

Working Group "European Affairs"

The Bavarian Journalist Union (BJV) is one of the first federal unions that has joined the 1994 decision of the nation-wide German Journalist Union to set up a Committee for European Affairs. A BJV Working Group for "European Affairs" has played an active part in three areas:

- Development of European mass media policy particularly in the fields of protection of intellectual property and transition toward a global information society.
- Influence of European developments on national media laws.
- Maintenance of contacts with foreign journalist organizations.

A number of initiatives have been taken in these fields:

The BJV has played a substantial role in the establishment of a group of copyright experts by the German Journalist Union. The BJV supports the group's efforts in enforcing journalists' interests through contacts with Bavarian, federal German and European politicians, as well as with various important Bavarian institutions. The BJV has been making great efforts to attract its members' attention to European affairs and media laws through various publications and lectures (for details see section "Documents"). The most important initiative in foreign contacts has been the BJV's participation in the European Union's Phare Program for journalists' training in Slovenia. The BJV is also maintaining contacts with the Journalist Union of the Czech Republic and is supporting journalists' training in the Ukraine.

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