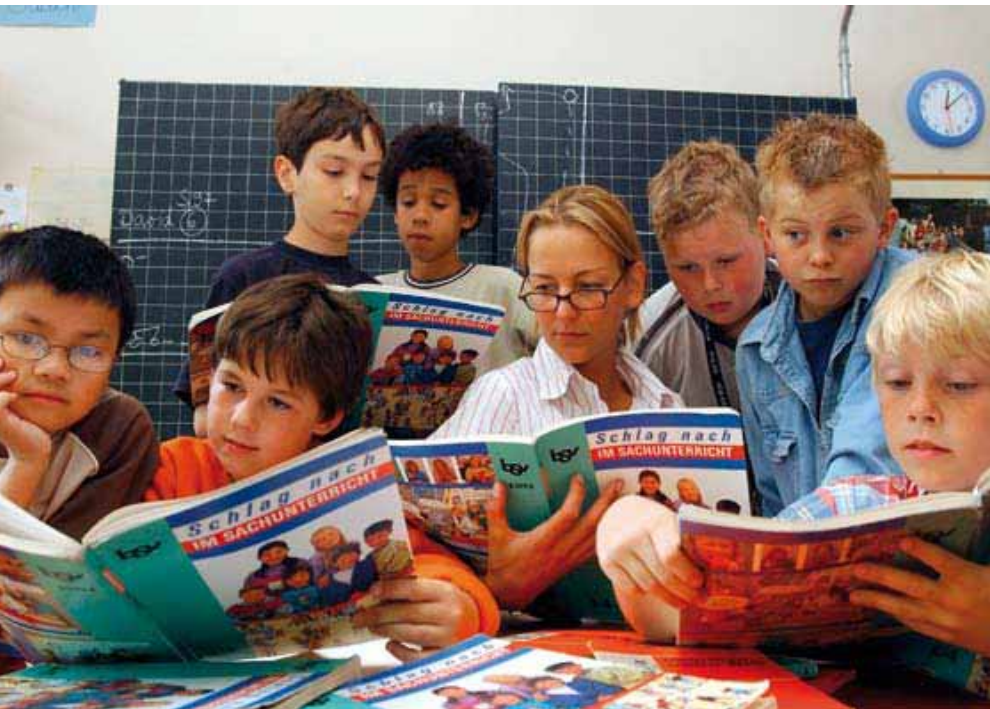
challenge in view of the continued increase in demand for well-trained specialists.

One basic task of family policy is also to encourage the reconcilability of a family and a career. The share of working mothers rose between 1985 and 2002 from 49 percent to 68 percent. This entails on the one hand a signifi-

**Integration of migrants**

A large share of the people with a migration background in Baden-Württemberg have been living in the state for decades, often in the third and fourth generation. Most came as “guest workers”. The originally planned temporary stay developed into a permanent residence in a new country. In the meantime, one in four

This situation in working life is preceded by a similar one in school education. The problem remains that the social background, income and professional status of parents is still primarily decisive for access to education and professional success. This particularly affects children and adolescents with a migration background who have poorer chances of edu-



Targeted encouragement – above all of language skills – is of utmost importance: around three quarters of children in primary and secondary schools in towns and districts with a high share of migrants are of non-German origins. Their chance of attending a Realschule or Gymnasium is only half as high as that of pupils of German origins.

Photo: picture-alliance / dpa

cant rise in the number of part-time jobs and on the other a higher demand for child care facilities. There is great backlog demand in the field of infant care in particular. Consequently, the new parental allowance should also be accompanied by an increase in the number of child care facilities and offers.

persons in Baden-Württemberg and one in three underage persons has a migration background. Forty percent of the population in the Stuttgart urban district have a migration background. In view of these figures, Baden-Württemberg can by all means be called a state of immigration. But there are still some unsolved integration problems, particularly in the field of education and on the labour market. The unemployment rate amongst migrants is almost twice as high as that amongst people in Baden-Württemberg with no migration background. This is also true of the unemployment rate amongst young people. The lack of a professional qualification is decisive for the risk of unemployment. But this is not the only reason: the unemployment rate amongst even well educated and trained migrants is almost three times as high.

cation than contemporaries without a migration background. This structural disadvantage can only be countered by targeted support for educational opportunities. The obligatory year in kindergarten directly before the first year in primary school that should improve the premises of the children, in particular their language skills for learning in school, is a further step in this direction.

