



# Press Release

**Partner for Berlin Holding**

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Standing Together for a Respectful Berlin

## Five Years of Berlin Takes a Stand Against Antisemitism

Five years after its launch, the [Berlin Against Antisemitism](#) initiative is expanding its reach and strengthening its network. To mark the anniversary, Partner für Berlin is bringing additional networks, institutions, business organizations, and industry associations into the campaign. The aim is to make its message – against antisemitism and in support of a respectful, open and inclusive Berlin – even more visible, engage new stakeholders, and broaden its impact through closer collaboration and coordinated communications.

Together with around 16 additional partners – including DEHOGA, the Berlin Chamber of Crafts, the Berlin Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IHK Berlin), the Confederation of Business Associations in Berlin and Brandenburg (UVB), visitBerlin, medianet, and the Berlin Association of Business and Industry (VBKI) – the initiative seeks to deepen long-term cooperation, advance concrete actions, and amplify a shared message against antisemitism in the German capital.

The next chapter of the initiative focuses on two key priorities. The first is a joint event designed to showcase the growing coalition of partners from the business community, associations, institutions,



and civic networks, while bringing together representatives from politics, civil society, and Jewish communities to encourage dialogue and the exchange of perspectives. The second is the expansion of the existing testimonial campaign, adding new voices from the business sector and extending its reach through the communication channels of participating partners to engage a wider audience.

### **A strong signal on the initiative's fifth anniversary**

The event, titled “Five Years of ‘Berlin Against Antisemitism’ – Standing Together for a Respectful Berlin,” will take place on June 16, 2026, and is intended as a powerful and visible expression of shared commitment. Around 200 guests from the business community, civil society, Jewish organizations, and the political sphere will come together to take a public stance against antisemitism in Berlin.

Joe Kaeser, chair of the supervisory boards of Siemens Energy and Daimler Truck, has been invited to deliver the keynote address. For decades, he has spoken out publicly and consistently against antisemitism and social exclusion, making him a fitting voice for the occasion. His participation underscores the significance of the event.

**Joe Kaeser, Chair of the Supervisory Boards of Siemens Energy and Daimler Truck:** “Antisemitism is once again gaining ground in Germany. It is fueled by rising nationalism and extremism, and – this must also be acknowledged – by concerns over actions taken by Israel in the region, particularly in the West Bank. Social media has further accelerated the spread of hostility and prejudice. People may disagree with decisions made by the Israeli government. But that can never justify hostility toward Jewish people or threats against Jewish institutions here in Germany. We must be unequivocal in rejecting antisemitism in all its forms. Businesses also have a responsibility to speak out and take a clear stand. The protection of Jewish life in Germany and recognition of Israel’s right to exist are not matters for debate, they are fundamental principles that must be upheld.

**Dr. Stefan Franzke, CEO of Partner für Berlin:** “Five years after the launch of the Berlin Against Antisemitism initiative, one thing is clear: taking a stand is not a one-time gesture, it is an ongoing responsibility. Few cities embody freedom, diversity and openness as strongly as Berlin, while also carrying a unique historical responsibility. Against this backdrop, we believe it is essential to act together and send a clear message. Antisemitism, hate and exclusion have no place in Berlin. By bringing additional partners into the initiative, we aim to strengthen that message further and reaffirm our commitment to a respectful, diverse and open city where Jewish people feel safe and at home.”

The Berlin Against Antisemitism initiative was launched in early 2021 by the Berlin Partner network in collaboration with leaders from business, academia and public life. Since then, it has championed a culture of respect and taken a clear stand against antisemitism in all its forms. As the initiative marks its fifth anniversary, it is broadening its reach by bringing new partners into the fold and strengthening collaboration across sectors. In doing so, it is reaffirming its commitment to a Berlin that not only celebrates diversity, but actively safeguards it.

**Partner für Berlin Gesellschaft für Hauptstadt-Marketing mbH**

is a public-private partnership supported by the State of Berlin and approximately 250 companies committed to promoting the German capital. Together with its affiliated company, Berlin Partner for Business and Technology, Partner für Berlin is also responsible for marketing Berlin internationally and strengthening the city's profile around the world. [www.berlin-partner.de](http://www.berlin-partner.de)