

Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the European Union





Bavaria in Europe

Modern Bavaria feels just as much bound to its many centuries of history as it is to the German and European dimension. The State Government acknowledges the integration of Europe as the historical mission of its peoples to secure a future in peace and freedom.

The EU has proven to be the most successful peace project in Europe's history. It has fostered the reconciliation of the nations and laid the foundations for economic success. European unification provides the great opportunity to strengthen the European community of values and to maintain it in tomorrow's world.

The nation states and the regions within them must, however, continue as the pillars of the work of unification. The aim of integration is a union of European states and regions with clearly delimited competences and committed to the principle of subsidiarity.

It is precisely this controlled integration that, whilst safeguarding national interests and regional autonomies, forms the core statement of the Bavarian State Government's European policy.



Participation of the Free State of Bavaria in the European Union

Helping to shape European policy is a central task of the Bavarian State Government. The European Union also decides about Bavaria's development to a great extent.

European policy is domestic policy. More than 50% of German domestic policy is determined by European law. In individual fields such as economic, agricultural and environmental policy it is up to 80%. Representing Bavarian interests in Brussels and Strasbourg is therefore just as important as the representation of interests at federal level. The State Chancellery is responsible for the coordination of Bavarian European policy.

Timely information about projects and developments in the EU is an important precondition for an appropriate European policy. This is why Bavaria has already been represented in Brussels since 1987.

Bavaria's Representation to the EU provides support for the State Minister of Federal and European Affairs in the performance of her duties. It functions as an interface between Bavaria and Brussels; this means:

- ▶ Informing the State Government promptly about all important political proceedings in the EU
- ▶ Exerting influence on policy formation in the EU, representing Bavaria's interests to the institutions of the EU
- ▶ Informing the Bavarian Parliament, the administration, as well as Bavarian enterprises and citizens
- ▶ Preparation of informational visits for members of the Bavarian State Government and State Parliament to Brussels
- ▶ Presentation of the Free State of Bavaria in Brussels by means of events
- ▶ Advice and support for Bavarian industry as regards contacts to the EU
- ▶ Point of contact for visitors as well as public and private institutions from Bavaria
- ▶ Cooperation with other European regional representations based in Brussels

The work of the Bavarian Representation

As one of two departments for European affairs, the Bavarian Representation is integrated into the Bavarian State Chancellery, the seat of government of the Minister-President. All State Ministries have their official counterparts to represent them in Brussels

The staff members on the spot create a dense information network to the European decision-makers. Effective representation of Bavaria's interests is facilitated by a variety of working contacts to the Brussels institutions, especially the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union, the Committee of the Regions and to the representations of other regions. The fortnightly *Europabericht* ("European Report") enables the Representation to keep the politicians and administration in Bavaria up-to-date.

The Bavarian Representation is a forum for many events. In 2006 alone, the programme comprised more than 600 events with many prominent guests and hosts taking part. The spectrum covers everything from regular speci-



alist working groups, conferences and discussion rounds, to cultural affairs and large-scale events with more than 300 guests. This puts the Bavarian Representation among the most active representations of European regions in Brussels. A special highlight is the Oktoberfest organised by the Representation every two years and based on the traditional Bavarian model. For an entire week, many of the Brussels decision-makers can enjoy the proverbial Bavarian *Gemütlichkeit* in a Bavarian marquee.

The Bavarian Representation is also a point of contact for politicians, citizens, the administration, companies, universities and all those involved with "European matters". Numerous visitors' groups can find out about the work of the Representation and current European topics on the spot.

Facts and Figures

- ▶ First Brussels information bureau of the Free State of Bavaria in 1987
- ▶ Since 1994: Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the EU
- ▶ July 2004: The Representation moves to the building complex of the former Institut Pasteur
- ▶ More than 600 events every year
- ▶ Approx. 12,000 visitors every year
- ▶ 30 members of staff, among them the official counterparts of all Bavarian state ministries



The Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the EU in the former Institut Pasteur



The former institute in front of the European Parliament

With the Park Leopold as its setting, the building of the Bavarian Representation is not only beautifully situated but also occupies a central position at the very heart of the European Quarter. There is hardly any other location so close to the nerve centres of European politics. In the immediate vicinity are the Parliament and the Committee of the Regions.

History

The building complex was built in the historicist style between 1903 and 1905. It consists of the institute, the director's villa and the stables.

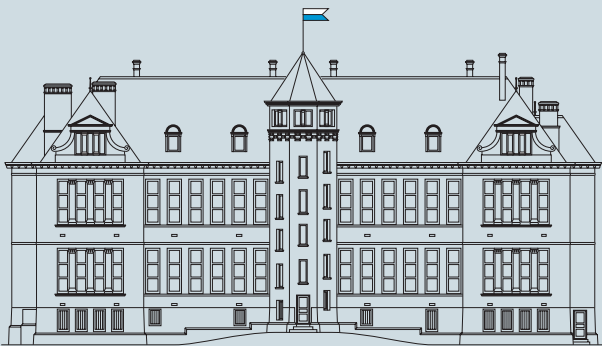
Its original purpose was to set up an "antibacterial and bacteriological research institute". The Belgian physician,

Jules Bordet, who had already received a post at the Institut Pasteur in Paris when he was only 24, was appointed by the Province of Brabant to found and direct this research institute. It was allowed to call itself "Institut Pasteur du Brabant".

In 1919 Jules Bordet received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his theory relating to immunity. In 1906, together with Octave Gengou, he discovered the bacterial cause of whooping cough *Haemophilus pertussis*. Jules Bordet died in Brussels in 1961.

Until 1987 the institute was used as a microbiological laboratory. After that the building stood empty.

At the beginning of the 1990's, some modest renovation work was carried out to preserve the fabric of the villa and stables. Until 2001 these parts of the building were used as an office and model workshop.



Planning concept and renovation of the Institut Pasteur

In 2001 Bavaria bought the building complex, which was badly in need of renovation, carefully restored it and added extensions to the villa and the stables in keeping with the standards governing the preservation of historical monuments. In this way, the building complex was harmoniously integrated into the surrounding Park Leopold.

In July 2004 the Bavarian Representation moved into the buildings of the former Institut Pasteur.

Institute Building

Its impressive architectural style makes the Institute building ideal for the requirements of a regional representation. The Institute now houses the offices of the Minister-

*'Jules Bordet'
auditorium*



President and the State Minister, as well as rooms for the administration and management; there is also a conference room and a wine tavern.

Office Building in the former Director's Villa

The "villa" was ideal as office space, as well as for services, technical equipment and administration. On its own, however, it was not big enough to provide all the space required, so an extension was added whose clear, plain lines are in keeping with the character of the entire complex, without disturbing the overall effect.

Stables

The old stable building serves as a foyer for the large auditorium, a new building using state-of-the-art technical facilities. The hall can seat up to 300 people, and there is a bierkeller in the basement. The materials selected for this new construction also match those of the historical building. In the old stable building is the service zone for the auditorium. This is also where the foyer and the catering kitchen for the auditorium are located.



*The former villa -
today the office
building of the
Bavarian
Representation*

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