Successful integration is a must in order to exploit the development potential for the society and the economy – especially against the background of globalisation and demographic change. This is no easy task, particularly since many institutions that are involved in integration work are suffering under the effects of funding cuts. Not just the state capital Stuttgart, which has won several awards for

its integration concept, including one from the United Nations, but many other towns and cities in the state have now come to see cultural diversity as, above all, an enrichment and development potential for their successful development in the future.

The career opportunities of women in fields of responsibility in society may have improved as a result of equal opportunities measures, but there are still some clear deficits in social practice. Beyond the simple constitutional dictate, modern societies cannot afford to do without the experience and professional potential of women from an economic point of view.

to tackle demographic change, when organising family policy measures or in civic involvement, will be visibly measured by the extent to which it can actively live up to the mandate of gender equality. Gender mainstreaming is based on the concrete living conditions of citizens. Its advantages are based, amongst others, on a successful because more needs-



### Gender equality

Women are still underrepresented on a senior management level in almost all fields. This is true of management levels in the economy, science and research, in administration and politics. Although women account for almost 49 percent of employed persons, only 18 percent of the managerial posts are filled by women. Women still earn less than men in comparable jobs. Traditional role models continue to dominate the division of labour in society and the demands of reconciling a family with a career first and foremost affect women. The constitutional dictate of equal rights for men and women is anchored in the Basic Law (Art. 3, 2). In 1994, it was supplemented inasmuch as the state now has to take an active role in the actual implementation of equal rights and elimination of disadvantages.



Gender policy is all-embracing social policy. "Frauenparkplatz"

Photo: Christoph Lang

### Equal opportunities need good ideas

The aspect of equal opportunities has been integrated into the political and administrative process through the concept of gender mainstreaming.

It is based on a change in paradigms that focuses on the effect of political and administrative behaviour on both sexes. The goal is to combat discrimination against women and effectively implement equal opportunities. The bias towards allegedly neutral norms and requirements is to be overcome and replaced by a gender-differentiated perspective. The quality of political actions, for example, in state and urban development planning, in concepts

driven planning of the infrastructure and in location advantages in the competition for the labour force and young families.

In July 2002, the state government decided to implement gender mainstreaming in the state administration. Accordingly, the former "Frauenförderungsgesetz" (women's advancement act) was replaced by a "Chancengleichheitsgesetz" (equal opportunities act) and the post of "Landesfrauenbeauftragte" (State Appointee for Women) by a "Chancengleichheitsbeauftragte des Landes" (State Appointee for Equal Opportunities) in 2005. The success with which gender mainstreaming and women's advancement are applied as equivalent strategies when planning political measures will decide on the success of equal opportunities for women and men.

### Civic involvement

Civic and voluntary involvement enjoy active support on the level of state politics, but above all on the level of municipal politics, even though the demand is by no means satisfied. The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs provides support for projects and the state network for civic involvement. The “Echt gut! Ehrenamt in Baden-Württemberg” (“Really good! Voluntary work in Baden-Württemberg”) prize is awarded by the state in recognition of outstanding commitment. Citizen’s Advice Bureaus or administrative departments provide assistance in the municipalities and offer further education and training courses for



anyone who wants to place his or her knowledge and skills at the service of the community. The municipalities, clubs and associations or charity institutions have always relied on classical voluntary work. This was the only way in which they could carry on the broad range of their work. The Voluntary Social Year (FSJ) and Voluntary Ecological Year (FÖJ) for young people that have been organised by the State Agency for Civic Education (Landeszentrale für politische Bildung) on behalf of the Ministry of the Environment have also enjoyed many years of success. Municipalities are also investing more in providing opportunities for young people to work on a voluntary basis through the Charitable Education Year (GBJ).

Baden-Württemberg can also rightly be called the sponsor state in Germany. Nowhere else in Germany will you find so many foundations and trusts that have sprung from the initiative of private persons or companies. Their work has become indispensable in many areas of



Each year, around 150 young people in Baden Württemberg get involved in environmental and nature protection in their Voluntary Ecological Year.

Photos: LpB Baden-Württemberg

social life, in art and culture, in integration work, in education and health care, since they often work in an exemplary manner and show the way for the future. Furthermore, Baden-Württemberg is home to two of the biggest foundations in Germany, the Robert Bosch Foundation and the Landesstiftung Baden-Württemberg (State Foundation). Several companies also act as patrons in the field of art and culture.

