



# MANIFESTO FOR GERMANY

The Political Programme of the **Alternative for Germany**.



**Preamble**



*COURAGE TO STAND UP FOR GERMANY  
WE ARE NOT SUBJECTS,  
BUT FREE CITIZENS*

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**We are liberals and conservatives.  
We are free citizens of our nation.  
We are staunch supporters of democracy.**

We have come together as citizens with different background, experience, qualifications and political careers. In spite of our differences, we believe in a common vision, and that the time to stand up and act has arrived. We share a firm conviction that citizens have the right to true political alternatives, not only those presented by the political class.

No longer can we remain idle and observe the breaches to justice and the rule of law, the destruction of the constitutional state, and irresponsible political actions which clash with sound economic principles. Similarly, we are no longer willing to accept the enforcement of the so-called Euro rescue package, which has rekindled long-forgotten prejudices and hostilities between the peoples of Europe. Therefore, we have decided to offer Germany and all its citizens a true political alternative, which covers all aspects of life.

As free citizens we believe in direct democracy, the separation of powers, the rule of law, social market economics, subsidiarity, federalism, family values, and German cultural heritage, as democracy and freedom are vested in our

common cultural values and historical tradition. The recollection of the two revolutions of 1848 and 1989 drive our civil protest and the determination to complete our national unity in freedom, and create a Europe of sovereign and democratic nation states, united in peace, self-determination and good-neighbourliness.

We commit ourselves with all our energy to restoring these principles, and fundamentally reform our country in the spirit of freedom and democracy. We maintain an open mind towards other nations and cultures, but wish to be and remain German at heart. Therefore, we shall continuously strive to uphold human dignity, support families with children, retain our western Christian culture, and maintain our language and traditions in a peaceful, democratic, and sovereign nation state for the German people.

We will have reached our goal when government and all its institutions once again become servants to all citizens in our country, which all members of government swear in the official oath to the constitution:

*„I swear that I will dedicate my efforts to the well-being of the German people, promote their welfare, protect them from harm, uphold and defend the German Constitution and the laws of the Federation, perform my duties conscientiously and do justice to all.“*

**In this spirit, we commit to the following manifesto.**

 CHAPTER 1

# Democracy and Core Values

## DEMOCRACY AND CORE VALUES

We want to reform Germany and return to the roots and principles which were fundamental to its economic recovery and subsequent decades of economic and social progress.

Germany's government institutions have developed a disquieting independent existence. The distribution of powers no longer corresponds to the fundamental laws of separation of powers. Further, the public sector has expanded beyond appropriate boundaries. Therefore, it is an important part of our platform to revert government institutions to their original goals and responsibilities.

At the latest since the Schengen (1985), Maastricht (1992) and Lisbon (2007) Treaties, the inviolability of national sovereignty as the foundation of our state has been exposed as a fiction.

Behind the scenes a small and powerful elite within the political parties is secretly in charge, and is responsible for the misguided development of past decades. It is this political class of career politicians whose foremost interest is to retain their own power base, status, and material well-being. It is a political cartel which operates the levers of government power, insofar as these have not been transferred to the EU.

Only the citizens of the Federal Republic of Germany can end this illegitimate state of affairs.

### 1.1 Referenda based on the Swiss Model

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The AfD advocates the introduction of referenda in Germany based on the Swiss model. The German people should have the right to vote on laws made by Parliament. From the outset this would have a limiting and moderating effect on Parliament, and over time would stem the flood of nonsensical legislation. Further, the content of regulations would be more carefully considered in order to secure a popular vote. Changes to parliamentary allowances and expenditure would be limited in order to gain approval by the electorate. Over and above, the electorate itself could initiate new draft laws.

The Constitution may not be changed, and no significant international treaty be entered into, without the direct approval of the German people. Vice versa, the people themselves should have the right to initiate changes to the Constitution. In particular, the relinquishing of national sovereignty to the EU and other institutions would be scotched without prior approval by the German people.

The German electorate is just as qualified as their Swiss counterparts to vote directly and without curtailment on any topic. A natural limitation is constituted by principles of international law.

The Swiss model proves that citizens take a greater interest in public welfare than professional politicians, even when their own interests collide with the common good. Decisions based on political majorities and those favouring special interest groups are more likely to be found in representative democracies.

In particular, decisions of a financial nature should be put to a public vote. On a number of social issues Germany finds itself at political crossroads. No government may or should initiate changes in this area without directly consulting its citizens. Therefore, the introduction of national referenda based on the Swiss model is a non-negotiable component of any coalition agreement signed by the AfD.

### 1.2 Lean Government for Free Citizens

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Government should serve its citizens, and not vice versa. Therefore, only lean government is good government. Government should merely provide a framework within which its citizens can thrive. A constant and often ideology-driven expansion of government functions has reached financial and practical limitations, and is a threat to the fundamental rights of freedom of its citizens. Government has taken on too many tasks. There is a need to focus on four classic functions performed by government: domestic and foreign security, justice, foreign relations, and financial administration.

All other functions require special justification. We want to examine to which extent current government functions can be performed by private or other institutions. Germany is faced with huge demographic challenges, which will require a new understanding of the role of government and its institutions.

Fundamental to our political convictions is a view of humanity which seeks the opportunities offered by freedom, but which likewise is mindful of its challenges. We do not believe in promises contained in various ideologies, nor are we

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