

## Curriculum vitae:

# Dr Petra Bahr

State Secretary



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## Personal details

- Born in Lüdenscheid on 29 April 1966
- Married, one son, Evangelical-Lutheran
- Member of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU)

## Education and professional career

- 1985: Higher education entrance qualification (Abitur), Bergstadtgymnasium, Lüdenscheid
- 1985–1989: Studied journalism/trained as a journalist at the Institute for journalism at Dortmund University
- 1989–1996: Studied theology and philosophy in Münster, Bochum and Jerusalem, first theological exam (scholarship holder of the Protestant Academic Foundation (Evangelisches Studienwerk Villigst e. V.))
- 1996–1999: Doctoral scholarship from the Protestant Academic Foundation (Evangelisches Studienwerk Villigst e. V.)
- 1999–2006: Head of the research field “Law, ethics, politics” at the Research Institute of the Protestant Study Community (Forschungsstätte der Evangelischen Studiengemeinschaft, FEST) in Heidelberg
- 2002: Doctorate at the University of Basel
- 2007–2013: First Commissioner for Cultural Affairs of the Council of the Protestant Church in Germany (EKD - Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland) in Berlin, establishment of the Cultural Affairs Office (Kulturbüro) of the EKD in Berlin, serving a part-time curacy at the Chapel of Reconciliation (Kapelle der Versöhnung)
- 2009: Second theological exam and ordination
- Since 2011: Eisenhower Fellow
- 2014–2016: Head of the Politics and Consulting Division of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Berlin
- Since 2017: Regional bishop of the Evangelical-Lutheran regional church of Hanover
- 2020–2025: Member of the German Ethics Council
- Since 2025: State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth

## Voluntary work

### Selected voluntary activities:

- Until 2019: Member of the Board of Trustees of the Documentation Centre for Displacement, Expulsion, Reconciliation
- 2019–2023: Member of the Broadcasting Council of Norddeutscher Rundfunk (northern German broadcasting corporation, NDR)
- Until 2022: Board member of “Stiftung Neue Verantwortung” (now: interface), a non-profit organisation and think tank dealing with political and social questions related to new technologies
- Member of the Board of Trustees of the Freudenberg Foundation, an independent civil-society organisation dealing with education and peaceful co-existence
- Member of the Board of Trustees of the “Wertekommission – Initiative Werte Bewusste Führung e. V.”, an initiative that seeks to raise awareness among executives in Germany that values can create value
- Member of the Board of Trustees of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation
- Member of the Board of Trustees of Villa Seligmann in Hanover

## Selected publications

- Petra Bahr (2018): *Wie viel Religion verträgt die Gesellschaft? (How much religion can society bear?)* Berlin: NP & I.
- Petra Bahr (2017): *Mein Abendland. Eine Reise zu den kulturellen und religiösen Ursprüngen unserer Gesellschaft. (My Occident. A journey to the cultural and religious origins of our society)* Hamburg: Kreuz.
- Petra Bahr, Hans Michael Heinig (2006): *Menschenwürde in der säkularen Verfassungsordnung. Rechtswissenschaftliche und theologische Perspektiven. (Human dignity in the secular constitutional order. Legal and theological perspectives.)* Tübingen: Mohr-Siebeck.