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**Professor Heribert Hirte
(CDU/CSU)**

Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union

University professor

Born on 31 March 1958 in Cologne; Roman Catholic; married; two children.

Attended a Catholic elementary school in Gartenstadt Nord, Cologne from 1964 to 1967; attended Dreikönigsgymnasium academic secondary school in Cologne from 1967 to 1976; completed compulsory military service with the air force (Special Air Mission Wing, Cologne-Wahn) from 1976 to 1977; studied law at the University of Cologne and the University of Lausanne from 1977 to 1982; earned PhD at the University of Cologne in 1985; passed second state examination in law in 1987 (higher regional court of Cologne) in 1987; obtained Master of Laws (LLM) at the University of California, Berkeley from 1988 to 1989; completed *Habilitation* (qualification to teach at professorial level) at the University of Cologne in 1994.

Research assistant at the Institute for Employment and Business Law at the University of Cologne from 1988 to 1993; professor of German and European civil and business law at Friedrich Schiller University of Jena from 1993 to 2000; managing director of the Institute for Trade, Shipping and Business Law (SHSW) at the University of Hamburg since 2000; Professor at the Centre Universitaire de Luxembourg from 1999 to 2004; visiting professor at Doshisha University in Kyoto and at the Korea University in Seoul in 2001. Member of *Collegio dei docenti del Dottorato di ricerca in Diritto dell'Impresa* of Bocconi University in Milan since 2003; visiting professor at Bocconi University in Milan from 2006 to 2008; spent time carrying out research in the School of Law at Fordham University in New York in 2011.

Substitute member of the Thuringia constitutional court from 1995 to 2000; member of the executive committee of the German-American Lawyers Association (DAJV) since 1994 and deputy chairman since March 1999; member of the standing committee of the German Law Faculties Association (DJFT) since 2004 and deputy chairman since 2008; member of the board of directors of the European Law Faculties Association (ELFA) from 2005 to 2009, vice president from 2006 to 2007 and president from 2007 to 2008;

member of the Insolvency and Creditors Rights Task Force of the World Bank in Washington D.C. since 2009.

Involvement in local politics from 1974 to 1986: chairman of the local branch of the *Junge Union* (youth section of the CDU) and deputy chairman of the Weiden-Lövenich local branch of the CDU for several years; member of the Association of Christian Democratic Legal Professionals in North Rhine Westphalia (LACDJ NRW) since 2002; member of the Federal Association of Christian Democratic Legal Professionals since 2004, member of its executive committee since 2005; candidate on the *Land* list in the European parliamentary elections in 2009; deputy chairman of the Cologne-Sürth local branch of the CDU since 2009, chairman since 2012; chairman of the executive committee of the Cologne-Rodenkirchen district branch of the CDU since 2010; executive committee of the Cologne county branch of the CDU since 2012; member of the executive committees of the Cologne branch and the Mittelrhein district branch of the Small and Medium Enterprises and Business Organisation of the CDU/CSU (MIT) since 2009.

Member of the German Bundestag since 2013. Since February 2014, Professor Hirte has been serving as chairman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group's St Stephen's Group, which promotes religious tolerance and religious freedom and works to end the persecution of Christians.

Membership of Bundestag bodies and parliamentary posts

Member

- Committee on Legal Affairs and Consumer Protection
- Committee on the Affairs of the European Union
- Subcommittee on Legal Affairs related to the European Union

Substitute member

- Finance Committee