

## German Politics Are An Important Aspect Of Germany

German politics covers every aspect of German living. As you learn important facts about this most fascinating country, you can live better and smarter.

One aspect of German politics is how the country is divided. The Federal Republic of Germany is divided into [sixteen states](#). Most frequently, the former area of [East Germany](#) is referred to as the new states (*neue Länder*) and the [western part](#) as the old states (*alte Länder*).

The [Federal Chancellor](#) is the head of government in Germany, which is equivalent to Prime Minister in parliamentary government systems. The first female German Chancellor (Angela Merkel) was elected in 2005.

The labor class in Germany is cared for by [German employment law](#). This law maintains good relations between employers and their staff by providing contracts about salary, benefits and vacations, etc, as well as establishing other rates and rules.

The [German government](#) consists of a federal parliamentary representative democratic republic, with the German Chancellor the head. (We also have a President, but his or her role is more of representative nature.) Executive power is exercised by this government, while legislative power is exercised by the government and the parliament.

When you look into German politics, you'll come upon the importance of import and export within the country. Imports don't have the high totals of exports in Germany, but they still totaled as much as €452 billion in 2003. With the further growth over the next years, it still can't outdo the export business.

Exports are big in Germany, accounting for billions upon billions of dollars. Some of the main exports include vehicles, chemicals, machinery and [beer](#).

In reviewing German politics, it is often important to look into the [education system](#). The federal government plays a minor role in relation to each individual state. The grading system is in numerical value, with a one being high. School attendance is required for 10 or 9 years (depending on the federal state).

A passport is an important part of life for the person who loves to travel. German nationals are issued one for international travel, and it is recognized by most EU authorities as identification. They are valid for ten years; although, with less formalities, one can get a temporary passport valid for one year, too.

If you are a resident outside of Europe, you will need to apply for a [visa to Germany](#) if you want to study or work here. If you are coming and planning a visit for more than 90 days, you will also need

a visa.

Grab a [German newspaper](#) to study up on the current German politics and news of the day. The largest newsweekly in Germany is *Spiegel*. For official news out of the federal government, check out [Bundesregierung Deutschland](#).

This country is a romantic place to tie the knot. If you want to be [married in Germany](#), you will need to show ID, like your passport and a copy of your birth certificate. You'll also need a Certificate of Free Status, or a confirmation from your embassy that says you are eligible. Get an appointment with the Embassy in your home country or in Germany to find out all the requirements.

The [German military](#) is not much different from that of other countries throughout the world. Germany has an army, air force and navy. The *Luftwaffe* or German Air Force is currently under a revision based on current and future needs.

German politics covers a wide gamut. Studying up on Germany simply requires a bit of research and reading. Once you are familiar with this most diversified country, you'll find it enhances your enjoyment of Germany.