

## Germany Section

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Last Section elections: Autumn 2022

Next Section elections: Autumn 2024 (in preparation)

Vice-Chair usually becomes the next chair. Current chair will terminate 2<sup>nd</sup> term end of 2024 and therefore step down.

Section Excom (33 officers + chapter chairs + student branch chairs) meets 6 times per year.

Many new members in the Section Excom. New chair started in 2021, and many officer positions were changed or newly created.

### Students

Student branches exist in

- Aachen
- Bielefeld
- Chemnitz
- Darmstadt
- Duisburg-Essen
- Hamburg
- Hannover
- Ilmenau
- Karlsruhe
- Magdeburg
- München
- Passau
- Regensburg.

### Affinity Groups

YP, WiE, SIGHT, Milestone Program, LM affinity group.

LM affinity group was dissolved in 2020 due to inactivity. Now the new LM affinity group counts 35 members which meet every 8 weeks to talk, network, have an invited scientific presentation and discuss activities. It received the “Regional Life Member Affinity Group Achievement Award 2022”.

SIGHT is currently coordinating the (industrial) construction of several devices given away for free to homeless people in Germany.

### Chapters

Chapters of 27 societies exist in Germany. Two student chapters.

Some chapter chairs held their positions for many years now. The new Germany Section chapter coordinator whacked the bush and brought many of those rather inactive chapters to have elections and elect new chairs.

Since 2021 all chapter activities are being reported to the Section (this was not the case before) in order to provide a central information point for members and/or possible new members.

### Industry

Industry relations were a bit dormant until 2020. Now the position is filled by four volunteers covering different regions in Germany and at the same time different industrial sectors. Several activities together with German key industry were being performed.

### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Germany Section has a DEI officer, who is in contact with other sections’ DEI officers.

### Activities since the last report

- Hosted 60-year-celebration of Germany Section in Berlin with about 130 members (due to limited space) guests from R8. Festivities encompassed a public Excom meeting with possibility to participate and ask questions, a

stratosphere balloon start, and the main celebration in the German parliament building with a famous keynote speaker and prizes being awarded.

- Hosted a conference on education (German Education Conference, GECON 2023) in Berlin, fully sponsored by the section.
- Next (3<sup>rd</sup>) GECon will take place in August 2024 in Munich, GECon 2025 is in preparation and is currently planned to take place in Leipzig.
- Created next milestone plaque proposal
- New Germany section web site design and content.
- Triggered several chapter election processes
- Running another “become a senior member” activity throughout the section; this has been very successful in the last two years.

#### **Planned activities**

The main idea is to bring a fresh impetus to the Section. It started with replacing inactive or inefficient Section officers and continues with many new activities in the different subgroups (industry relations, university relations, student activities, history program, educational activities on different levels, newly founded newsletter, currently reworking web page design and content, etc.)

Planning an annual gathering where all section members will be invited in person.

#### **How Region 8 can be of help to your Section, members, and activities**

None come to mind. We try to focus on Germany Section for now and will bring forward any questions or requests in due time.

#### **Any other issues of interest**

n/a