

**BERLIN
PARTNER**

25 JA

118

MADE IN JAPAN



26

PRINTING AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL



35
3D

32

PRINTING AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

36



WELCOME TO BERLIN

48

BERLIN'S PATH INTO SPACE



This annual report also uses the generic masculine form. The personal designations used refer to all genders.

- 4 WELCOME NOTE FROM FRANZISKA GIFFEY
- 6 EDITORIAL
- 8 NUMBERS, NUMBERS, NUMBERS
- 16 OUR SERVICES

SUCCESS STORIES

- 18 MADE IN JAPAN
- 22 BERLIN'S URBAN LIVING LABS
- 24 GROWTH FROM WITHIN
- PRINTING AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL 27
- STARTUP-FACTORY UNITE
- 28 FEMALE EMPOWERMENT
- 30 INDUSTRY KEEPS BERLIN RUNNING
- 31 AI MEETS ROBOTICS
- 32 3D PRINTING AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL
- 34 ON THE ROAD WORLDWIDE
- 36 WELCOME TO BERLIN
- 38 OPENING DOORS FOR STARTUPS

- 40 INTERVIEW WITH RETRANETZ-BB
- 41 BERLIN AGAINST ANTISEMITISM
- 42 FASHION ESSAY BY SCOTT LIPINSKI
- 45 HOME OF THE NFL
- 46 BERLIN LEVEL @ SXSW
- 46 CAREER SPOTLIGHT
- 47 THANK YOU AMERICA CAMPAIGN
- 48 BERLIN'S PATH INTO SPACE
- 49 #AI_BERLIN HUB LAUNCHES
- 50 NEW WAYS FORWARD IN MEDICINE
- 52 WHEN VEHICLES FEED THE GRID
- 53 THE CITY CHALLENGE BERLIN
- 54 SUSTAINABILITY AT BERLIN PARTNER
- 56 THE BERLIN PARTNER NETWORK
- 58 COMMITTEES AND SHAREHOLDERS
- 63 ORGANIGRAM

CONTENT



Shaping the future in Berlin

In Berlin, the future takes shape. Ideas move from concept to reality. Innovation becomes scalable solutions. Business, science and the creative industries work hand in hand – and that dynamic continues to fuel the city's growth. Berlin remains a powerful promise: a place that opens doors, expands horizons and creates opportunity.



At the same time, trade conflicts and geopolitical strains are redefining the global landscape. Our internationalization strategy reflects this new reality while looking firmly ahead. We are diversifying markets, deepening global partnerships and creating pathways for collaboration. In 2025, delegation visits with Berlin Partner to India and Japan led to new partnerships, strengthened networks and tangible investment prospects. At a time when some markets are turning inward, Berlin remains open – to talent, to entrepreneurs and to companies ready to grow in and with the capital.

We are sharpening our focus on future industries, including AI, health tech, fintech, green tech, deep tech and games. We are also working to responsibly develop dual-use technologies and establish a strong def tech ecosystem in the capital. Technology startups play a central role in driving this transformation.

That promise endures even amid global uncertainty. Despite geopolitical tensions and economic headwinds Berlin's economy continues to grow. The city ranks among Europe's leading hubs for business and innovation. Our mission is clear: to make Berlin a city that works for everyone – economically strong, socially inclusive and environmentally responsible.

Through flagship projects such as the House of Games and initiatives like UNITE, a science-based startup ecosystem, we are building the infrastructure for sustained innovation and growth. At the same time, we are investing in modern infrastructure, expanding digital services and cutting red tape to make doing business in Berlin easier and faster.

Our ambition is straightforward: Berlin should offer companies the best possible conditions to develop new ideas and create high-quality jobs. With its expertise, dedication and extensive network, Berlin Partner remains a key driver of that effort. Berlin stands for opportunity and possibility – and will continue to do so in the year ahead.

Sincerely, Franziska Giffey

Franziska Giffey, Mayor and Senator for Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises

DEAR READERS,

that future is already taking Berlin remains on a growth path - now for the 13th consecutive year. In the first half of 2025, the city's gross domestic product increased by 1.3 %, once again outpacing the national trend. While other regions have stalled, Berlin continues to demonstrate economic strength and structural resilience.

Encouragingly, international companies continue to choose the capital. Tesla is opening its first European engineering center in Köpenick this year, with up to 250 employees - a flagship project for Berlin's international research and development landscape. U.S.-based Planet Labs is investing a double-digit million-euro sum in a new small-satellite production facility - its first outside California - doubling output of its high-resolution Pelican satellites. These projects underscore the confidence global players place in Berlin as a business location.

They also affirm that promoting Berlin internationally is worth the effort - provided the case is made with clarity and conviction. Across Germany, Europe and beyond, we have successfully presented and positioned Berlin as a competitive business hub, including during delegation visits to Warsaw, Japan, the United States and Bengaluru. Our objective is clear: to establish Berlin worldwide as a prime destination for investment, innovation, collaboration and talent. The strong response from abroad confirms that we are on the right course - and encourages us to press ahead.

At the same time, Berlin does not operate in isolation. Germany's economy has faced a challenging period for three consecutive years, marked by uncertainty, weakening demand and structural pressures. Here, too, growth has moderated. Project volumes are smaller, and the number of newly created jobs has declined accordingly.

Investment decisions depend on stable conditions and reliable prospects. That makes it all the more important for Berlin to send a clear signal - for openness, innovation and long-term competitiveness, as well as for diversity, sustainability and social cohesion.

One such signal is the launch of the #ai_berlin hub, which strengthens Berlin's position as a leading center for artificial intelligence. Around 30 % of all German AI startups - roughly 300 companies - are based here. More broadly, the capital's startup ecosystem is showing renewed momentum and solid growth, particularly in fintech, reinforcing Berlin's reputation as a driver of innovation.

I would like to thank all our partners who are advancing this path with us - through their commitment, their ideas and their confidence in Berlin's future. The groundwork for continued growth has been laid. On the following pages of this annual report, you will find compelling examples of how shape.

Sincerely,



Dr Stefan Franzke
Geschäftsführer

184

MITARBEITENDE BEI
BERLIN PARTNER

(ohne Azubis)



46 %

WOMEN IN
LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

7

TRAINEES/STUDENTS

64 | 35 %

OF EMPLOYEES AGE 50+

119 | 65 %

WOMEN

47

AVERAGE AGE
(excluding trainees)

BERLIN PARTNER

2025

ECONOMIC GROWTH, INNOVATION AND STABILITY FOR BERLIN

Berlin Partner supports companies, universities, research institutions and nonprofits in establishing operations in the capital region. For businesses and scientific institutions already based here, we provide guidance on expansion plans and connect them within the region - including through the strong Berlin Partner network. We facilitate valuable connections between business and science and advise companies on their international activities. Our experts provide information on funding opportunities, assist in identifying suitable sites and support the search for qualified talent. Our industry clusters and sector initiatives serve as key drivers of economic development in Berlin.

€ 970 MILLION

PLANNED INVESTMENTS

Berlin Partner's success is measured by clear indicators. At the forefront is the number of jobs created or safeguarded by companies with our support. We also track planned investment volume and R&D spending associated with the projects we assist. In 2025, Berlin and its business community achieved positive results despite ongoing economic headwinds - supported in part by Berlin Partner's work. The results are reflected in the performance of Berlin Partner for Business and Technology GmbH: Across 278 successfully completed projects, Berlin Partner supported companies that will create or secure 7,639 jobs. These projects represent planned investments of €970 million, including €172 million dedicated to research and development.

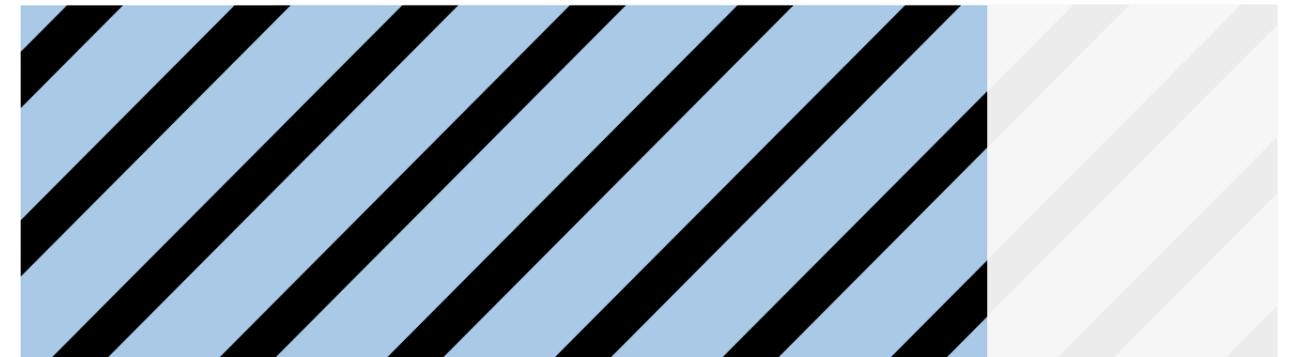
224 MIO. € | 23 %

New business relocations



746 MIO. € | 77 %

Portfolio management



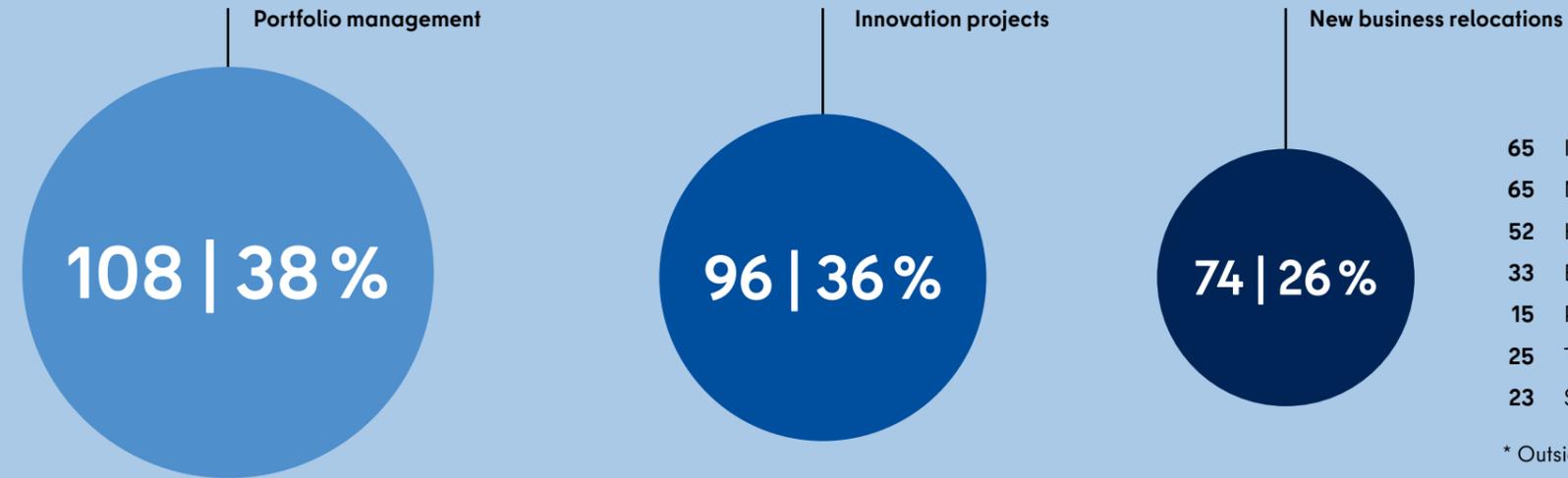
PLANNED INVESTMENTS

Healthcare Industries	€ 223 MILLION
Photonics	€ 212 MILLION
Service Industries*	€ 169 MILLION
Transport, Mobility and Logistics	€ 135 MILLION
Energy Technologies	€ 104 MILLION
Manufacturing Industries	€ 83 MILLION
ICT, Media and Creative Industries	€ 44 MILLION

