

## HAMBURG PARLIAMENT

### GENERAL DATA

#### General data of the region

- Country (area and population): Germany, approx. 81.859.000 million (Nov.2011)
- Region (area and population): Hamburg, approx.1.8 million
- Regional government: Senate of Hamburg
- Competences of the region: Hamburg is a state of the federal republic of Germany and at the same time a local authority district.

#### General data of the Parliament

- Headquarters: Rathausmarkt 1, 20095 Hamburg
- Language: German
- Date of foundation: 1859
- Web site: <http://www.hamburgische-buergerschaft.de>

#### Logo

HAMBURGISCHE  
BÜRGERSCHAFT



#### Coat of Arms



## FUNCTIONS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The most important functions of the Hamburg Parliament are

- Legislation
- Election of the Lord Mayor
- Confirmation of Senators appointed by the mayor
- Monitoring the Senate
- Budgetary power

## COMPOSITION

Total composition: Hamburg Parliament has 121 representatives.

Gender distribution and average age: 50 female and 71 male members;  
average age 45,7

Electoral system: Proportional Representation

Term of office: 20<sup>th</sup> term of office

Voting conditions (active suffrage): 18 years of age; residency in Hamburg for at least 3 months; no disqualification

Conditions for eligibility (passive suffrage): 18 years of age; no disqualification

### **Composition of the Parliament as a result of the last parliamentary elections**

Political parties and number of seats: SPD (62), CDU (28), GAL (14), FDP (9), DIE LINKE (8)



PRESIDENCY 2012

## Parliamentary political groups

Requirements to form a parliamentary political group: A parliamentary political group is formed by members of the same political party or by politicians sharing the same political orientation and must consist of at least 5% of the minimum number of members (120)

### Political group 1

- Name: SPD
- Chairman: Dr. Andreas Dressel
- Number of members: 62

**SPD** Bürgerschaftsfraktion  
Hamburg

Contact details: info@spd-fraktion.hamburg.de

### Political group 2

- Name: CDU
- Chairman: Dietrich Wersich
- Number of members: 28

 **CDU** BÜRGERSCHAFTSFRAKTION  
HAMBURG

Contact details: info@cdu-hamburg.de

### Political group 3

- Name: GAL
- Chairman: Jens Kerstan
- Number of members: 14

  
**BÜNDNIS 90  
DIE GRÜNEN**  
GAL-BÜRGERSCHAFTSFRAKTION

Contact details: info@gal-fraktion.de

### Political group 4

- Name: FDP
- Chairman: Katja Suding
- Number of members: 9

  
**FDP**  
in der Hamburgischen Bürgerschaft

Contact details: info@fdp-fraktion-hh.de

### Political group 5

- Name: DIE LINKE
- Chairman: Dora Heyenn
- Number of members: 8

  
**DIE LINKE.**  
Fraktion in der  
Hamburgischen Bürgerschaft

Contact details: info@linksfraktion-hamburg.de

## THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE PARLIAMENT

### **The Speaker/President : Carola Veit, President of the Hamburg Parliament**

Method of election, term of office and functions: The head of the Hamburg Parliament is the presidency. The president is elected by the members of the parliament from amongst their ranks from the strongest parliamentary political group. The president represents the Parliament and protects the members' rights, manages and controls the parliaments' meetings and exercises property rights. First term of office.

Details of current President: Carola Veit, 39, jurist. Details contact [praesidentin@bk.hamburg.de](mailto:praesidentin@bk.hamburg.de)



### **Other bodies: Parliament Advisory Committee**

Composition: President and additional members from the Parliamentary Political groups.

Method of election: Every parliamentary political group delegates at least one member (or more, depending on the number of members of the parliamentary political group) from amongst their ranks to form the Parliamentary Advisory Committee.

Functions: Supports the work of the president. In the Parliament Advisory Committee, the representatives of the parliamentary groups agree upon the procedures for parliamentary work.

