

# Parliamentary Party AfD

"As things now stand, our membership in NATO and an active role Germany's in the OSCE are central elements of our Security Strategy. NATO must however become again a purely defensive alliance. The AfD is engaged to to limit the foreign deployment of NATO on the territory of its Member States."

Foreign and Security policy statement, AfD 2021 Elections Program (p. 64)

## **Key Facts**

**Leaders in the 2021 Federal Election:** The duo leading the AfD in the upcoming Federal Parliamentary Elections are <u>Tino Chrupalla</u>, and <u>Dr. Alice Weidel</u>, both members of the Bundestag since 2017.

**Ideology:** The AfD has restrictive policies on immigration, conservative social policies and an anti-Establishment orientation. Commentators claim that it gives every sign of practicing a form a "national-authoritarian populism".

## History

**Founded:** The AfD was founded in 2013 as a protest movement against the Euro-crisis rescue packages negotiated by the EU. It entered Parliament in 2017.

#### **Key Politicians:**

- <u>Dr. Alexander Gauland</u>: Founding Father of the AfD after a 40-year membership in the CDU. He is currently the Honorary Chairperson of the party and, since 2017, Chairperson of the AfD Parliamentary party.
- <u>Prof. Dr. Jorg Meuthe</u>n: Member of the AfD since 2013 and former Chairperson of the Parliamentary party in Land Badn-Wurttemberg, he member of the European Parliament since 2018 and Chairperson of the AfD's EP delegation.

## **Parliamentary Party**

- **Results in the 2017 Federal Elections**: Obtained 12.6 % of votes cast. Third largest party in the German Parliament, with 94 out of 709 seats.
- The AfD has a <u>Defence Working Group</u> whose Spokesperson is <u>Rudiger</u> Lucassen.
- The defence of Germany is considered the primary task of the German Army. Foreign deployments must meet strict criteria, must be legal and must be exclusively in the interest of the country and its citizens.

### **Policies**

- Primacy of nations' right to self-determination under the UN Charter, not to be hollowed out by the actions of international organizations.
- Germany must reach strategy autonomy within a European framework.
- A stable and peaceful European order requires cooperation with both the USA and Russia.
- Germany must seek a permanent seat in the UN Security Council.
- NATO must become again a purely defensive alliance and limit its deployments to the territories of its Member States.
- Germany should fully take part In China's 'One Belt, One Road' project, on the basis of quality of rights and fairness.
- The German military is in a "desolate situation' and must be thoroughly reformed. Responsibility must rest in the hands of those responsible to achieve mission success.
- The AfDs demand the reinstatement of the military conscription service in Germany.

(Foreign and security policy statement, AfD 2021 Elections Program, pp. 62-72).

## **Take-Away Quote:**

"The USA is Germany's most powerful Alliance partner. The guiding concept of the relations between our countries must be the equality of rights of the two partners. Sanction measures applied by the USA against Germany cannot be tolerated. In accord with US demands for a fair division of the burdens and with European efforts for its words to carry more weight in NATO, it is only consequent and in the interests of Germany to reinforce NATO's European pillar".

Foreign and security statement, AFD 2021 Elections Program, p. 64).