Apart from the classical fields of charity work, the spectrum of civic involvement has broadened over the past years – due partly to the work of citizen’s action groups and the agenda process in the municipalities. Work as a job mentor, as a pilot through welfare administration, as a mentor for concrete social or cultural tasks, cooperation in urban district development or integration projects, micro-projects in youth work, in models for cross-generational living forms, to name but a few. These are joined by the JES projects (“Jugend engagiert sich sozial”, can be roughly translated as “Young people get involved in social work”), which are provided exclusively for young people. And for good reason: they deal with key challenges facing the future of urban development and the solution of social problems on the

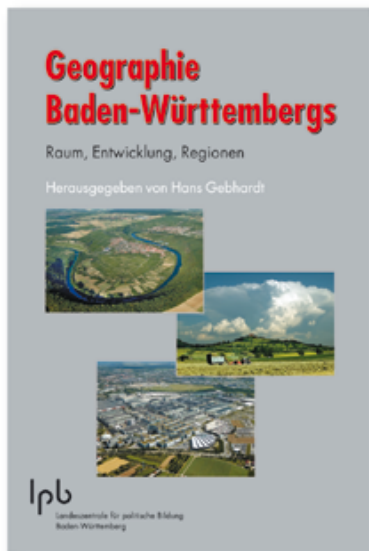
spot. A new approach to involving companies in community work is also being attempted with the “Corporate Citizenship” concept.

The encouragement of civic involvement is due on the one hand to the realisation that the demand for solutions in the social, educational and cultural fields cannot be satisfied on account of the scarce financial and personnel resources in the relevant administrations and institutions. On the other hand, experience has shown that the involvement and expertise of citizens in planning and carrying out political decisions lead to their success, since they can contribute the necessary local knowledge and experience. Civic participation is thus increasingly assuming the dimension of political participation. The term “Bürgerkommune” (civic municipality) points in this direction, describing a form of municipal administration where citizens are more involved in political planning and political responsibility beyond their representation committees, e.g. within the scope of a civic budget. Notwithstanding the without doubt great efforts needed to balance different interests, this can nevertheless be seen as a chance to make urban development a matter of consensus and to bring it closer to the concrete needs of citizens.

Hans Gebhardt (Hrsg.):

**Geographie Baden-Württembergs. Raum, Entwicklung, Regionen.**

Schriften zur politischen Landeskunde Baden-Württembergs Bd. 36, Stuttgart 2008



Baden-Württemberg ist ein wirtschaftlich erfolgreiches und geographisch vielfältiges Land. Das Buch behandelt auf 372 Seiten mit 74 Abbildungen und 27 Tabellen den deutschen Südwesten im Kontext europäischer und deutscher Wachstumsregionen sowie in seinen äußeren und inneren Grenzen.

Als Leitmotiv zur Darstellung regionaler Vielfalt dienen naturräumliche Kontraste ebenso wie die Gegensätze zwischen Industrieräumen und Fremdenverkehrsgebieten, Großstadregionen und ländlichem Raum.

Zudem werden die aktuellen kulturgeographischen Probleme der wichtigsten Kulturlandschaften und Wirtschaftsregionen in Baden-Württemberg behandelt.

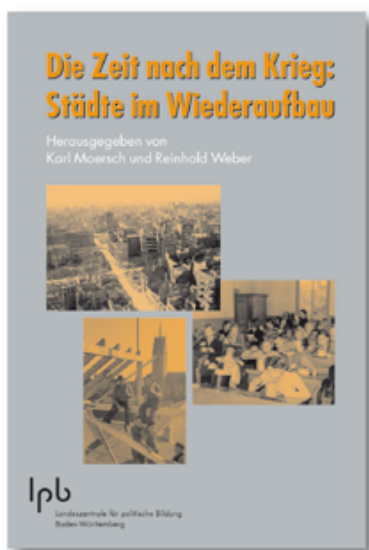
**6.50 EUR** (zzgl. Versandkosten)  
per Fax 0711.16409977, über  
marketing@lpb.bwl.de oder  
Webshop: [www.lpb-bw.de/shop](http://www.lpb-bw.de/shop)



Karl Moersch/Reinhold Weber (Hrsg.):

**Die Zeit nach dem Krieg: Städte im Wiederaufbau.**

Schriften zur politischen Landeskunde Baden-Württembergs Bd. 37, Stuttgart 2008



Die militärische Besetzung im Frühjahr 1945 stellte einen bedeutsamen Einschnitt dar. Nach dem Ende der NS-Herrschaft prägten die Siegermächte die politischen Strukturen und ökonomischen Rahmenbedingungen in den Kommunen wie auch das Alltagsleben der Bevölkerung.