## **Council of Elders**

Composition: President, Vice Presidents and delegated members of the Parliamentary Political Parties.

Method of election: Parliamentary Political Groups delegate experienced members to form the Council of the Elders.

Functions: Supports the works of the President. Gives advice on all basic questions concerning the whole Parliament, especially on questions on human resources and budgetary questions.

## **PARLIAMENTARY OPERATING ORGANS**

### **Plenary session**

Composition: 121 members; SPD (64); CDU (28); GAL (14); FDP (9); DIE LINKE (8)

Functions: Legislation, Election of the Lord Mayor, Confirmation of Senators appointed by the mayor, Monitoring the Senate; Budgetary powers



### **Committees:**

#### **13 Committees with each 13 members**

#### **(SPD (7), CDU (3), GAL (1), FDP (1), DIE LINKE (1))**

- Europaausschuss (European Affairs)
- Familien-, Kinder- und Jugendausschuss (Family, Children and Youth)
- Gesundheitsausschuss (Health)
- Innenausschuss (Interior)
- Ausschuss für Justiz, Datenschutz und Gleichstellung (Legal, Data protection and Equal opportunities for men and women)
- Kulturausschuss (Culture)

- Schulausschuss (School)
- Sportausschuss (Sports)
- Umweltausschuss (Environment)
- Verkehrsausschuss (Transportation)
- Verfassungs- und Bezirksausschuss (Constitution & Districts)
- Ausschuss für Wirtschaft, Innovation und Medien (Economic Affairs)
- Wissenschaftsausschuss (Science)

**2 Committees with each 17 Members**

**(SPD (9), CDU (4), GAL (2), FDP (1), DIE LINKE (1))**

- Stadtentwicklungsausschuss (Urban Development)
- Ausschuss für Soziales, Arbeit und Integration (Social Issues, Employment and Integration)

**2 Committees with each 23 Members**

**(SPD (12), CDU (5), GAL (3), FDP (2), DIE LINKE (1))**

- Eingabenausschuss (Petitions)
- Haushaltsausschuss (Budget)

**1 Committees with 11 Member**

**(SPD (6), CDU (2), GAL (1), FDP (1), DIE LINKE (1))**

- Ausschuss Öffentliche Unternehmen (Public Ventures)

**PARLIAMENTARY ADMINISTRATION**

**General data**

Personnel: Number of full-time employees 52

Distribution by academic degrees: Public Management, Law, Social Studies, Philosophie, Cultural Sciences, Politics, History, Graphic Design/ Art, Economics, Languages, Computer Science, Teaching, Business Arithmetics, Chemistry, Ethnologie

**Functions**

Brief description of functions: The Parliamentary Administration is the service union for both the members of Parliament and the citizens of Hamburg. It prepares the meetings of the Committees. It gathers necessary information for the members of Parliament and gives them legal advice.

**General Secretariat**

General Secretariat: see contact details for CALRE, last page

Functions Contact

details

[PHOTOGRAPHS]

### **Organic Structure of the Parliament**

Description see above, Composition of plenary session

### **Bodies/Departments/Services**

List -

Functions

Number of employees

Contact details

### **Contact details for CALRE**

Contact person/department: Kirsten Pfaue, Department C of Parliamentary Administration

Working languages: German, English

Contact details (address, e-mail and telephone number): Schmiedestraße 2, 20095 Hamburg; [internationals@bk.hamburg.de](mailto:internationals@bk.hamburg.de); 0049 40 42831 1532

### **BUILDING OF THE PARLIAMENT**

History and Description: Hamburg City Hall is more than a hundred years old. However, it is not a museum, but the political centre and vigorous heart of our city. Being the much frequented stage of politics and of state representation, the two most important political organs of the city are located here in Hamburg City Hall: Hamburg Parliament, and the Senate, the State Government. Also, the City Hall houses the seats of the most important representatives: the President of the Hamburg Parliament and the Lord Mayor, whose role is comparable to that of



Minister President in other states.

