

Members of the Bavarian State Parliament's Children's Commission



**Tanja Schorer-Dremel, CSU
Chairwoman**

„I am committed to ensuring that children have a voice in politics, that their rights and interests are protected and that they have a say.“



**Johannes Becher, ALLIANCE 90/THE
GREENS | Vice Chairman**

„Children are the future! Their right to the best education from an early age and participation in all matters is therefore essential. Politicians must finally take the interests of children seriously.“



Gabi Schmidt, FREIE WÄHLER

„I am committed to ensuring that all children can belong, whether rich or poor, with or without disabilities. Because all children deserve a fair chance.“



Katrin Ebner-Steiner, AfD

„For me, the focus is on children growing up healthy and free of ideology. Children should develop their talents and be able to think for themselves.“



Doris Rauscher, SPD

„I want good starting opportunities and real participation for all children and young people in Bavaria. They should exercise their rights comprehensively and be able to experience a carefree childhood!“

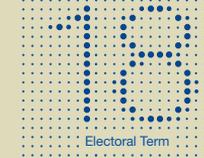


Julika Sandt, FDP

„On average, a child laughs 400 times a day. To ensure that no child stops laughing, we must protect the basic rights of children: health, integrity and education. This includes all children being strengthened and encouraged as personalities at an early age.“

The Bavarian State Parliament's Children's Commission's Meetings

The meetings usually take place on Thursdays in sitting weeks with a plenary session on Tuesday. They are convened and chaired by the chairwoman. Besides the commission members and head of the commission office, state government representatives responsible for the specific agenda items also attend. The Bavarian State Parliament's shorthand writers' service documents the meetings.



The Bavarian State Parliament's Children's Commission

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**Bayerischer
Landtag**

What is the Children's Commission?

The commission to promote children's interests in the Bavarian State Parliament (Kinderkommission), in short „KiKo“, is an independent Bavarian State Parliament commission. It was appointed for the entire duration of the 18th electoral term with the Bavarian State Parliament's decision on 12 November 2019 and consists of 6 members of Parliament in total: CSU, ALLIANCE 90/THE GREENS, FREE VOTERS, AfD, SPD and FDP provide one member each.



The Bavarian State Parliament's Children's Commission:
Katrin Ebner-Steiner, AfD | Doris Rauscher, SPD | Gabi Schmidt, FREIE WÄHLER | Tanja Schorer-Dremel, CSU (Chairwoman) | Johannes Becher, BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN (Vice Chairman) | Julika Sandt, FDP

The chairwoman is the MP Tanja-Schorer-Dremel, the vice chairman is the MP Johannes Becher. The Bavarian State Parliament is, alongside the German Bundestag, the only parliament in Germany to have a Children's Commission. The Children's Commission was appointed during the 16th electoral term (2008 to 2013) for the first time.

Besides the equal representation regardless of proportional strength, the Children's Commission has several other special features compared to the Bavarian State Parliament's committees and other bodies: for example, a three quarters majority vote is required for decisions, not just a majority „yes“ or „no“ vote. The Bavarian State Parliament wants to deliberately send out a message with this: in favour of solidarity among party and parliamentary groups for the sake of our children.

What are the Children's Commission's duties?

„Children are the most valuable source of a people. They shall be entitled to develop into self-determined and responsible persons.“ That is the wording in Art. 125 Section 1 of the Constitution of the Free State of Bavaria. These sentences mean a duty and obligation at the same time for politics. The state must do everything to respect, protect and develop children because society's future lies in its children.

As a result, children's policy is a cross-cutting issue. There is hardly any political topic that children are not affected by in some way. Especially in light of the challenges that we are facing as a consequence of demographic development, it is of crucial importance to focus on children's interests and those of young people in particular. The Bavarian State Parliament wants to contribute to this with the Children's Commission.

The Children's Commission shall intervene and also get involved in individual cases as an advocate for children and young people to guarantee suitable framework conditions for the children and young people's living in our country.

The Children's Commission sees itself as a contact for any families, children and young people and all institutions and organisations that are committed to protecting their interests. At the same time, it sees its duty as being to raise public awareness for children and young people's issues and needs and to give them a parliamentary vote. This includes constantly keeping an eye on political decisions and what impact these decisions have on children and young people. The Children's Commission also has the duty here of articulating the interests of children and young people in time and helping them assert them in political processes as far as reasonably possible – acting as a seismograph and catalyst at the same time.

What does the Children's Commission's work focus on?

During this electoral term the Children's Commission's work will focus on:

- Children's rights
- Child protection
- Child welfare
- Children and poverty
- Children and education
- Children's health
- Children and their participation rights
- Inclusion – children and disability
- Children and media literacy