* Outside designated cluster industries

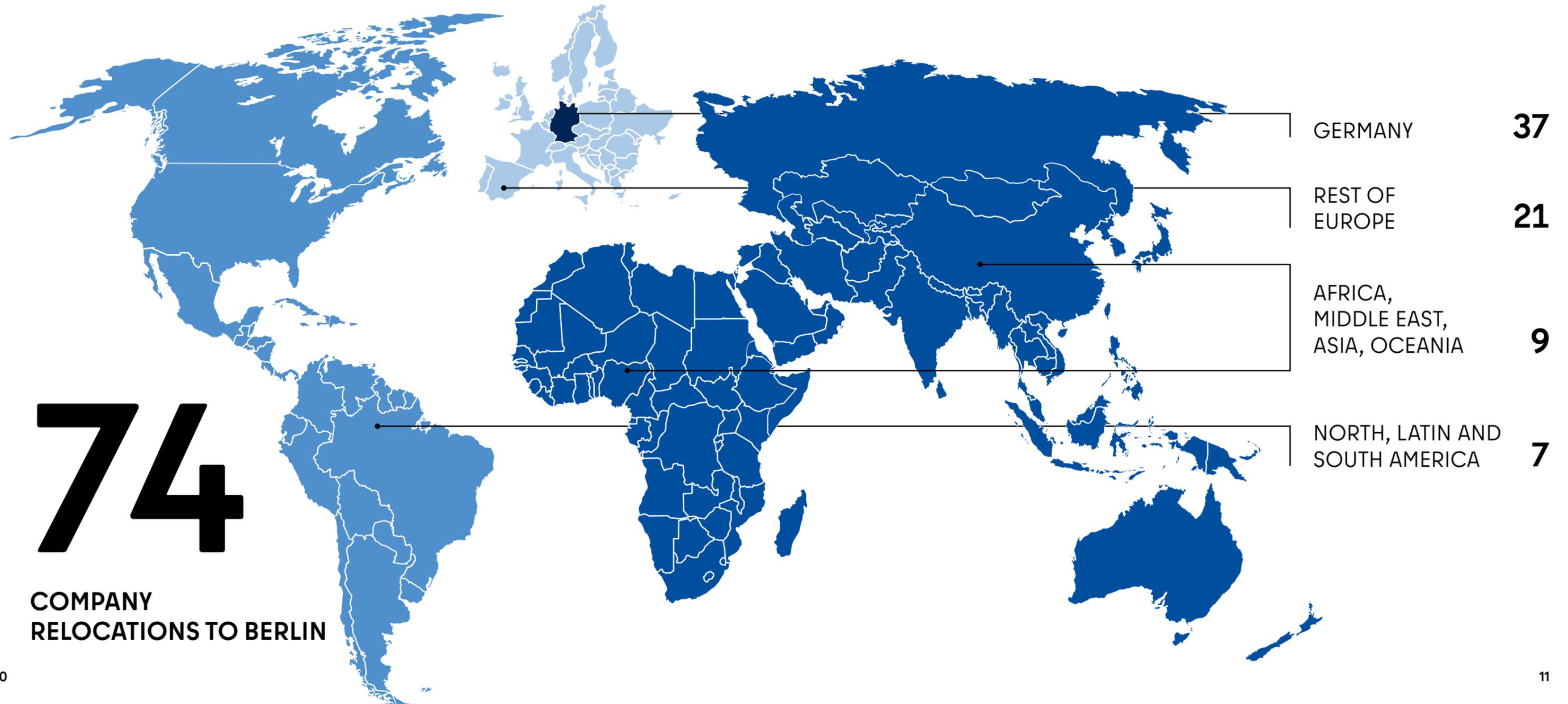
278

SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED PROJECTS



- 65 ICT, Media and Creative Industries
- 65 Manufacturing Industries*
- 52 Healthcare Industries
- 33 Energy Technologies
- 15 Photonics
- 25 Transport, Mobility and Logistics
- 23 Service Industries*

* Outside designated cluster industries



74

COMPANY RELOCATIONS TO BERLIN

IBB ASSESSMENT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

To calculate the additional economic impact generated in Berlin, economists at Investitionsbank Berlin use a macroeconomic model tailored specifically to the city's economy. The model allows for the evaluation of economic policy measures and

structural shifts within Berlin's economic landscape. It simulates sector-specific effects and measures how shocks or major economic events influence regional growth. The foundation of the model is a defined macroeconomic baseline scenario.

€ 2 BILLION

INCREASE IN GDP*

€ 240 MILLION

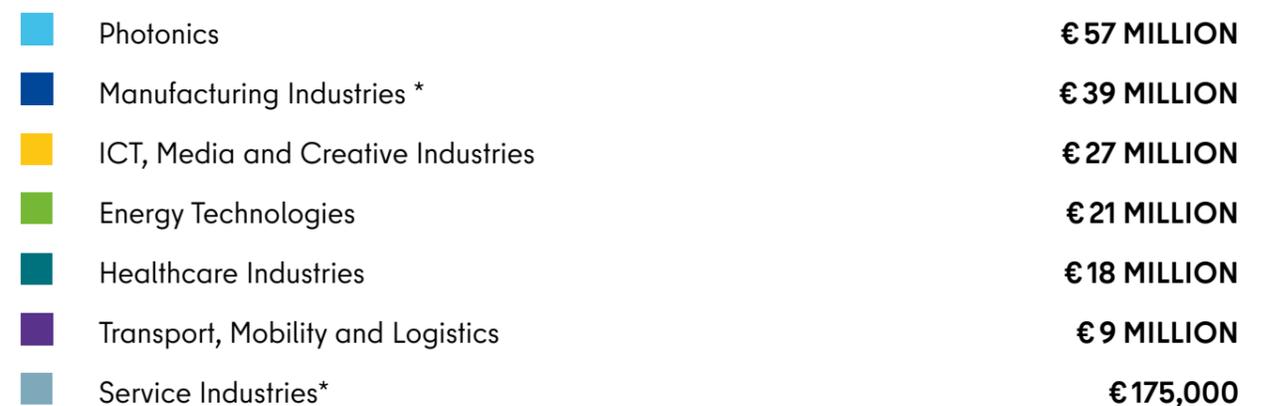
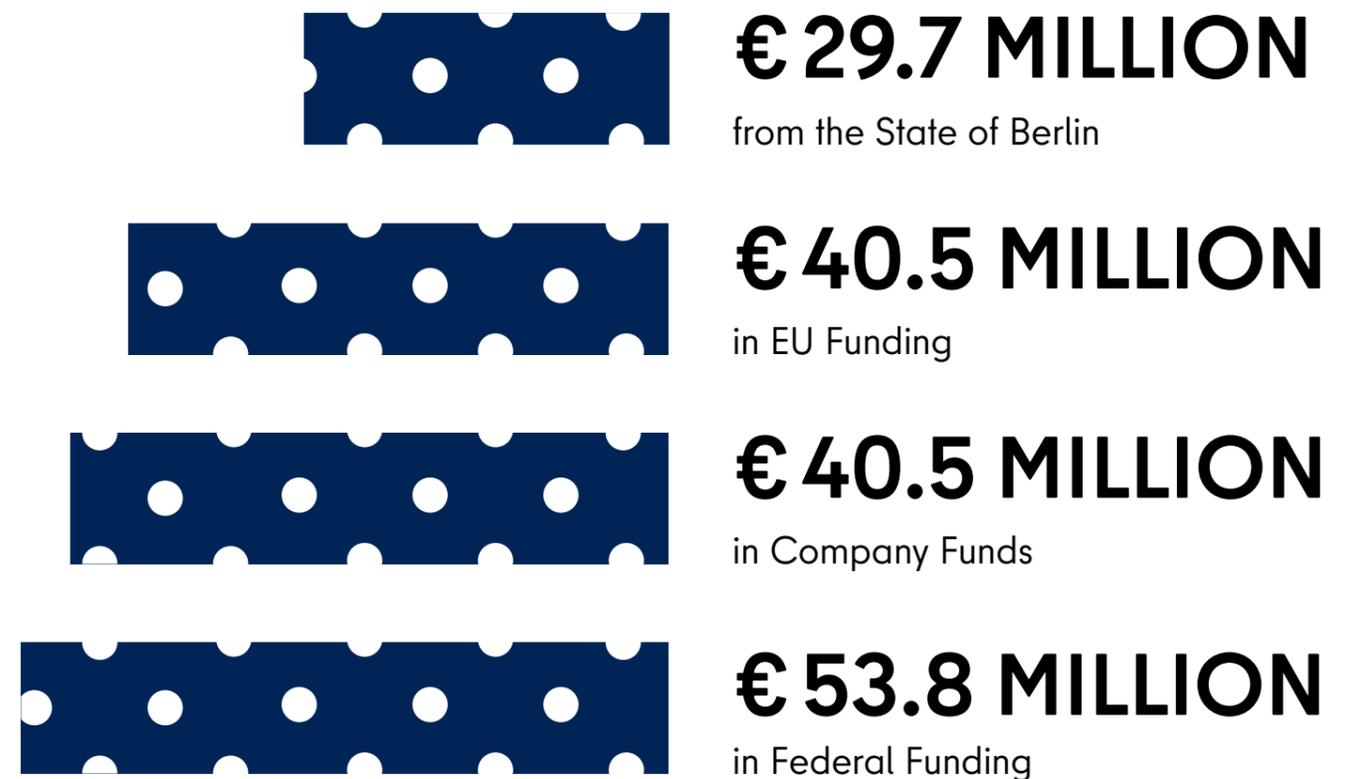
INCREASE IN PUBLIC REVENUE*

1,200

ADDITIONAL JOBS*

€ 172 MILLION

FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT



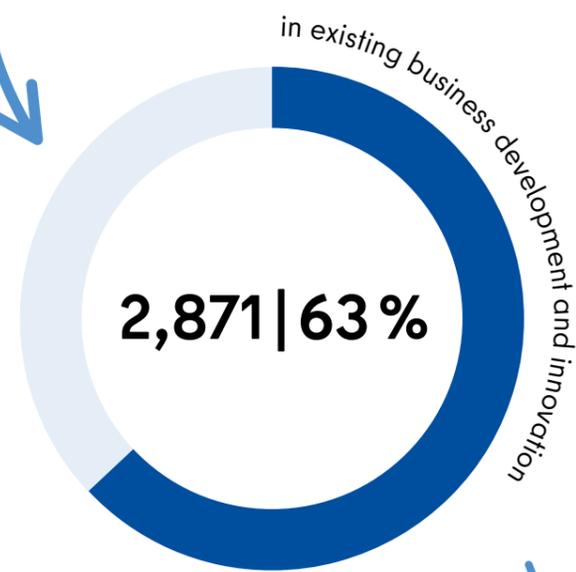
* Outside designated cluster industries

4,560

NEW JOBS PLANNED

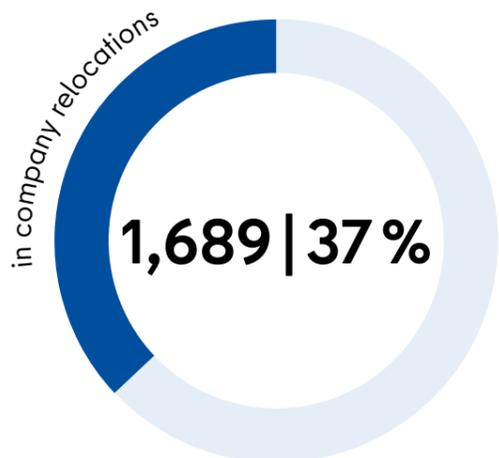
- 1765 ICT, Media and Creative Industries
- 631 Service Industries*
- 585 Transport, Mobility and Logistics
- 511 Manufacturing Industries*
- 448 Energy Technologies
- 441 Healthcare Industries
- 179 Photonics

* Outside designated cluster industries, ** See explanation, p. 66



3,079

SECURED JOBS**



#

506,601 people reached through social media channels

↑ + 26.5 % compared with 2024

partners in the Berlin Partner Network as of December 2025

250

3,400

industrial companies



108,000 jobs

More than €37 BILLION in annual revenue



expert events organized by Berlin Partner, with

12,700 participants



118

Brain City ambassadors: renowned scientists from around the world who serve as international voices for Berlin's diverse research landscape

854

service packages across



(Innovation, talent, sustainability, location services, internationalization and financing were delivered by Berlin Partner in 2025)

OUR SERVICES



Berlin Partner offers tailored service packages designed to meet the specific needs of companies and research institutions. Our support ranges from customized funding strategies to assistance in securing commercial real estate and recruiting qualified talent.

We also connect business and science, facilitate technology transfer and advise companies on their international expansion plans.



BUSINESS PROMOTION SERVICES IN EVERY BERLIN DISTRICT

Our on-site services



INNOVATION SERVICES

Increase innovation through collaborative research



FINANCING SERVICES

Funding programs for investment and innovation



TALENT SERVICE

Finding the right talent for your business



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Building strong global ties from Berlin



LOCATION SERVICE

The fast track to commercial property and real estate



BUSINESS LOCATION CENTER

A 3D look at Berlin



SUSTAINABILITY SERVICE

Securing sustainable value creation



MADE IN JAPAN

日本製

From photonics to fashion, the delegation trip to Japan sent a strong signal for international partnership and urban dynamism. At Expo Osaka, Berlin showcased its creative and innovative edge.

Accompanied by Senator Franziska Giffey, a Berlin business delegation traveled to Japan in September 2025 to deepen ties between the innovation ecosystems of Berlin, Tokyo and Osaka. The program included visits to leading technology hubs such as Shibuya Startup Support, Tokyo Innovation Base and Haneda Innovation City, as well as participation in the Global Startup EXPO in Osaka. Among the highlights were the pitch and networking event “Berlin Goes Osaka” and a visit to Expo Osaka, with stops at several international pavilions. The trip provided Berlin companies with exclusive access to local stakeholders and fostered exchange through

targeted B2B matchmaking formats. The signing of a memorandum of understanding with Shibuya Mayor Ken Hasebe underscored the long-term commitment to cooperation.

When Germany’s capital appears at a world exposition, it does so with unmistakable creativity. During “Berlin Week,” the German Pavilion became a stage for the city’s distinctive spirit. Club nights, DJ and fashion workshops, game sessions and video art installations captured the pulse of the metropolis – complemented by a cultural program as diverse as Berlin itself. A large-scale advertising campaign



across the Kansai region amplified the message: Berlin stands for creative diversity, urban energy and international appeal.