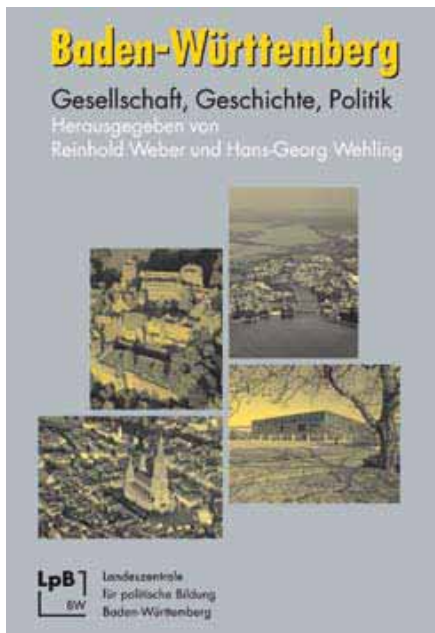
Solange die Länderverwaltungen nicht wieder funktionierten, waren die Kommunen die zentrale Handlungsebene, nicht zuletzt dank einer Reihe herausragender Bürgermeister, die tatkräftig anpackten und die Bevölkerung motivieren konnten. Das Buch porträtiert auf 420 Seiten mit 80 Abbildungen 15 ausgewählte

Städte in Baden-Württemberg. Es geht der Frage nach, wie die Probleme des Wiederaufbaus, die Sicherung der menschlichen Grundbedürfnisse, der politische Neuanfang und das gesellschaftliche und kulturelle Leben gemeistert wurden.

**6.50 EUR** (zzgl. Versandkosten)  
per Fax 0711.16409977, über  
marketing@lpb.bwl.de oder  
Webshop: [www.lpb-bw.de/shop](http://www.lpb-bw.de/shop)



## REFERENCES



The Landeszentrale für politische Bildung Baden-Württemberg (State Agency for Civic Education) launched the series entitled "Schriften zur politischen Landeskunde Baden-Württembergs" (publications on political regional studies in Baden-Württemberg) in 1975.

These publications provide understandable, reliable, objective and non-party information on a wide variety of regional topics from the southwest of Germany ranging from the history and politics of the state, its geography, economy and society right through to churches, media and culture.

The series is just as diverse as the state of Baden-Württemberg and its inhabitants itself. It has in turn become very well-known and some of the volumes are now standard works of reference.

*Bd. 37: Moersch, Karl / Weber, Reinhold* (Hrsg.): Die Zeit nach dem Krieg. Städte im Wiederaufbau, Stuttgart 2008.

*Bd. 36: Gebhardt, Hans* (Hrsg.): Geographie Baden-Württembergs. Raum, Entwicklung, Regionen, Stuttgart 2008.

*Bd. 35: Pflug, Konrad / Raab-Nicolai, Ulrike / Weber, Reinhold* (Hrsg.): Orte des Gedenkens und Erinnerns in Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart 2007.

*Bd. 34: Weber, Reinhold / Wehling, Hans-Georg* (Hrsg.): Baden-Württemberg. Gesellschaft, Geschichte, Politik, Stuttgart 2006.

*Bd. 33: Weber, Reinhold / Mayer, Ines* (Hrsg.): Politische Köpfe aus Südwestdeutschland, Stuttgart 2005.

*Bd. 32: Meier-Braun, Karl-Heinz / Weber, Reinhold* (Hrsg.): Kulturelle Vielfalt. Baden-Württemberg als Einwanderungsland, Stuttgart 2005 (2. unveränderte Auflage 2006).

*Bd. 31: Eilfort, Michael* (Hrsg.): Parteien in Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart 2003.

*Bd. 30: Blümcke, Martin* (Hrsg.): Alltagskultur in Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart 2003.

*Bd. 29: Cost, Hilde / Körber-Weik, Margot* (Hrsg.): Die Wirtschaft von Baden-Württemberg im Umbruch, Stuttgart 2002.

*Bd. 28: Fischer, Thomas / Frech, Siegfried* (Hrsg.): Baden-Württemberg und seine Partnerrregionen, Stuttgart 2001.

*Bd. 27: Wehling, Hans-Georg / Hauser-Hauswirth, Angelika* (Hrsg.): Die großen Revolutionen im deutschen Südwesten, Stuttgart 1998.

*Bd. 26: Hippel, Wolfgang von:* Revolution im deutschen Südwesten. Das Großherzogtum Baden 1848/49, Stuttgart 1998.

*Bd. 25: Schweickert, Alexander* (Hrsg.): Kurpfalz, Stuttgart 1997.

