



A) Legislative developments

Newly adopted legislation

legislative drafts currently discussed in Parliament

legislative plans envisaged by the Government

Our understanding is that the German Government will provide comprehensive and sufficient information on these questions.

B) Policy developments

Implementation of legislation

evaluations, impact assessment, surveys

white papers/strategies/actions plans/consultation processes

follow-up to reports/recommendations of Council of Europe bodies or other international organisations

important administrative measures

generalised practices

C) Developments related to the judiciary / independent authorities

important case law by national courts

The Federal Administrative Court (Bundesverwaltungsgericht – BVerwG) ruled that the names of the reviewers to whom the President of the Federal Constitutional Court (Bundesverfassungsgericht – BVerfG), Stephan Harbarth, owes his honorary professorship, may remain secret.

BVerwG, Beschl. v. 10.7.2024 – 10 B 8.24 (dazu *Hirte*, Streitet die Wissenschaftsfreiheit für Intransparenz? ZGI 2024, S. 199-204).

In the nomination procedures of candidates in public elections, there is – once again – a considerable potential for abuse.

This is evident – very recently – in the "Gelbhaar case".

See <https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/innenpolitik/gruene-gelbhaar-100.html>.

In fact, however, it has been a virulent fundamental problem for some time.

On the possibility of election manipulation by members who do not pay their membership dues *Hirte*, Zum Verhältnis von Recht und Politik und von Politik und Recht. Wahlrecht – Virtuelle Vorstandssitzung – Parteigerichtbarkeit (Blog Post in [starke-meinungen.de](https://starke-meinungen.de) v. 17.1.2025) (available at <https://starke-meinungen.de/blog/2025/01/17/zum-verhaeltnis-von-recht-und-politik-und-von-politik-und-recht/>);

in the past already *Bednarz*, Wie sich die Aufstellung von Wahlkreiskandidaten bei Bundes- und Landtagswahlen manipulieren lässt (Blog Post in [starke-meinungen.de](https://starke-meinungen.de) v. 20.9.2023) (available at <https://starke-meinungen.de/blog/2023/09/20/wie-sich-die-aufstellung-von-wahlkreiskandidaten-bei-bundes-und-landtagswahlen-manipulieren-laesst/>).

In particular, the primacy of the so-called (political) party jurisdiction prevents a prompt review of challenges in such cases.

On this topic quite recently, LG Köln, Anerkenntnisurteil v. 11.11.2024 - 37 O 258/24 (abrufbar unter <https://openjur.de/u/2498253.html>): First-instance judgment on the legality of a candidate nomination for the German Bundestag only after more than three years.

Related to this are questions of party financing through loans from ultimately unexplained sources, which can be used to manipulate the number of delegate votes in elections.

See also *Tillack*, Geldsorgen in der CDU? Einfach Jens Spahn fragen. Welt v. 14.9.2024 (available at <https://www.welt.de/politik/deutschland/plus253491748/Bei-Geldsorgen-in-der-CDU-Einfach-Jens-Spahn-fragen.html>).

important decision/opinions from independent bodies/authorities

state of play on terms, nominations and expired mandates for high-level positions (e.g. Supreme Court, Constitutional Court, Council for the Judiciary, Prosecutor General, heads of independent authorities included in the scope of the request for input[2])

D) Any other relevant developments

National authorities are free to add any further information, which they deem relevant; however, this should be short and to the point.