Senator for Economic Affairs Franziska Giffey visits the Berlin Fashion Corner at Expo Osaka

In addition, cross-sector roundtables focused on future-facing fields such as AI, green tech, fintech and photonics, generating fresh momentum for bilateral innovation partnerships. Delegates engaged in intensive exchanges with leaders from business, academia and government, forging valuable connections for future collaboration. A livestream marathon featuring live performances capped off Berlin Week, bringing the capital to audiences across Japan once more. For an entire week, Berlin stood out among Germany's federal states, sending a strong signal about its global standing as a hub of innovation and creativity.



During Berlin Week, 1,610,000 visitors attended the World Expo in Japan

OKI Electric Industry Co., Ltd. and OKI Group (OKI Group)

On June 1, 2025, OKI Group established the OKI Berlin Lab, a new research and development center dedicated to advancing photonics technology – one of the company's core competencies – and developing solutions to address pressing societal challenges. Berlin Partner played a key role in supporting the company's expansion into the capital region and connecting it with local research institutions. The initial contact was facilitated by CROSSBIE, a long-standing Berlin Partner collaborator serving as an interface between European and Japanese markets. During the September 2025 delegation visit, Senator Franziska Giffey and Berlin Partner CEO Stefan Franzke also visited OKI Group's headquarters in Tokyo, where they were welcomed by CTO Yoichi Kato.

OKI describes itself as a "social infrastructure provider," developing technologies deployed in everyday life, public infrastructure, industry and healthcare to enhance safety and quality of life. Its corporate philosophy draws on the Japanese concepts of monozukuri (the art of manufacturing) and kotozukuri (the creation of solutions).

Takeda

Japan's largest pharmaceutical company, Takeda, also maintains a strong presence in Berlin. The company focuses on innovative therapies in oncology, rare diseases, neurology, gastroenterology and vaccines. Nearby in Oranienburg, Takeda operates a production site manufacturing tablets and capsules for global distribution. Berlin Partner supported the company during its initial expansion to Berlin in 2012. Since then, Takeda has managed its sales operations from the capital, and in the future will relocate additional administrative functions from its former headquarters in Konstanz to Berlin. This move underscores the capital's growing importance within the pharmaceutical industry.

BUSINESS LOCATION BERLIN

ベルリン拠点

Japanese companies investing in the capital

Tokyo Ohka Kogyo Co., Ltd. (TOK)

In February 2025, TOK acquired micro resist technology GmbH, a globally recognized developer and manufacturer of materials used in photonics, microelectronics and nanoelectronics production. TOK holds a 23% global market share in the development and production of photoresists for the semiconductor industry, supplying nearly all major chip manufacturers worldwide. With the acquisition of mrt, TOK now operates a European production facility at the Innovation Park Wuhlheide in Berlin and is strategically expanding into the European market.

Supported by Berlin Partner, this investment marks a significant step in strengthening the regional, national and European semiconductor ecosystem. During the September 2025 delegation trip, Senator Franziska Giffey and

Berlin Partner CEO Stefan Franzke were received in Kawasaki by CEO and President Noriaki Taneichi. The visit culminated in the signing of a Framework Agreement for Promoting Business Growth and Cooperation Between the City of Berlin and Tokyo Ohka Kogyo Co., Ltd.

Founded in Kawasaki in 1940, TOK has long prioritized research and development. The company specializes in fine chemicals and photoresists for light-sensitive materials, with a strong focus on semiconductor manufacturing and high-tech applications essential to chip production.

WHERE VISION BECOMES REALITY



Berlin's urban living labs

Berlin has launched a new funding program designed to bring innovative ideas into practice more quickly. In business-oriented living labs, technical and social solutions are being tested under real-world conditions — directly within the city itself. The initiative also examines regulatory frameworks to determine whether they enable or hinder innovation and, where necessary, seeks to refine them. The goal is clear: to strengthen Berlin's position as a leading innovation hub in Europe.

The program, led by the Senate Department for Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises, unfolds in two phases. From more than 50 applications, 10 projects were selected to develop their concepts during a six-month planning phase. Based on those results, a jury chose three projects to advance to a three-year implementation

phase, each receiving up to €3 million in funding. The competition focused on five priority areas critical to the “neighborhood of the future”: climate-friendly energy and water systems, new mobility and logistics solutions, sustainable material cycles, improved urban land use and digital approaches to health and safety.

The selected projects — developed by companies and research institutions — aim to deliver practical solutions for everyday life in Berlin, from construction recycling and water and heat recovery to smart inner-city logistics.

In early September 2025, Senator Franziska Giffey presented funding awards to the three winning teams.

Building for the future: Turning Berlin's waste into the next generation of construction materials

Germany's construction sector faces not only economic challenges but also profound environmental ones. Resource consumption remains high, and the ecological footprint is substantial. Roughly 60% of global waste is linked to construction, along with 40% of global CO₂ emissions directly or indirectly associated with building activity.

While researchers have long advocated reuse, circular systems and modular design, construction sites often remain rooted in conventional methods. The ambitious “B(e) Ware” project aims to change that. Its concept: transform locally sourced construction waste — “B-grade” materials — into high-value “A-grade” building resources. The project is developing load-bearing building structures made from locally reclaimed wood waste. The idea, the materials and the transformation are all rooted in Berlin.

“B(e) Ware” positions itself as a transformative incubator. It seeks not only to close material loops but also to bridge organizational, regulatory and financial gaps that persist between research and real-world implementation. Fragmented processes, regulatory hurdles, time pressures and limited practical experience still prevent sustainable building practices from becoming the norm. The living lab aims to demonstrate what future-ready construction can look like: local, resource-efficient and intelligently networked.

01



Launch of three Berlin living labs with Senator for Economic Affairs Franziska Giffey

02

Berlin saves water — and gains heat

The IWIQ living lab — Integrated Water and Heat Recovery in Urban Districts — is working toward a future-proof water management system for Berlin through integrated solutions. The project is led by Kompetenzzentrum Wasser Berlin gGmbH in partnership with Nolde — innovative Wasserkonzepte GmbH. The concept centers on treating gray water from households and reusing it as service water, reducing potable water demand by 30% to 50%. At the same time, heat is recovered from gray water, covering 30% to 60% of hot water needs. The living lab will demonstrate digital planning tools and technical feasibility in existing buildings. Legal questions surrounding non-potable water use will be addressed in close dialogue with stakeholders, industry experts and the public to develop practical solutions.

03

Drones instead of diesel

The “U-Space Berlin” living lab is testing fully electric delivery drones in Tempelhof-Schöneberg to advance sustainable urban logistics. During the implementation phase, two pilot projects will take center stage. In the B2B segment, laboratory samples will be transported between medical facilities. In the B2C segment, employees will receive their lunch deliveries by drone. The concept is complemented by micro-depot solutions designed to support multimodal supply chains. The goal is low-emission, fast and networked transport — a model for climate-friendly urban logistics in the future. The project is led by Startup Colors, in collaboration with Akkon University of Applied Sciences, the Technical University of Berlin and the companies DiAvEn, M&K Germany and Marktschwalbe.

GROWTH FROM WITHIN

In Berlin, economic development is not only about attracting new companies. It is also about strengthening those already here. Berlin Partner supports businesses as they expand, evolve, recruit talent and explore new paths – from small-satellite manufacturers to AI startups. Turning established presence into forward momentum.



Aseli Trade GmbH is a long-standing family business known for handmade marshmallow specialties “Made in Berlin.” With products such as its iconic giant mice, Aseli delights customers across Europe – while actively investing in its future. As part of a planned production expansion, Berlin Partner supported Aseli with its GRW funding application, helping clarify eligibility requirements and streamline the process. In addition, Ökotec – through the SME advisory services of the Coordination Office for Circular Economy, Energy Efficiency and Climate Protection in Business (KEK) – worked with Aseli to identify opportunities for greater energy and resource efficiency. The findings were incorporated directly into sustainable process optimization measures.



Kuna Dienstleistungs GmbH provides comprehensive services related to real estate and infrastructure. The company planned investments in sustainability, digitalization and machinery while facing infrastructure challenges at its site. Berlin Partner offered targeted information on relevant funding programs and arranged complimentary consultations through KEK on photovoltaic systems, charging infrastructure and energy storage solutions. It also supported efforts to resolve location-related issues along Lichterfelder Weg and facilitated grid connections through its network. Investments of approximately €2 million are planned, along with five to six new jobs.



3B Pharmaceuticals

3B Pharmaceuticals GmbH,
a Berlin-based

biotechnology company developing targeted radiopharmaceutical therapies and diagnostics for oncology indications with high unmet medical need, has established a strong foothold in the capital. Currently based in Adlershof, the company will move in 2026 into a newly constructed facility nearby, purpose-built to meet its requirements. Berlin Partner supported 3B Pharmaceuticals even before the land purchase with location services and has since provided ongoing guidance on funding opportunities, while connecting the company with regional and international partners. More than €16 million has been invested in the new facility.



Planet Labs, a global leader in flexible Earth observation satellite constellations, is investing in satellite development and production in Berlin, strengthening Germany’s and Europe’s space ecosystem. Berlin Partner supported the company by facilitating contacts with industry and policymakers, advising on available funding programs and assisting in identifying suitable production sites. Further details on Planet Labs’ activities in Berlin can be found on page 48.



Founded in Berlin in 2021, **Noah Labs** develops AI-based

solutions for the early detection of cardiovascular disease. Its telemonitoring platform Ark is already approved as a medical device. Vox, an AI-powered voice analysis software, is currently undergoing clinical validation in Germany and internationally, with the aim of detecting early signs of heart failure decompensation. The company has successfully completed several funding rounds, including an angel round in 2023 and early-stage venture capital financing in 2024, in addition to public funding. It has also secured €2.5 million from the European Innovation Council Accelerator. In 2025, Noah Labs received the Deep Tech Award. Since 2023, Berlin Partner has supported the company by facilitating entry into the North American market, providing information on funding opportunities and integrating it into Berlin’s health innovation ecosystem through events and networking initiatives.

GITEX EUROPE 2025

The capital as a stage for global tech innovation

From May 21 to 23, 2025, Berlin became the epicenter of the international tech scene. With the inaugural staging of GITEX Europe, the renowned tech and startup trade show from Dubai celebrated a record-setting debut in the German capital. More than 45,000 visitors and 750 startups from around the world made the event a milestone for Berlin's innovation ecosystem.

Berlin Partner supported the establishment of the trade fair over an intensive eight-month period. The ICT, Media and Creative Industries cluster coordinated assistance for the GITEX team and orchestrated the participation of the capital region and numerous industry stakeholders.

A stage for Berlin innovation

A key highlight was the curated stage program featuring 13 sessions and 42 Berlin-based speakers, showcasing the diversity and innovative strength of the local tech and startup community to an international audience. The program was complemented by seven interactive master classes with 16 experts, offering practical insights into emerging technologies and business models.

At the joint Berlin-Brandenburg booth, 16 exhibitors presented their work, supported by an Enterprise Europe Network matchmaking format in the Investors Lounge. Political backing included a state reception hosted by State Secretary Severin Fischer, as well as press engagements with Governing Mayor Kai Wegner and Senator for Economic Affairs Franziska Giffey.

B 10

#ai_berlin Lounge: AI made in Berlin

The #ai_berlin Lounge offered an exclusive look at Berlin's dynamic AI ecosystem. High-profile guests including Kai Wegner and Franziska Giffey attended two flagship formats. At the Investor Breakfast: From Lab to Market, representatives from research and industry discussed how to translate innovation into commercial success. The event Next in AI: Startup Picks gave emerging companies a platform to present their ideas and connect with investors and research institutions.

Berlin Partner boat cruise: Business meets capital city flair

One standout side event was a boat cruise along the River Spree on May 22, organized by Berlin Partner in cooperation with the agency INPOLIS. Around 70 international companies with concrete relocation interests experienced Berlin from a new perspective, passing the government district and Museum Island. Experts from Berlin Partner and Investitionsbank Berlin provided information on funding opportunities, visa processes and available office space. Success stories from Walk15 and DBR77 added personal insights into Berlin's growth environment.

Matchmaking@GITEX: a global network for cooperation

The matchmaking event organized by the Enterprise Europe Network Berlin-Brandenburg brought together 627 participants from 50 countries, one-third of them from Germany. With more than 500 scheduled meetings, both on-site and online, GITEX Europe became a launchpad for international business partnerships. Entrepreneurial delegations from southern France, Malta and Türkiye underscored the format's global reach.



THE CAPITAL REGION GETS ITS OWN STARTUP FACTORY

Sometimes a strong idea just needs the right momentum. That is precisely what UNITE aims to provide - and it has gained significant backing. In July 2025, the initiative for technology-driven spin-offs in Berlin and Brandenburg secured one of the coveted wins in the federal Ministry for Economic Affairs' EXIST Startup Factory competition. Ten locations nationwide were selected; UNITE is among them.

A total of €10 million in federal funding will support the buildout, in addition to €11 million in private investment already secured. Over the next five years, the funding will serve as seed capital to establish one of the most productive launchpads for science-based high-tech startups in the capital region.

UNITE plans to roll out programs and open offerings beginning in 2026. The goal is to transform outstanding research results into market-ready companies, particularly in the fields of artificial intelligence, health and green technologies.