*Bd. 24: Wehling, Hans-Georg* (Hrsg.): Oberschwaben, Stuttgart 1995.

*Bd. 23: Kallenberg, Fritz* (Hrsg.): Hohenzollern, Stuttgart 1996.

*Bd. 22: Gerlach, Siegfried* (Hrsg.): Sachsen. Eine politische Landeskunde, Stuttgart 1993.

*Bd. 21: Bauschert, Otto* (Hrsg.): Hohenlohe, Stuttgart 1993.

*Bd. 20: Knorr, Birgit / Wehling, Rosemarie* (Hrsg.): Frauen im deutschen Südwesten, Stuttgart 1992.

*Bd. 19: Schweickert, Alexander* (Hrsg.): Südbaden, Stuttgart 1992.

*Bd. 18: Wehling, Hans-Georg / Langewiesche, Dieter* u. a.: Baden-Württemberg. Eine politische Landeskunde Teil II, Stuttgart 1991.

*Bd. 17: Biege, Hans-Peter* (Hrsg.): Massenmedien in Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart 1990.

*Bd. 16: Boelcke, Willi A.:* Sozialgeschichte Baden-Württembergs 1800–1989, Stuttgart 1989.

*Bd. 15: Klatt, Hartmut* (Hrsg.): Baden-Württemberg und der Bund, Stuttgart 1989.

*Bd. 14: Schneider, Herbert* (Hrsg.): Verbände in Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart 1987.

*Bd. 13: Schnabel, Thomas:* Württemberg zwischen Weimar und Bonn, 1928–1945/46, Stuttgart 1986.

*Bd. 12: Borchardt, Christoph* u. a.: Die Landwirtschaft in Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart 1985.

*Bd. 11: Pfizer, Theodor / Wehling, Hans-Georg* (Hrsg.): Kommunalpolitik in Baden-Württemberg, 3. Aufl. Stuttgart 2000.

*Bd. 10: Bosch, Michael / Niess, Wolfgang* (Hrsg.): Der Widerstand im deutschen Südwesten 1933–1945, Stuttgart 1984.

*Bd. 9: Sproll, Heinz / Thierfelder, Jörg* (Hrsg.): Die Religionsgemeinschaften in Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart 1984.

*Bd. 8: Borchardt, Christoph* (Hrsg.): Geografische Landeskunde von Baden-Württemberg, 3. Aufl. Stuttgart 1993.

*Bd. 7: Ott, Alfred E.* (Hrsg.): Die Wirtschaft des Landes Baden-Württemberg. Stuttgart 1983.

*Bd. 6: Schnabel, Thomas* (Hrsg.): Die Macht ergreifung in Südwestdeutschland. Das Ende der Weimarer Republik in Baden und Württemberg 1928–1933, Stuttgart 1982.

*Bd. 5: Fenske, Hans:* Der liberale Südwesten. Freiheitliche und demokratische Traditionen in Baden-Württemberg 1790–1933, Stuttgart 1981.

*Bd. 4: Rothmund, Paul / Wiehn, Erhard R.* (Hrsg.): Die F.D.P. / DVP in Baden-Württemberg und ihre Geschichte, Stuttgart 1979.

*Bd. 3: Schadt, Jörg / Schmierer, Wolfgang* (Hrsg.): Die SPD in Baden-Württemberg und ihre Geschichte, Stuttgart 1979.

*Bd. 2: Weinacht, Paul-Ludwig* (Hrsg.): Die CDU in Baden-Württemberg und ihre Geschichte, Stuttgart 1979.

*Bd. 1: Eschenburg, Theodor* u. a.: Baden-Württemberg. Eine politische Landeskunde. Redaktion: Hans-Georg Wehling, 4. Aufl. Stuttgart 1996. (Übersetzung als: The German Southwest. Baden-Württemberg: History, Politics, Economy and Culture, Stuttgart 1991).

## Further publications on regional studies from the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung

**Weber, Reinhold / Wehling, Hans-Georg:** Geschichte Baden-Württembergs, München 2007.

**Wehling, Hans-Georg / Hauser-Hauswirth, Angelika / Sepaintner, Fred Ludwig** (Hrsg.): Baden-Württemberg. Vielfalt und Stärke der Regionen, Stuttgart 2002.

**Frech, Siegfried** (Red.): Taschenbuch Baden-Württemberg. Gesetze – Daten – Analysen, Stuttgart 2004 (Neuausgabe 2009).

