

## COMMENT

## We are smart Germany

Despite significant challenges, Germany and the European Union find themselves in a stable social situation and, for the largest part, resistant to undermining by anti-democratic political actors and their henchmen.

Their appearances are already harming us, and this effect is increasing every day. Assets, especially those in the anti democrats and their henchmen's stronghold, are being destroyed, and warnings issued regarding travel to Germany are on the increase; students from abroad are deciding to stay away, foreign investors will avoid Germany, and so on and so forth. These will be just some of the consequences we will all be facing if the anti democrats, who have declared an "ethnically pure racial corpus" to be a political goal that is to be attained by using all legal and illegal means, continue to gain power and influence. Downplaying these dangerous anti-democratic forces is fatal. We should all take action to defend our social market economy, protect both our tangible and intangible assets from loss, and endeavour to attract foreign talents to come and study in our country. We need skilled immigrants. By means of an example, I would like to present two activities.

### 1. We take the Canadian immigration policy as a role model.

Toronto subway. Monday evening. Commuter traffic. A wagon full of people. "Looking into the passengers' faces, you'll see the world," says Toronto's city councillor, Kristin Wong Tan. She is the daughter of Chinese immigrants. 51 per cent of the urban population in Canada's economic metropolis Toronto are immigrants<sup>2</sup>. In Canada, immigration has nothing to do with being a "do-gooder" and altruist. The Canadian scoring system assesses applicants who are willing to immigrate by looking at their language qualification, work experience, education and age. For immigration purposes, it requires that at least 67 out of 100 points are achieved. In courses, immigrants are taught how to communicate in English and French in a qualified manner and how to apply for a job. Many immigrants start at the bottom of the ladder and work their way up. There is no complaining about an immigrant not immediately getting a coveted job. Hard work, without any complaining, is one of the Canadian virtues that immigrants must respect in order to become integrated in the



**Prof Dr Ulrike Detmers, President of the Association of Large German Bakeries**

<sup>1</sup> Dieter Oberndörfer, one of the first migration researchers in Germany.

<sup>2</sup> Deutschlandfunk Culture, 30.07.2015, by Georg Schwerte.

immigration country. The real success stories usually start with the children of the immigrants. Then "I love Canada" becomes the credo.

When it comes to immigration, Germany and Europe should also move away from the "do-gooder" approach and move ahead with immigrants who are useful to our democratic meritocracy. Utilitarianism also has its positive aspects.

Anyone who spurns our values such as diligence and ambition, gender equality, co-determination and participation, peace and freedom is not welcome here and should be expelled from the country.

As employers, though, we must also contribute our part in giving immigrants the opportunity to fully utilise their potential. We need to guide them in a target-oriented manner. The introductory training period must be completed without reservations. Work regulations need to be observed. Random checks of work results are laborious, but *conditio sine qua non* is essential, as is taking disciplinary action when someone steps out of line.

## **2. We increase the performance power of private employment agencies in the placement of immigrants.**

It's an obvious truth that profit motivates. And thus pushing commercial private employment agencies alongside state employment agencies makes sense. Strict admission and control criteria, as in the case of commercial employment agencies, would place private employment agencies under state supervision. Good private employment agencies have what it takes to make the smallest possible groups of immigrants who are not yet ready for the German labour market fit for jobs. This would relieve the burden on the companies. They would be given a workforce that could be deployed in the short term and whose performance contribution could fill gaps in staffing.

Speaking of: we must prepare the immigrants' next generation for the sentence: "I love Germany. I am European."

#wirsinddassmartedeutschland (we are smart Germany) will succeed in mastering the future challenges with intelligent immigration and labour placement policies in a stronger and more resilient manner.

**Get involved! We can do it.**

**Prof Dr Ulrike Detmers,**

*President of the Association of Large German Bakeries*