UNITE is not a standalone initiative but an alliance of more than 30 partners - universities, research institutions, companies and civic actors. Berlin Partner has supported the effort from the outset, from hosting an investor dinner at City Hall to helping secure private funding. In the years ahead, both partners plan to closely align their offerings - ensuring that promising ideas translate into tangible economic impact.

Berlin continues to assert itself as Germany's leading startup hub for diversity, with the highest share of female founders nationwide. Its international outlook and cultural variety foster an open, inclusive environment that attracts women entrepreneurs from a wide range of backgrounds. Local networks, initiatives and events provide targeted support through mentoring, access to capital and greater visibility.

Particularly notable is the strong presence of mixed-gender founding teams, which actively contribute to a more diverse entrepreneurial culture. Access to funding is also improving, driven by forward-thinking investors and dedicated programs such as BSS Women. A five-episode video podcast series, created in collaboration between "Unboxing the Future" and Startup Berlin, highlights these developments. In the series, Ruth Shah, head of Bayer Co.Lab Berlin - an innovation hub for life sciences - Lia Carlucci, managing director of Food Campus Berlin, an innovation center focused on the future of food, and Ina Remmers, co-founder of nebenan.de and managing director of Rulemapping Group, share their perspectives. They discuss working with corporates, public administration and investors, as well as the opportunities and challenges surrounding diversity in Berlin's innovation ecosystem - and what it takes to turn inclusive ambition into lasting impact.

INCLUSIVE. INNOVATIVE. BERLIN.

HOW DIVERSITY SHAPES
THE STARTUP ECOSYSTEM



INA REMMERS

What opportunities do you see for female founders in Berlin's startup ecosystem - particularly in data-driven business models?

"Berlin is big, loud and sometimes a bit overwhelming - but that's exactly what makes it so great. There isn't just one path to success here, and that openness creates room for female founders with interdisciplinary or unconventional backgrounds to stand out and be seen. A real network of diverse founders has grown here, one where what truly counts is expertise and impact. That's what I value most about Berlin. The best solutions come from bringing different perspectives to the same table."



RUTH SHAH

You work at the intersection of science and entrepreneurship. What role does diversity play in biotech and deep tech development?

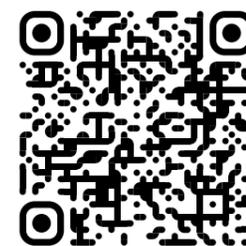
"In biotech and pharmaceuticals, we develop medicines for patients - and patients are just as diverse in age, gender, ability and background as society itself. That's why it's so important to reflect that diversity in our teams, in leadership and in clinical trials. I truly believe that diversity in people leads to diversity in thinking and conversation. And that ultimately drives better creativity, stronger problem-solving and, in the end, better business decisions and outcomes for everyone."

LIA CARLUCCI

Berlin is widely seen as a hotspot for food innovation. How do you see diversity shaping the city's food tech scene?

"Diversity in Berlin's food tech scene is especially visible in its cultural mix. People from all over the world are shaping the ideas and products developed here. We're also seeing real progress when it comes to gender representation - and initiatives like Women in Climate Tech are helping drive that change. When it comes to socioeconomic background, though, there's still work to do. The scene often remains fairly academic. Still, one thing is clear: without diversity, there's no true food innovation. The research makes that very clear."

TAKE A LOOK





30 Industry keeps Berlin running

With the campaign “Industry Keeps Berlin Running,” Berlin Partner and the Senate Department for Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises are sending a clear message about Berlin as an industrial powerhouse. The goal is to showcase the diversity, innovative strength and future viability of Berlin’s industrial base – and to highlight its central role in the capital’s economic development.

From global players to hidden champions, the campaign brings together companies of all sizes and sectors. It highlights the impressive breadth of industrial value creation in Berlin – from traditional marzipan manufacturing to high-tech motorcycle production.

As a key driver of growth, industry creates high-quality jobs and contributes significantly to regional economic stability. It stands for innovation, competitiveness and sustainable value creation – and remains an indispensable pillar of Berlin’s economy. The capital region has become a hotspot for key technologies such as artificial intelligence, additive manufacturing, robotics, photonics and microelectronics.

Particular strengths lie in the fields of health, mobility and energy. Berlin-based companies benefit from close ties to leading research institutions and an innovation-friendly ecosystem that accelerates development and market readiness.



AI MEETS ROBOTICS

Across Berlin’s offices, laboratories and factory floors, around 150 tech companies are currently shaping the future of robotics. Roughly 77 % of them are developing industrial applications. A recent potential analysis on AI-powered robotics, commissioned by the Berlin Senate Department for Economic Affairs and conducted by Prognos in collaboration with Berlin Partner, concludes that the capital region is on track to become a leading hub for AI-driven robotics.

One example is Data Spree, a Berlin startup specializing in AI-based image recognition to guide robots in production and logistics. Using trained neural networks, its systems analyze products in real time to ensure they meet quality standards.

On the user side, metal processing accounts for 27% of applications, followed by mechanical and plant engineering at 16%. A case in point is HWL Löttechnik, a long-established Berlin SME that uses robotics for component transport. The high variability of parts requires AI-driven systems to operate flexibly and efficiently.

Berlin also stands out through its growing specialization in research and development in AI-based robotics. The Berlin University of Applied Sciences is currently establishing the House of Robotics, a new center dedicated to teaching, research and technology transfer, with a focus on humanoid robotics.

One of the study’s central recommendations – to accelerate the expansion of existing network structures – is being implemented through the Robotics Network Berlin, initiated by Berlin Partner. In 2026, the network will continue to expand its activities and offerings, further strengthening Berlin’s position at the forefront of AI-powered robotics.

3D 3D 3D

ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING AT THE INTERNATIONAL FOREFRONT

Twelve flagship projects backed by public funding, a total project volume of €20 million, 30 consortium partners and a three-year timeline – that was the foundation on which AMBER, the capital region's 3D printing initiative, launched in 2023. Its ambition was bold: to establish one of the European Union's leading ecosystems for additive manufacturing in record time. From personalized medical technology solutions and lightweight structures to space applications, the initiative operates through close collaboration among research institutions, industry and policymakers. Today, AMBER stands internationally as one of the strongest regional 3D printing clusters, covering the full additive manufacturing value chain.



3D printing companies in the capital region: 60+
 Funded projects: 12
 Total project volume: €20 MILLION
 Key application areas: medical technology, lightweight design and materials, aerospace
 IPOs / startups: 5
 AM Forum, Europe's largest 3D printing conference

Below, we highlight three of the projects driving this ecosystem forward.

PROJECT PROFILE: LIGHTWEIGHT DESIGN - SAMBA

SAMBA enables high-performance lightweight aluminum structures, for example to reinforce large sheet components in the sidewalls of high-speed trains. A newly developed compact laser head, equipped with Berlin-made laser diodes from the Ferdinand-Braun-Institut, increases energy efficiency while reducing maintenance requirements. The system supports dynamic production processes and opens new possibilities for industrial applications where weight, stability and sustainability are critical. SAMBA sets new benchmarks for additive manufacturing in lightweight construction.

PROJECT PROFILE: MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY - PROASTRA DENTAL

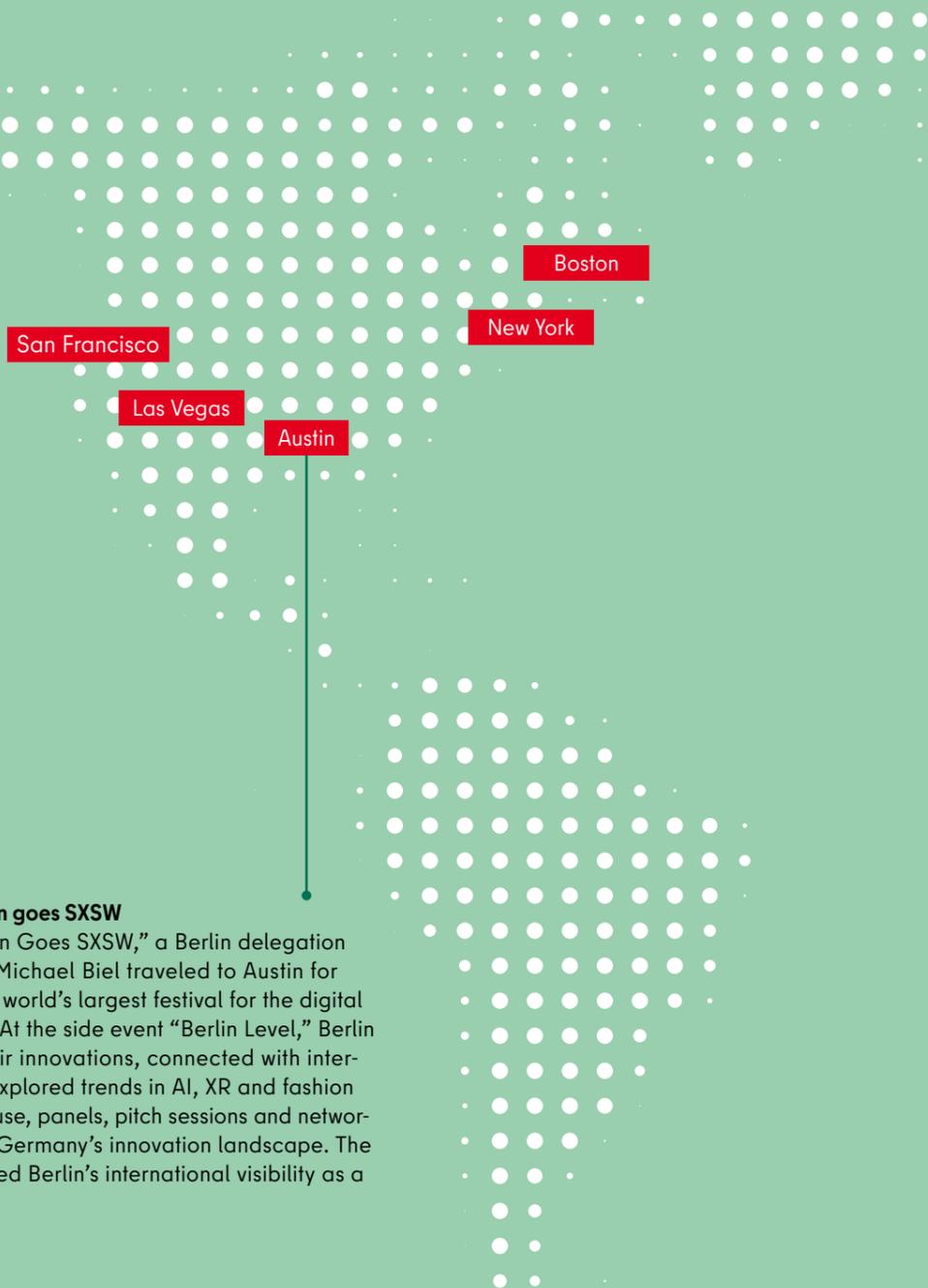
ProAstra Dental demonstrates how additive manufacturing-based production can make medical care more efficient, faster and more individualized – with the potential to transform the dental market. By combining research, advanced software development and fully automated production chains, the project enables personalized implants with streamlined handling. In cooperation with Charité and using state-of-the-art imaging and data processing, as well as a combination of subtractive and additive manufacturing, ProAstra Dental achieves exceptional precision.

PROJECT PROFILE: SPACE TRAVEL - ESAF

The ESAF project developed a lightweight satellite structure in which sensors are integrated directly during the printing process. These sensors measure thermal deformation in space and enhance positional accuracy within star navigation systems. Additive manufacturing makes it possible to produce complex, bionically inspired components that perform reliably under extreme conditions. ESAF illustrates how 3D printing can significantly enhance the performance and market competitiveness of aerospace components.

BERLIN WORLDWIDE.

Positioning Berlin internationally – with strong partners and a compelling case



Austin, Texas, USA: Berlin goes SXSW

Under the banner “Berlin Goes SXSW,” a Berlin delegation led by State Secretary Michael Biel traveled to Austin for South by Southwest, the world’s largest festival for the digital and creative industries. At the side event “Berlin Level,” Berlin startups showcased their innovations, connected with international investors and explored trends in AI, XR and fashion tech. At the German House, panels, pitch sessions and networking events highlighted Germany’s innovation landscape. The trip once again reinforced Berlin’s international visibility as a leading innovation hub.

Stockholm, Schweden: Berlin goes Train & Rail

In May, Berlin Partner led a delegation to Stockholm under the title “Berlin Goes Train & Rail.” The program centered on the international trade fair Train & Rail, complemented by meetings with innovation clusters, transport operators and startups. Stops included the German-Swedish Chamber of Commerce, as well as visits to Alstom and the Electrification Hub in Västerås. The trip strengthened collaboration with Sweden’s rail and mobility sector and deepened international exchange in sustainable transport solutions.

