

de|ge|pol

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Politikberatung e.V.

Lo|bby|ing in Germany

Current debates & regulative changes

de'ge'pol – German Association of Political Consultants

What's going on in Berlin?

Current Debates: Access to Parliament

Current debate in Germany

- Recent changes to regulations concerning the **issuance of access passes** to the Bundestag
- Business lobbyists and consultants shut out, only associations remain
- **Constitutional challenge** if hurdles remain in place

Current Debates

National Lobby Register

German National Lobby Register

- Legislative motion by opposition parties to be discussed later this month
- Aim: Establishment of **comprehensive and mandatory** national register of lobbyists
- Numerous **disclosure requirements**
 - Structural, procedural and contentual data
 - Financial aspects

Commissioner for the Representation of Interests

- **Proposal by de'ge'pol:** National contact person for everyone
- **Investigates allegations** of unethical behaviour
- Work focussed on **recipient** of lobbying acts, not sender

Current Debates

Periods of Restriction for Politicians

Law on Restriction Periods for Government Officials

- Rules applying to **cabinet ministers** and (permanent) **under-secretaries of state** only
- Three-person **council** to decide if restrictions should apply
- Duration: 12 months, max 18 months

Outlook & Challenges

Outlook & Challenges

- Massive **erosion of trust** in both politics and lobbying
- **Rise of right-wing populists** in recent elections:
limiting scope of action for moderate politicians
- Polarisation and **instrumentalisation of lobbying**

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