**Faltblätter:** Landeskunde – Landesgeschichte – Landespolitik, zuletzt erschienen Nr. 10/2007: Ludwig Marum (1882–1934).

## Magazines published by the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung

Der Bürger im Staat  
[www.buergerimstaat.de](http://www.buergerimstaat.de)

Politik & Unterricht  
[www.politikundunterricht.de](http://www.politikundunterricht.de)

Deutschland & Europa  
[www.deutschlandundeuropa.de](http://www.deutschlandundeuropa.de)

## Basic Material

Grundgesetz der Bundesrepublik Deutschland / Landesverfassung von Baden-Württemberg

Die Baden-Württemberg-Karte (Verwaltungskarte und physische Karte, 70 x 60 cm)

## Games and teaching material from the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung

Baden-Württemberg Memory  
Deutschland-Quartett  
Baden-Württemberg-Puzzle  
Deutschland-Puzzle  
Europa-Puzzle  
Welt-Puzzle  
Politik ABC

**fit in politik.** Politisches Basiswissen auf dem Bierdeckel, 2008.

**Perspektiven bilden.** Fotoset für die politische Bildung, 2008.

**Kursbuch miteinander leben.** Unterrichtsmaterial für Orientierungs- und Sprachkurse, 2006.

## Further references

**Der Präsident des Landtags von Baden-Württemberg** (Hrsg.): Landtagsspiegel Baden-Württemberg (mit der Jahresbilanz des Landesparlaments, ergänzt durch landeskundliche und zeitgeschichtliche Hintergrundberichte; erscheint jährlich).

**Statistisches Landesamt Baden-Württemberg** (Hrsg.): Statistisches Taschenbuch Baden-Württemberg (erscheint jährlich).

## Current information from the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung on the Internet

[www.lpb-bw.de](http://www.lpb-bw.de)  
[www.landeskunde-baden-wuerttemberg.de](http://www.landeskunde-baden-wuerttemberg.de)

## Further information

[www.landtag-bw.de](http://www.landtag-bw.de)  
[www.baden-wuerttemberg.de](http://www.baden-wuerttemberg.de)  
[www.statistik-bw.de](http://www.statistik-bw.de)  
[www.lmz-bw.de](http://www.lmz-bw.de)  
[www.lv-bw.de](http://www.lv-bw.de)

## THE LANDESZENTRALE FÜR POLITISCHE BILDUNG



The Landeszentrale für politische Bildung (LpB – State Agency for Civic Education) has the task of encouraging and strengthening civic education in Baden-Württemberg on a non-party basis. It coordinates civic education in the state as well as the further education and training of the people employed in civic education. This broad scope of work is accomplished by the LpB in around 700 events, seminars and educational trips each year and in a comprehensive range of publications and Internet pages.

Well-established publications from the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung include “Der Bürger im Staat” (since 1951), a professional journal for a wide group of readers that continues to bear the name of the predecessor of the LpB. The magazines “Politik & Unterricht” as well as “Deutschland & Europa” are didactic magazines for practical civic education in schools and extracurricular educational establishments. They are primarily aimed at teachers and multipliers. Numerous publications on regional studies, including the famous series “Schriften zur politischen Landeskunde Baden-Württembergs” (publications on political regional studies in Baden-Württemberg) (since 1975), provide comprehensive information on all matters of regional interest in Baden-Württemberg. Educational teaching material, games, services and not least e-Learning courses round off the varied offerings of the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung.

The “Haus auf der Alb” (House on the Alb) in Bad Urach, an important Bauhaus monument from the age of the Weimar Republic, is used by the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung as a conference centre. Numerous institutions and thousands of people make use of the peaceful atmosphere to hold conferences, courses and events here every year.

Photo: LpB Baden-Württemberg

The Landtag and the state government of Baden-Württemberg have given the LpB the responsibility for the Landtag’s school-children’s competition and for the Voluntary Ecological Year as well as a special responsibility for the memorials of National Socialism in Baden-Württemberg.

The LpB is a public agency with no legal capacity in the portfolio of the Ministry of State. It has a board of trustees with representatives from all parliamentary parties in the Landtag in order to guarantee its independence. These are joined by experts for civic education from all walks of life, for example, from churches, unions, trade associations or adult education centres.

The Landeszentrale für politische Bildung provides a service for all citizens in the state who want to participate in its events, seminars or educational trips and order its publications.

[www.lpb-bw.de](http://www.lpb-bw.de)

[www.landeskunde-baden-wuerttemberg.de](http://www.landeskunde-baden-wuerttemberg.de)