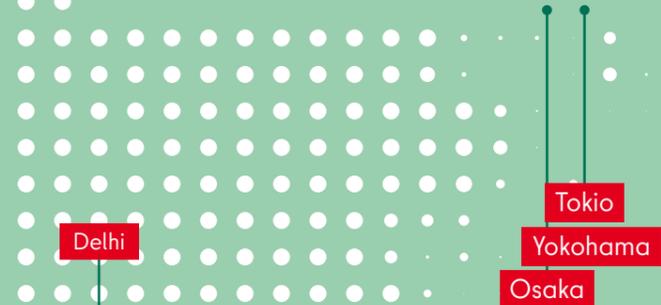


Bengaluru und Delhi, Indien:

In July 2025, Berlin Partner accompanied Senator Franziska Giffey and a business delegation to India to strengthen connections between Berlin, Bengaluru and Delhi. The focus was on partnerships among companies, startups and institutions – spanning technology, innovation and skilled workforce development. Visits to Infosys, the Indian Institute of Science and Maruti Suzuki Innovation provided insight into India’s dynamic growth environment. Key moments included the Berlin Goes India – Pitch & Networking event and the signing of a cooperation agreement with the state of Karnataka.

Tokio und Osaka, Japan:

Accompanied by Senator Franziska Giffey, a Berlin business delegation traveled to Japan in September 2025 to deepen ties among the innovation ecosystems of Berlin, Tokyo and Osaka. The agenda included visits to leading technology hubs such as Shibuya Startup Support, Tokyo Innovation Base and Haneda Innovation City, along with participation in the Global Startup EXPO in Osaka. Highlights included the pitch and networking event Berlin Goes Osaka and visits to international pavilions at Expo Osaka. The signing of a memorandum of understanding with Shibuya Mayor Ken Hasebe underscored the long-term commitment to cooperation.





WELCOME TO BERLIN

Company Relocations to Berlin



NEUROPILOT VR
MENTAL HEALTH SOLUTION

Since April 2025, the Georgia-based company has established its headquarters in Berlin. NeuroPilot develops VR solutions for stress management, resilience building and performance optimization. International trials involving more than 1,500 participants showed significant reductions in stress and anxiety levels. Initial clinical studies using qEEG, STAI and biofeedback have confirmed these effects. In Berlin, the company is now focused on expanding research partnerships, further developing its platform through AI and sensor integration, and embedding its solutions into corporate health management programs. Berlin Partner supported NeuroPilot with company formation, information on funding programs and connections within the XR and health ecosystems.

CONTINUUM INNOVATION Continuum Innovation develops AI technology for safety and intelligent automation and has created one of the first collaborative soft robots, or cobots, designed specifically for SMEs. The robotics startup pioneered a new mechanical approach, combining sensor-based orientation with AI-supported learning to enable operation even by untrained personnel. The goal is to reduce production costs while maintaining flexibility in existing manufacturing processes. Berlin Partner supported the company in its search for suitable space, introduced relevant funding programs and facilitated connections with local tech networks.

Alitheo bio Alitheo Through innovative immunopeptidomics and highly sensitive mass spectrometry, Alitheo provides precise analyses of HLA-presented peptides, supporting biopharma companies worldwide in target identification, validation and the prediction of off-target toxicity. Via its HLA-Compass platform, Alitheo offers access to an extensive peptide database containing proprietary data, along with machine learning tools to optimize risk assessment and drug design. Since late 2024, the company has operated a laboratory at BioCube on the Berlin-Buch campus Berlin Partner supported Alitheo with guidance on the GRW program, information on innovation financing and introductions within Berlin's biotech ecosystem.

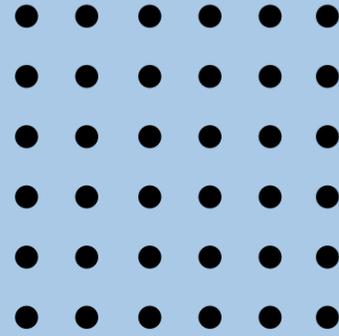


EGM
Innovations Germany GmbH

Since June 2025, EGM Innovations Germany GmbH has been based in Berlin-Adlershof. The company is driving the digital transformation of the energy sector by developing intelligent metering systems, or smart meter technology, enabling secure, precise and fully digital measurement of energy flows. These systems provide the foundation for grid-responsive control, flexible consumption models and efficient integration of renewable energy sources.

From Berlin, the company also manages its business and sales activities across the German and European markets.

Berlin Partner supported EGM Innovations Germany through various services, including site selection, recruiting assistance and preparation of funding applications.



EEN-BB OPENS DOORS

Why the network matters for founders

The Enterprise Europe Network Berlin-Brandenburg (EEN-BB) is part of the world's largest network of information and advisory centers for small and medium-sized enterprises. It provides practical, largely free support in organizing business, technology and project partnerships across Europe and beyond. But how exactly does EEN-BB support young founders?



Jonathan Ho, co-founder of the Potsdam-based AI software startup Wavery, shares his experience.

WHAT DOES WAVERY OFFER?

We provide "privacy-first" audio transcription and search solutions for media companies and media professionals. Our tools are AI-based and enable users to efficiently search, transcribe and edit large volumes of audio content. We launched the project in 2020 and have been on the market since 2024.

HOW HAS EEN-BB SUPPORTED YOU?

The network has a strong international focus, which is incredibly valuable for us. From the beginning, we knew Wavery needed an international sales strategy. Through EEN-BB, we were able to exhibit at the Startup Germany joint stand at the Web Summit in Lisbon.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST DAY AT THE WEB SUMMIT LIKE?

Overwhelming. Around 70,000 people attend this tech conference. As a young startup, it's easy to feel lost. But being part of the German stand - the largest national stand at the event - gave us significant visibility.

WHAT ARE YOUR THREE KEY TIPS FOR THE WEB SUMMIT?

Flexibel sein, weil es auf der Messe trotz bester Planung anders kommen kann. Viele gute Gespräche sFirst, stay flexible. Even with the best planning, things will unfold differently on-site. Some of our best conversations happened spontaneously. We also realized during the event that journalists were among the most interesting potential customers for our product Second, start networking before the conference. The event app is extremely helpful for that.



Kai Shimada, co-founder of Wavery, Jonathan Ho, co-founder of Wavery, and Sebastian Wilhelm, creative technologist (left to right)

Third, make use of the industry-specific side events. They're smaller, often held in relaxed settings like bars or cafés in the evening. We met promising startups from France, the U.K. and Spain there - potential future partners. In many ways, those encounters were even more valuable than our time on the main exhibition floor.

YOU ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE EEN MATCHMAKING EVENT AT GITEX EUROPE IN BERLIN. WHAT DOES THIS FORMAT OFFER A STARTUP?

At GITEX Europe, EEN-BB organized a B2B matchmaking event where we could connect with potential business partners and investors. We held around a dozen discussions with prospective partners, investors and public funding experts. That kind of access is invaluable for us.

COMMITTED TO BERLIN

Under bright summer skies in early July, around 100 network partners gathered in the courtyards of City Hall to showcase the diversity of social engagement across the city. The theme of this year's summer reception: COMMITTED TO BERLIN A vibrant stage program kept the energy high well into the night. Culinary highlights came courtesy of Berlin's master chefs. For 4,000 guests from business, culture, politics

and civil society, the reception - organized for the 23rd time by Partner für Berlin and the Berlin Senate Chancellery - once again provided a relaxed evening of networking and fresh inspiration for the capital.



TRANSFORMATION IS A COLLECTIVE EFFORT – SHAPED BY DIVERSITY AND ONGOING RENEWAL

An interview with Sascha Tiede, project manager of ReTraNetz-BB



Mr. Tiede, what is ReTraNetz-BB and what is its objective?

ReTraNetz-BB is a regional transformation network for Berlin-Brandenburg, funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy. Its goal is to develop the region into a leading hub for digitally integrated, climate-neutral and socially sustainable manufacturing in the mobility sector. Our primary focus is on small and medium-sized enterprises in the automotive and supplier industries, supporting them in positioning themselves for the future.

What specific services do you offer companies?

We've seen strong results from our diversification workshops. These bring together companies from the automotive industry with players from other sectors – such as rail or the security and defense industries. The aim is to identify synergies, foster exchange and explore new market opportunities. In addition, we offer formats focused on topics such as new business models and workforce qualification. A full overview would go beyond the scope of this interview – but one thing is clear: we rely on diversity in our approach.

The living lab opened at the end of 2024.

What can companies expect there?

In the living lab, companies and their employees can explore and test new technologies firsthand – in a practical setting and before making major investments. Topics include energy monitoring, collaborative robots and digital assistance systems. The goal is to create low-barrier access to innovation.

Transformation brings opportunities but often requires investment. How does ReTraNetz-BB support companies in this process?

All ReTraNetz-BB services are free of charge for participating companies. This gives SMEs straightforward access to knowledge, exchange and fresh perspectives. We also help identify suitable funding programs and, if requested, support companies throughout the entire application process. That saves time and increases the likelihood of success.

How important is exchange among companies?

It's essential. At our events, we regularly experiment with new formats and deliberately create space for questions and dialogue. Companies are warmly invited to attend our events or contact us directly with their specific needs.

How do you assess the network's development so far?

ReTraNetz-BB has been active for nearly three years, and the demand for guidance, exchange and support remains strong. Transformation requires collective effort and ongoing renewal. That's why extending the network in the coming years is so important.

TOGETHER AGAINST

ANTISEMITISM

Hate and incitement have no place in a diverse, cosmopolitan and tolerant city like Berlin. Since 2021, the Berlin Partner network has been working hand in hand with business, academia and political leaders to uphold these values.

The Berlin Against Antisemitism initiative sends a strong signal against discrimination through events, projects and campaigns. More than 40 testimonials have taken a visible stand, most recently in late summer with poster messages displayed across the city. In 2026, the initiative marks five years of engagement – an opportunity to reflect and to renew its commitment.



“It is our shared responsibility to stand up for a world in which origin, faith, identity or disability are never reasons for hate.”

Elena Semechin
Swimmer, Berlin State Sports Association



“Antisemitism has no place in our city or in our society. We stand for tolerance, respect and peaceful coexistence – today, tomorrow and every day. At Berliner Sparkasse, we stand clearly and publicly for those values.”

Dr. Johannes Evers
CEO, Berliner Sparkasse



“Universities are open spaces and places for robust debate. At Humboldt University, there is no room for antisemitism or racism.”

Prof. Dr. Julia von Blumenthal
President, Humboldt University of Berlin



By Scott W. J. Lipinski,
CEO, Fashion Council Germany

BEYOND THE RUNWAY: BERLIN FASHION WEEK



Few cities embody creativity, inclusion and experimentation quite like Berlin. This spirit is reflected not only in its art and music scenes but also in its fashion culture. Fashion here is an expression of freedom, diversity and individual identity – a defining element of the city’s urban DNA. Berlin Fashion Week serves as a showcase for this creative capital, offering designers a powerful platform. Curated formats and targeted funding programs create space for innovation, visibility and the development of a distinct identity as a fashion hub. What truly sets Berlin apart from other fashion capitals is its strong focus on emerging talent and its deliberate investment in the next generation.

The city attracts creatives from around the world. Art, subcultures and club culture shape an inspiring environment where fashion is lived as an expression of individuality. To preserve this creative diversity, Berlin needs not only international brands but also independent labels, distinctive retailers and innovative concepts. Craftsmanship and contemporary creativity are equally supported – and this is where Fashion Week plays a key role.

Young labels are given the opportunity to turn their ideas into viable businesses, build sustainable structures and create jobs. Through the hospitality program, we bring international guests to Berlin and foster meaningful exchange. Industry professionals who regularly occupy the front rows in other fashion capitals come to Berlin to discover the next generation of talent.

Over time, the goal is also to strengthen direct market access. Labels benefit from mentoring, high-caliber juries and funding programs that promote sustainable growth and continuous professional development. At the same time, Berlin Fashion Week helps raise consumer awareness of the true value of fashion: quality and creativity come at a price. By adopting the sustainability requirements of Copenhagen Fashion Week, Berlin is advancing responsible production standards and reinforcing its position as a forward-looking fashion capital.

The city’s funding model is internationally distinctive. With support from the Berlin Senate Department for Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises and Berlin Partner, Fashion Week has been built and strategically developed independently of traditional sponsorship structures. Berlin Partner has been a reliable collaborator, enabling long-term, coordinated decision-making on equal footing.

Berlin Fashion Week is more than a series of shows. It makes the city’s cultural and creative diversity visible, supports the professional growth of emerging labels, advances sustainability and strengthens international connections. In doing so, it plays a key role in positioning Berlin as a global center of creativity and style.

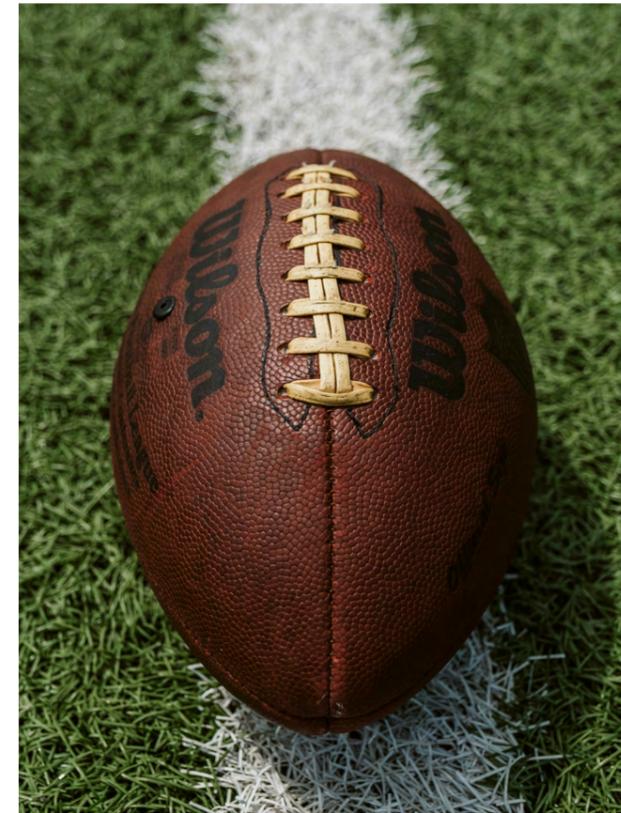


Scott W.J. Lipinski

CEO After studying business administration in Mannheim, Scott Lipinski began his career at the U.S.-based consulting firm Accenture. From 2004 onward, he held various positions at fashion brands including Wunderkind, Michalsky and lala Berlin. He has served as CEO of the Fashion Council Germany since 2017. In addition to this role, he is chair of the European Fashion Alliance.

As CEO, Lipinski advises the board of Fashion Council Germany on strategic matters, leads the operational team and directs the organization’s activities together with colleagues based in Berlin.





TOUCHDOWN FOR BERLIN, A GLOBAL SPORTS CAPITAL

Berlin knows how to host world-class sport. In November 2025, the city staged its first official regular-season game of the National Football League with the NFL Berlin Game. The successful bid to host NBA Games in January 2026 added further global momentum, bringing new international attention to both the leagues and the city. Berlin's bid to host the Olympic and Paralympic Games has also sent a strong signal worldwide. That vision was front and center at the season kickoff hosted by the Sportmetropole Berlin initiative on Sept. 16 at the Max-Schmeling-Halle, where 400 guests gathered to mark the occasion. The message was clear: The bid gives Berlin a rare opportunity to bring people together and shape a more livable future.

UNLOCKING THE BERLIN LEVEL IN AUSTIN

Berlin and Austin, Texas, may be separated by roughly 8,500 kilometers. What connects them? Both are creative powerhouses. In March, Berlin Partner CEO Stefan Franzke and State Secretary Michael Biel traveled to South by Southwest, one of the world's leading festivals for film, music and digital innovation, accompanied by a delegation of 16 startups from Berlin's creative tech scene. At the German House in downtown Austin, they raised the bar with "Berlin Level @ German House." Well-attended panels on topics such as AI in music and Berlin's vibrant nightlife were complemented by pitch sessions and networking events. The finale: Berlin Level Music Night, featuring Berlin-based DJs including Jennifer Cardini, Cloudy June and Martin Eyerer.



JOIN US



LAB COATS OFF, CAREERS ON

HOW 22 STEM TALENTS ARE LAUNCHING THEIR FUTURES IN BERLIN

Twenty-two international postdoctoral researchers and doctoral candidates. A city that offers more than just a job market. And one central question: How can the transition from academia to industry be shaped so that highly trained talent chooses to stay in Berlin for the long term?

That was the mission of Berlin Partner's Talent unit. WISTA Management GmbH, Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin, Humboldt University, the Federal Institute for

Materials Research and Testing and the Berlin-South Employment Agency came together to design a program that would extend scientific careers beyond the laboratory and open new professional pathways.

Over the course of six months, participants learned how to articulate their strengths, navigate Berlin's job market, overcome legal hurdles and, above all, build networks.

The program culminated in a matching event in June. The participating STEM talents met companies and startups from sectors including green energy, environmental and chemical engineering, photonics, ICT and research-based consulting. It quickly became clear that this was not just about new jobs, it was about new beginnings.

COSMOPOLITAN BRAIN CITY BERLIN

Berlin's research landscape is one of a kind. Leading scholars work at the highest level of excellence - across disciplines and often just steps away from one another. The result is a steady stream of prestigious research awards and breakthrough innovations in future-focused fields, many of which are rapidly translated into real-world applications through close industry partnerships. Berlin's research culture is open, international and deeply collaborative, drawing talent from across the globe. In summer 2025, the city launched a digital campaign titled "Thank You America" on the website of The New York Times, inviting U.S.-based scientists to consider the next step in their careers in BrainCity Berlin. The campaign spotlighted the values at the core of Berlin's research ecosystem - freedom, interdisciplinarity and diversity. It was initiated by Berlin Partner

in collaboration with the State of Berlin and developed in close partnership with the Berlin Partner science network. Its aim - and the broader mission of the BrainCity.Berlin platform - is to further strengthen the capital's standing as a leading destination for both research and business. At the center of the campaign are the "Brains of Berlin" - distinguished researchers and rising talents who serve as ambassadors for the city's scientific community, representing Berlin internationally as a hub of research excellence and innovation. Each year, Berlin Partner also convenes the Science Roundtable, bringing together key stakeholders to review campaign initiatives and exchange perspectives across the network. This sustained dialogue continues to generate new ideas and fresh momentum for Berlin's research landscape.

THANK YOU AMERICA WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE FREEDOM THAT YOUR COUNTRY HELPED US GAIN. MAY WE SHARE SOME IN RETURN? BERLIN IS THE CITY OF FREEDOM, INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND DIVERSITY IN SCIENCE AND CULTURE. 40 UNIVERSITIES, 70 RESEARCH INSTITUTES AND OVER 200,000 STUDENTS ARE STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE. JOIN US.



Research your opportunities on braincity.berlin/en



BERLIN IS CALLING:

In summer 2025, Berlin launched a digital campaign on the The New York Times website with a clear ambition: to win over some of the brightest minds in U.S. science for a career in BrainCity Berlin. The message was confident yet inviting - highlighting world-class research, strong professional networks and an open, internationally minded research environment. Join us!

WHERE INNOVATION REACHES FOR THE STARS

A powerful innovation ecosystem has established Berlin as one of Germany's leading space hubs. Two flagship projects highlight the momentum behind this growth.

In recent years, the capital has evolved into a key pillar of Germany's space economy, now home to around 80 companies and research institutions. Berlin has emerged as a frontrunner in the small-satellite sector in particular. Close collaboration among research institutions, startups and established industry has created a vibrant environment that fuels technological progress and commercial expansion beyond Earth.

The following two projects illustrate that trajectory in 2025.

PLANET LABS EXPANDS IN BERLIN

Planet Labs, a leading provider of Earth observation data, is significantly expanding its presence in Berlin. The company plans to invest a projected eight-figure sum in a new production facility for high-resolution Earth observation satellites. The goal is to double current production capacity and meet rising demand across Europe. Until now, manufacturing had taken place exclusively at the company's U.S. headquarters in California.

Planet currently employs around 150 people at its Berlin headquarters. The new facility is expected to create up to 70 additional jobs and further strengthen Germany's strategic role in the space sector. CEO Will Marshall underscored the importance of the move, stating: "Europe needs its own eyes in the sky - and it needs them now."

The expansion comes amid growing geopolitical challenges and highlights Europe's ambition to enhance technological sovereignty. The project is supported by the German federal government, including Research Minister Dorothee Bär and Economic Affairs Minister Katherina Reiche, who view the investment as a clear commitment to Germany as a center of innovation.

With the new facility, Planet Labs reinforces its position as a key player in Europe's New Space ecosystem. Berlin Partner supported the company by providing extensive information and guidance, with particular emphasis on access to international talent in the region.

A Strong Signal for Berlin as an AI Hub

On Oct. 22, 2025, Senator for Economic Affairs Franziska Giffey and Berlin Partner CEO Dr. Stefan Franzke officially opened the #ai_berlin hub at the CIC (Cambridge Innovation Center) Berlin. The new hub serves as a central platform and point of contact for the capital region's AI ecosystem. It connects business, research institutions and startups, fosters collaboration and strengthens Berlin's international visibility as a leading AI location in Europe.

Berlin is already Germany's top AI hub. More than 30% of the country's 687 AI startups are based in the capital. Over 550 companies in the city offer digital services built on their own AI technologies - about 61% of them startups. Together, they generate €2.4 billion in revenue and employ more than 13,000 people. Berlin is also home to two of Germany's national AI competence centers: the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence and the Berlin Institute for the Foundations of Learning and Data.

NEUROSPACE BRINGS BERLIN INNOVATION TO THE MOON

Berlin-based New Space startup Neurospace GmbH is making spaceflight history. With its proprietary satellite TACHELES, the company is part of NASA's Artemis II mission - the first crewed lunar mission since Apollo 17. The 12U CubeSat was handed over to NASA on Sept. 16, 2025, at the Kennedy Space Center and will test key technologies for future lunar rovers.

TACHELES is equipped with the electronics of Neurospace's HiveR rover, the company's core product. During the mission, the satellite will be placed into a highly elliptical orbit with an apogee of around 77,000 kilometers, reaching deep into the Van Allen radiation belts. There, it will analyze the effects of extreme radiation and temperature fluctuations on electronic components. The objective is to validate the durability and reliability of rover technology under real space conditions. A special maneuver could extend the satellite's initially planned 28-hour lifespan to several days - and potentially up to 2.5 years - provided it does not compromise the safety of the four astronauts aboard the Orion capsule.

Neurospace's participation was made possible through a German-American space agreement between the German Aerospace Center (DLR) and NASA. Supported by Berlin Partner, the project demonstrates how a Berlin startup can contribute meaningfully to international lunar exploration.



The Berlin Partner team at the opening of the #ai_berlin hub in October 2025



“The intensified partnership between Charité and Bayer marks a milestone for Berlin as a center of innovation. As an economic development agency and cluster manager, we are proud to have actively supported this forward-looking process from the initial idea through concept development and financing to the launch of implementation. The close physical integration of research, development and production envisioned for the Berlin Center for Gene and Cell Therapies is unprecedented in Germany. It creates ideal conditions to position Berlin at the forefront of this transformative technology, both nationally and internationally. This project demonstrates how scientific excellence, industrial strength and strategic location development can work hand in hand.”

Dr. Kai Bindseil, Head of Health Care Industries | Industry | Infrastructure

A NEW ERA OF MEDICINE

The Berlin Center for Gene and Cell Therapies

Berlin is positioning itself as a leading European hub for gene and cell therapies (GCTs), building on its strong biomedical infrastructure and culture of innovation. These therapies are transforming the treatment of cancer, autoimmune and neurodegenerative diseases, as well as rare genetic disorders. Yet translating groundbreaking research into clinical practice remains a complex challenge.

STRONG FOUNDATIONS IN RESEARCH AND HEALTHCARE

The capital region is home to renowned institutions such as Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, the Berlin Institute of Health (BIH) and the Max Delbrück Center (MDC). These centers are driving translational research forward and have contributed to Germany's National Strategy for Gene- and Cell-Based Therapies, which aims to accelerate clinical application.

production facilities and laboratories for 15 to 20 biotech startups.

In August 2025, the Berlin Senate approved €25.5 million in funding for a startup incubator within the center. Construction officially began in September with a ceremonial groundbreaking attended by senior political representatives.



Groundbreaking ceremony for the startup incubator

The incubator will offer 6,000 square meters of fully equipped laboratory and office space across three floors, creating up to 350 jobs.

Startups will gain access to high-quality laboratory infrastructure, regulatory and clinical trial support, as well as business development services.

The initiative aims to accelerate the translation of

groundbreaking therapies and position Berlin as a global biotech hub.

Berlin Partner supported the project from the structuring of initial concepts through the identification of suitable funding programs, partner matchmaking and joint promotion of this flagship initiative.

The project has been presented internationally at Berlin Partner events, including BIO 2023 and a delegation trip to Boston in 2024, as well as at local startup ecosystem gatherings and at BIONNALE.

Charité's Stem Cell Facility is among the largest in Europe, and CAR T-cell therapies are already in clinical use. The BIH Center for Regenerative Therapies (BCRT) and the Berlin Center for Advanced Therapies (BeCAT) focus on the development and translation of cell-based treatments classified in the European Union as Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs).

In a landmark initiative, Bayer AG and Charité are establishing the Berlin Center for Gene and Cell Therapies at Nordhafen. Supported by the German federal government and the State of Berlin, the €100 million project will provide GMP-certified

EUROPEAN MODEL FOR BIDIRECTIONAL CHARGING

How Berlin is integrating EVs into the power grid

Bidirectional charging turns electric vehicles into mobile energy storage units that can not only draw electricity but also feed it back into the grid. This helps stabilize the power system and improves the use of renewable energy – a crucial advantage for a growing metropolis like Berlin.

As part of the Horizon Europe project NEVERFLAT, new types of charging stations are being developed – compact, cost-efficient and bidirectional. Coordinated by Aarhus University in Denmark, the EU-funded project brings together expertise from Germany, Spain, Romania and Estonia, with total funding of around €8 million. In Berlin, the Technical University of Berlin, Grid & Co. and Hsubject are involved through the Mobility2Grid research campus. At the Ringberlin innovation campus, they are putting the technology into practice. In cooperation with Inno2Grid GmbH, a commercially available bidirectional charging infrastructure is being installed and tested under real-world conditions to further develop systems such as eRoaming, Plug & Charge and intelligent charging management.

With Ringberlin as a pilot site, strong research capabilities and international partners, Berlin is emerging as a European leader in climate-neutral mobility – setting benchmarks for integrating electric vehicles into the broader energy system.

BERLIN CHARGED UP: MOBILITY IS GOING ELECTRIC

With more than 86,000 electric vehicles registered as of Oct. 1 (KBA), Berlin has recorded a 15% increase compared with the same quarter last year. Nearly 39,000 charging points as of Nov. 30 (Stromnetz Berlin) show that infrastructure is keeping pace. To reinforce this positive trend, the Berlin Senate Department for Economic Affairs is expanding its WELMO funding program. In addition to supporting electric commercial vehicles and charging infrastructure for small and medium-sized enterprises, the program now also assists housing companies in building shared charging infrastructure. This makes electric mobility even more accessible to residents across the city.



↑ + 15%

increase in registered electric vehicles in Q3 2025 compared with Q3 2024

↑ + 22%

increase in charging points, from 32,000 in 2024 to 39,000 in 2025 (as of November)

THE CITY CHALLENGE BERLIN



Viktor Gerbert, Vanessa Winge, Christoph Brändle, Dr. Stefan Franzke, Martina Klement, Beate Albert (left to right)

Berlin aims to become even more livable and efficient – supported by a pilot initiative launched in 2025 by the Senate Chancellery at the initiative of Berlin Partner: the Smart City Challenge. The project focuses on developing and implementing digital solutions for public administration in collaboration with startups, innovative SMEs, as well as academic and research institutions.

“This challenge is a successful example of how digitalization can make a genuine difference in people’s daily lives. The digital gym booking system makes administration more efficient, optimizes the use of resources and makes sports facilities more accessible to everyone.”

Jan-Henrik Stephan,
product manager and founder, Groundkeeper GmbH

The challenge sought solutions for ideas and projects that would make public administration and its subordinate agencies future-ready, strengthen exchange between government and the city’s residents or improve services and processes through modern technologies and innovative approaches.

The response from within the administration exceeded expectations: Berlin Partner received 13 proposals from nine authorities, two of which were selected for the pilot phase. The Pankow district office submitted Challenge 1: the development of a digital hall booking system to record and

display usage times for district sports facilities. A total of 19 solution proposals were submitted.

For Challenge 2, the Senate Department for Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises sought a digital solution to support procurement preparation. Sixteen applications were received.

The two winners of the innovation competition – Groundkeeper GmbH and Augnum GmbH – are now implementing their pilot projects in cooperation with the respective administrative bodies.

“With our 123-Vergabe tool, we can significantly ease the burden on public administration by digitizing procurement processes and helping make them faster, clearer and more efficient. The City Challenge shows that digital transformation has the greatest impact when it is developed collaboratively and with a clear focus on practical application.”

Christoph Brändle,
managing director, Augnum GmbH, Münsingen

FOR GREATER TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTA- BILITY

Berlin Partner continues its sustainability reporting

Berlin Partner is taking stock - and looking ahead. As early as 2024, the company conducted a comprehensive baseline assessment to establish a solid foundation for future sustainability reporting. The original plan was to begin reporting in the 2025 fiscal year in accordance with the European Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD). However, regulatory requirements changed - and with them the reporting obligations.

Berlin Partner is no longer legally required to report. Yet instead of discontinuing its sustainability disclosures, the company has chosen to take a clear stance: even without a formal mandate, it will continue to provide transparent information about its activities' environmental and societal impact.

Starting in 2025, Berlin Partner will publish a voluntary sustainability report aligned with the new European VSME standard - a framework specifically designed for small and medium-sized, non-listed companies. The aim is to document sustainability efforts transparently while continuously improving internal processes.

This commitment underscores that sustainability reporting is not a compliance exercise, but a matter of principle: taking responsibility, acting transparently and demonstrating what sustainability means in everyday business practice.

Building a sustainable future with the sustainability service

Since 2022, Berlin Partner's Sustainability Service has supported companies on their path toward greater sustainability. In addition to initial strategic consultations on ESG topics, the focus in 2025 shifted to the new requirements of the CSRD and the EU taxonomy. This is a crucial step to ensure that Berlin-based businesses not only become greener, but also more resilient and internationally competitive.

In 2025, Berlin Partner conducted

more than 300

sustainability consultations.

Berlin Partner employees commuting choices (multiple responses possible):



bicycle / walking



public transportation



car (gasoline or diesel)



car (electric)



1 micro-vehicle (e.g., e-scooter)

BERLIN-PARTNER-NETWORK. Decisive for decision makers. **PARTNER FÜR BERLIN** 

CATEGORY D-PARTNERS

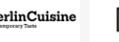
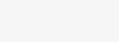
CATEGORY C-PARTNERS

CATEGORY B-PARTNERS

CATEGORY A-PARTNERS

SCIENCE PARTNERS

																	
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STARTUP PARTNERS

										
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Berlin Partner | Ludwig Erhard Haus | Fasanenstraße 85 | 10623 Berlin | Tel +49 30 46302-500
netzwerk@berlin-partner.de | www.berlin-partner-netzwerk.de | Updated October 2025.

COMMITTEES AND SHAREHOLDERS

The shareholders in Berlin Partner for Business and Technology GmbH include Investitionsbank Berlin (IBB UV is IBB's owner and sole shareholder), Technologiestiftung Berlin, Partner für Berlin Holding Gesellschaft für Hauptstadt-Marketing mbH, Berlin Chamber of Crafts, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Berlin (CCI Berlin), and the Federation of Business Associations in Berlin and Brandenburg (UVB).

IBB UV

The IBB Group, or IBB UV, is the institution incorporated under public law that has been responsible for IBB since January 1, 2021. IBB UV is wholly owned by the State of Berlin. IBB's former subsidiaries have now become subsidiaries of IBB UV. Together, they form the IBB Group. As of September 20, 2021, the IBB UV holds interests in other companies that serve the structural and economic policy goals of the State of Berlin, including Berlin Partner for Business and Technology GmbH. Prior to this, the IBB itself held these interests. As the Federal State of Berlin's business-development bank, the IBB promotes and finances investment projects and is committed to advancing sustainable development in Berlin by improving economic, environmental and social living conditions in the city. IBB's core areas of activity include business development, real estate and urban development, and labor market support. As a bank for start-ups, it helps innovators and entrepreneurs turn their ideas into successful businesses - creating jobs and attracting talent from around the world to Berlin. For the people who live in Berlin, or are moving here, IBB also works to finance affordable and inclusive housing. Its housing and real estate development unit therefore focuses on financing the construction of new rental housing. In line with climate protection efforts, IBB also promotes measures targeting improved energy efficiency in buildings. In the area of labor market support, IBB prioritizes securing skilled labor, fostering social inclusion and advancing education. Through funding instruments provided by the state of Berlin, it helps promote equal opportunities and strengthen participation in society.

TECHNOLOGIESTIFTUNG BERLIN

Technologiestiftung Berlin is a nonprofit foundation dedicated to building a digitally sovereign society for the Berlin of tomorrow. Working hand in hand with government, education, culture, business, and science to drive Berlin's digital transformation, it is guided by the principles of openness, public value and participation. Its tools of choice are open data and open-source code that are freely available and designed to have impact well beyond city limits. In doing so, it serves not only as a catalyst, but equally as a facilitator and a driver of change. As a driving force in the Smart City initiative, the foundation is helping to modernize government from the inside out. Through CityLAB Berlin - its urban innovation lab - it prototypes digital solutions for the city's future, with a strong emphasis on open data and prototyping processes. The foundation also champions digital literacy and culture by promoting digital empowerment through tools, methods, and knowledge-sharing formats. It is equally committed to supporting the digital shift in the cultural sector. Another key priority is researching emerging technologies. Technologiestiftung identifies innovation trends and turns research insights into real-world applications - ensuring that knowledge generated in Berlin flows into the broader region.

PARTNER FÜR BERLIN HOLDING GESELLSCHAFT FÜR HAUPTSTADT-MARKETING MBH

In 1994, 21 Berlin companies joined forces as Partner für Berlin Gesellschaft für Hauptstadt-

Marketing mbH with the aim of promoting Berlin's economy, strengthening the capital city's reputation as a business location, and attracting investment to the city. The new organization worked closely with the federal state of Berlin to foster acceptance for Berlin as the nation's new capital, market Berlin as a business location, and develop a comprehensive marketing campaign for the city. As members of Partner für Berlin Holding Gesellschaft für Hauptstadt-Marketing mbH, participating companies provide financial support and are actively engaged as shareholders. Their equity stakes come with voting rights, giving them a direct say in how the city's marketing efforts evolve.

BERLIN CHAMBER OF CRAFTS

The Berlin Chamber of Crafts is a public-law corporation and, as a self-governing body, performs statutory functions within its region. These include maintaining the register of skilled crafts businesses, overseeing vocational training regulations and supervising guilds. In addition, the Chamber acts as a service provider for its members, offering a broad range of advisory and support services. It also represents the interests of skilled crafts businesses in dealings with policymakers.

The Parliament of Skilled Crafts, the General Assembly, reflects the diversity of the sector. One-third of its members represent employees, while two-thirds represent employers. Berlin's skilled crafts sector provides employment for around 180,000 people and offers approximately 9,500 apprentices a pathway into a skilled profession.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF BERLIN

With more than 340,000 members, the CCI Berlin represents the interests of the city's business community, serves as a customer-focused service provider and supports companies in seizing opportunities and navigating challenges. CCI Berlin also provides support for nearly 19,400 apprenticeship positions each year. As a non-partisan organization that represents and promotes Berlin's economy, CCI

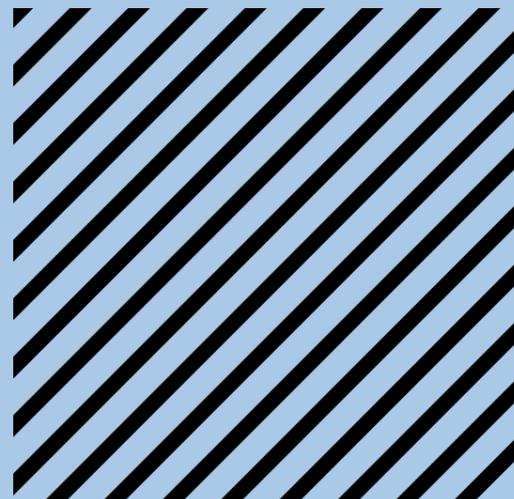


Berlin also serves an expert and at times critical voice in its exchanges with the government. The CCI Berlin is supported by 790 entrepreneurs who offer their time on a voluntary basis, another 3,000 voluntary auditors and its full-time staff.

FEDERATION OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS IN BERLIN AND BRANDENBURG

The Federation of Business Associations in Berlin and Brandenburg (UVB) is an umbrella organization that focuses on the region's economic and social policies. Its members include some 60 business and employer associations from the industrial, commercial, insurance, service, and craft-trades sectors in Berlin and Brandenburg. The UVB simultaneously serves as the state chapter of the Federal Union of German Employers' Associations (BDA), represents the states of Berlin and Brandenburg in the Federation of German Industries (BDI) and represents their economic interests with the federal government.

BERLIN. WHERE ELSE?



THE SUPERVISORY BOARD AT BERLIN PARTNER FOR BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY GMBH

The Supervisory Board at Berlin Partner for Business and Technology GmbH is comprised of representatives from the business, research and policymaking communities.

Carsten Jung

President of the Management Board at Berliner Volksbank eG, Chair of the Supervisory Board

State Secretary Michael Biel

Senate Department for Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises, First Vice Chair of the Supervisory Board

Dr. Hinrich Holm

Chair of the Management Board at Investitionsbank Berlin, Second Vice Chair of the Supervisory Board

Senatorin Dr. Ina Czyborra

Senate Department for Higher Education and Research, Health and Long-Term Care

State Secretary Dr. Friederike Haase (as of Feb. 21, 2025) The Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour, Energy and Climate Action

Stefan Moschko

President, Federation of Business Associations in Berlin and Brandenburg e.V.

Sebastian Stietzel

President, CCI Berlin

Tobias Weber

Managing Director of City Clean GmbH & Co. KG

Carola Zarth

President, Berlin Chamber of Crafts

Nicolas Zimmer

Chair of the Executive Board at Technologiestiftung Berlin

PARTNER FÜR BERLIN HOLDING GESELLSCHAFT FÜR HAUPTSTADT- MARKETING MBH SHAREHOLDERS

The shareholders of Partner für Berlin Holding Gesellschaft für Hauptstadt-Marketing mbH provide the financial backbone of the organization through their capital contributions. At the annual shareholders' meeting, shareholders are informed of the company's activities and play an active role in shaping its strategic direction. In 2025, 38 of the roughly 250 Berlin Partners also held shares in Partner für Berlin.

Their equity stakes come with voting rights, giving them a direct say in how the city's marketing efforts evolve. Shareholders:

- Aengevelt Immobilien GmbH & Co. KG
- ALBA Group plc & Co. KG
- Albeck & Zehden Hotels and Gastronomy B.H.S. - Berlin Hotelmanagement und Service GmbH
- Bayer Pharma AG
- Berliner Volksbank eG
- Berlinovo Immobilien Gesellschaft mbH
- Bloomberg L.P.
- BRLO Ltd.
- Bundesdruckerei GmbH
- Business Network Marketing- und Verlagsgesellschaft mbH
- BVG Beteiligungsholding GmbH & Co. KG
- City Clean GmbH & Co. KG
- degewo AG
- Deutsche Telekom AG
- DIAL Berlin Tourismus Förderung GmbH
- Estrel Hotel-Betriebs-GmbH
- Funk Group GmbH
- GASAG Berliner Gaswerke AG
- GATE Eventmanagement & Veranstaltungstechnik GmbH
- Gegenbauer Services GmbH
- GO! • General Overnight & Express Logistik GmbH
- Berlin Chamber of Crafts
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Berlin

- Landesbank Berlin AG
- Mitel Germany GmbH
- Pfizer Germany GmbH
- Prince Media
- Roskos & Meier OHG
- Runze & Casper advertising agency GmbH
- STRATEGIS AG
- Ströer Deutsche Städte Medien GmbH
- The Newsweek Daily Beast Company LLC.
- Vattenfall Wärme Berlin AG
- Federation of Business Associations in Berlin and Brandenburg (UVB)
- Wall Ltd.
- WBM Wohnungsbaugesellschaft Berlin-Mitte mbH
- WE DO communication GmbH
- WINDROSE AIR Jetcharter GmbH

PARTNER FÜR BERLIN HOLDING GESELLSCHAFT FÜR HAUPTSTADT-MARKETING MBH SUPERVISORY BOARD

The following members of the Partner für Berlin Supervisory Board are elected by shareholders (each with a minimum of 10 votes in favor):

Tobias Weber

Managing Director of City Clean GmbH & Co. KG, Supervisory Board Chair

Martina Hacker

Managing Director of KPM Königliche Porzellan-Manufaktur Berlin GmbH, Deputy Chair of the Supervisory Board

Carsten Jung

President of the Management Board at Berliner Volksbank eG

Dr. Katharina Kurz

CEO, BRLO GmbH

Prof. Dr. Helmut Schramm

Head of Production, BMW Motorcycle

Dr. Tanja Wielgoff

Co-founder and Managing Director of Stella Circle GmbH

THE ADVISORY BOARD FOR PARTNER FÜR BERLIN HOLDING GESELLSCHAFT FÜR HAUPTSTADT- MARKETING MBH

The Advisory Board for Partner für Berlin Holding Gesellschaft für Hauptstadt-Marketing mbH advises management on questions of marketing and partner support, and cultivates close relationships between the private sector and Berlin Partner for Business and Technology GmbH. **Members:**

Dr. Jana Dewitz

Advisory Board Chair, Marketing Director and Head of Division, Messe Berlin GmbH

Dr. Michaela Conen

Head of Strategic Marketing, Berlin University of the Arts

Susanne Huneke (as of July 15, 2025)

Head of Strategy, Policy and Regulation, BEW Berliner Energie und Wärme GmbH

Thomas Killius

Head of Corporate Clients, Berliner Volksbank eG

Dr. Caroline King (bis 08. April 2025)

Global Director Business Support SAP SE

Sabine Leutenecker

Senate Department for Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises

Hendrik Ruhe

CEO and Founder, GG Gute Gesellschaft mbH

Iris Seute (as of July 15, 2025)

Managing Director, SAP Labs Berlin, SAP SE

Roland Sillmann

Managing Director, WISTA Management GmbH

Dr. Alexandra Gräfin von Stosch

Managing Director, Artprojekt Entwicklungen GmbH

Martina Wolters

Director Communications, General Medicines GSA, Sanofi-Aventis Deutschland GmbH

THE BUSINESS LOCATION CENTER ADVISORY BOARD

The partner companies and institutions of the Business Location Center form an Advisory Board to receive information on the content, technical and commercial operations of the Business Location Center in regular meetings held with Berlin Partner for Business and Technology.

Members:

(as of December 2025)

Dr. Peer Ambrée

Division Manager for Technology and Startup Centers WISTA-MANAGEMENT GMBH

Maik Andrack

Head of Business Development and Head of Leasing, DIEAG - DIEAG Investmentmanagement GmbH

Thomas Bergander

Managing Director, Taurecon Real Estate Consulting GmbH

Sven Volker Blankenburg

Head of Syndicated and Fund Business, Berliner Sparkasse

Sebastian Blecke

Managing Director, Operations, GSG Berlin GmbH

Alexander Breustedt

Managing Director, GRAEF GmbH

Lena Brühne

Managing Director, Art-Invest Real Estate Management GmbH & Co. KG

Dirk Dittrich

Senior Director Leasing, EDGE Technologies GmbH

Anita Fuhrmann
Lease Management, Campus
Berlin-Buch GmbH

Benjamin Gschnell
Director, Asset Management Germany,
Sochribel GmbH

Birgit Kahland
Head of City Partnership Berlin, BEW
Berliner Energie und Wärme AG

Kathrin Kanzler-Tullio
Head of Division IV A – Real Estate and
Future Locations, Berlin Senate Depart-
ment for Economic Affairs, Energy and
Public Enterprises

Orsolya Kreicz
Orsolya Kreicz Key Account Manager,
Services / Industry, Investitionsbank
Berlin

Heike Mahmoud
COO, ESTREL Hotel-Betriebs-GmbH

Simon Margraf
Head of Urban Development, Transport,
Environment and Energy, Berlin Cham-
ber of Commerce and Industry

Engelhard Mazanke
Director,
Berlin State Office for Immigration

Simon Miller
Senior Manager Aviation Marketing
Operations, Flughafen Berlin
Brandenburg GmbH

Dr. Dietmar Müller-Boruttau
Attorney and Partner, Advant Beiten

Jörg Nehls
Managing Director, JNP Real Estate
Management GmbH

Matthias Prennig
Head of Real Estate Management and
Urban Districts, GASAG Solution Plus
GmbH

Larissa Reinert
Managing Director, Runze & Casper
Werbeagentur GmbH

Dr. Lutz Ross
Managing Director,
virtualcitySYSTEMS GmbH

Bernd Rubelt
Deputy Mayor for Urban Development,
Construction and Economic Affairs,
City of Potsdam

Kathrin Rüdiger
Head of the Economic
Development Coordination Office,
Marzahn-Hellersdorf District Office

Sebastian Sack
Regional Director North,
UNDKRAUSS Bau AG

Cem Saka
Head of Leasing, Caleus Commercial
Asset Management GmbH

Benjamin Schmidt
Branch Manager Berlin-Brandenburg,
GOLDBECK Nordost GmbH

Anja Schuhmann
Regional Manager Berlin and Leipzig,
Jones Lang LaSalle SE

Holger Staudt
Head of Asset Management Berlin,
OFFICEFIRST Real Estate GmbH

Thorsten Thielecke
Head of Letting Management,
Tattersall Lorenz Immobilien-
management GmbH

Markus Weigold
Chair of the Management Board,
Drees & Sommer Projektmanagement
und bautechnische Beratung GmbH

Nicolai Werner
Managing Director, BTB Blockheiz-
kraftwerk Träger- und Betreibergesell-
schaft mbH Berlin

Jörg Widhalm
Head of Real Estate Clients and
Infrastructure, Berliner Volksbank eG

**THE BUSINESS LOCATION CENTER
STEERING COMMITTEE**

The Steering Committee represents the Advisory Board in dealings with Berlin Partner for Business and Technology and, together with Berlin Partner, is the public face of the Business Location Center. It also prepares proposed resolutions for submission to the Advisory Board. The Steering Committee meets at its own discretion and upon request by Berlin Partner for Business and Technology – in advance of Advisory Board meetings. The Advisory Board can transfer decision-making authority to the Steering Committee for specific issues, though this requires a unanimous “yes” vote.

Members: (as of December 2025)

Markus Weigold
Chair of the Management Board,
Drees & Sommer Projektmanagement
und bautechnische Beratung GmbH,
Steering Committee Chair

Dirk Ditrach
Director Acquisitions of EDGE
Technologies GmbH

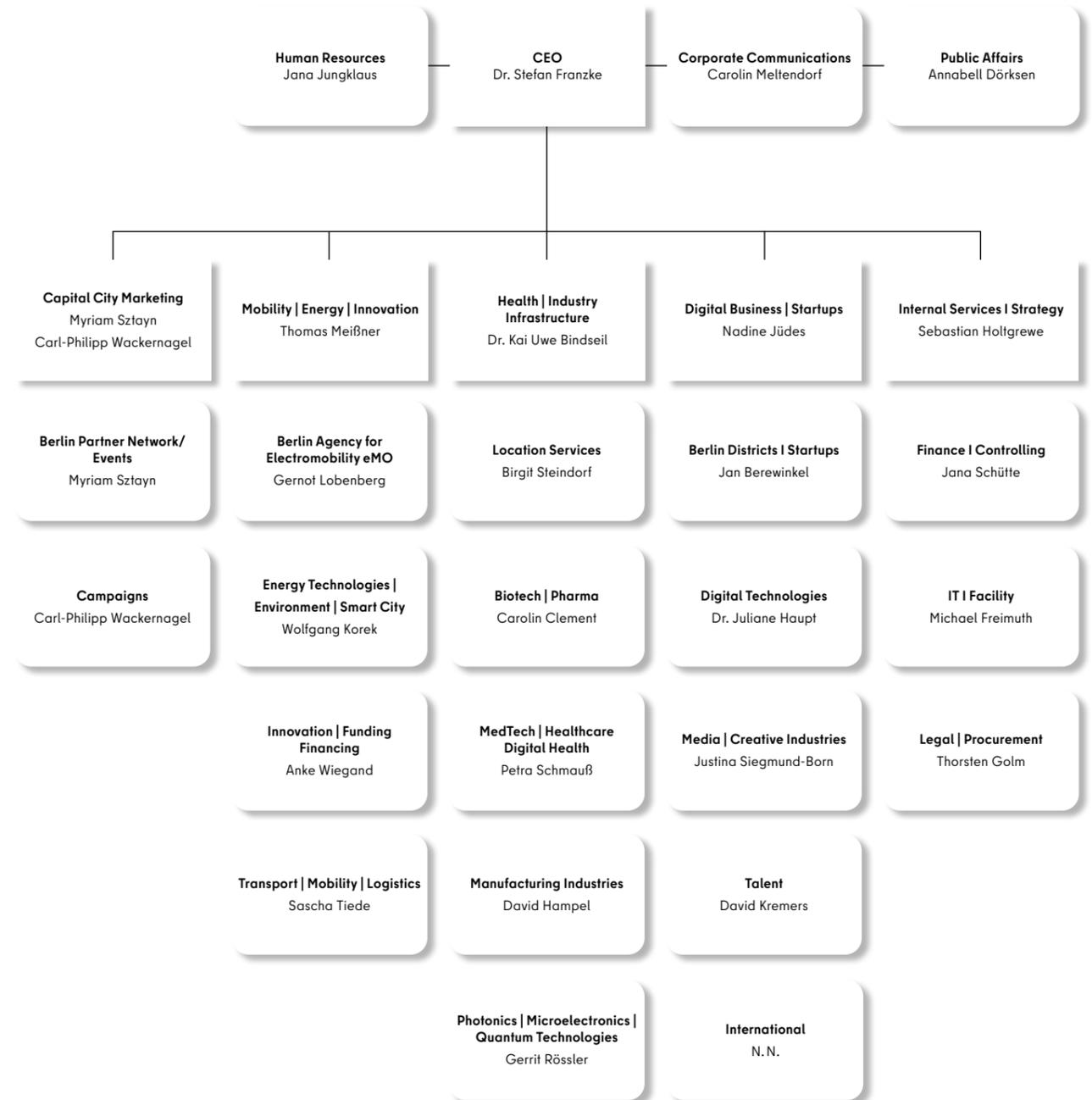
Birgit Kahland
Head of City Partnership Berlin, BEW
Berliner Energie und Wärme AG

Kathrin Kanzler-Tullio
Head of Division IV A – Real Estate and
Future Locations, Berlin Senate Depart-
ment for Economic Affairs, Energy and
Public Enterprises

Dr. Dietmar Müller-Boruttau
Attorney and Partner, ADVANT Beiten

Benjamin Schmidt
Branch Manager Berlin-Brandenburg,
GOLDBECK Nordost GmbH

AROUND 200 PEOPLE WORK FOR INNOVATION AND GROWTH IN BERLIN	BERLIN PARTNER for Business and Technology	BERLIN	
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Acting Executive Chairman: Carsten Jung | Authorised Officer: Dr. Kai Uwe Bindseil, Sebastian Holtgrewe, Jana Jungklaus
Works Council Chairman: Michael Stamm | Public Affairs: Annabell Dörksen | Data Protection Officer: Sascha Tiede
Compliance Officer: Jana Jungklaus, Rolf Seliger | Internal Audit: Stefanie Kühnemann | Sustainability Officer: Mareike Niemann, Dr. Diana Woelke

Stand: 1. Januar 2026

BERLIN PARTNER
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Clarification, p. 14 - Secured Jobs: This refers to permanent positions with social security coverage that companies ultimately retained – despite earlier plans or considerations to cut them – thanks to completed projects. It also includes roles that were restructured as part of broader transformation efforts, such as digitalization, the energy transition, or changes in mobility.)

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**Berlin Partner for Business and
Technology GmbH**

in association with Partner für Berlin Holding
Gesellschaft für Hauptstadt-Marketing mbH

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