



Reminder: HU in Dialogue - Perspectives for Postdocs at the HU on 9 December

On Thursday, 9 December, the Berlin Higher Education Act (BerlHG), Section 110 and career prospects for postdocs will be the focus of a digital panel discussion at HU. Representatives of junior researchers, professors and university management will talk to each other about the topic. HU employees are invited to contribute their positions.

The sometimes precarious working situation of young academics is not new. It has been addressed time and again, and recommendations by the German Council of Science and Humanities have been available since 2014. The campaign #IchbinHanna focused on the problem once again in the summer of 2021. The new Berlin Higher Education Act (BerlHG) provides for a binding option for postdocs to be granted a fixed term in budget positions. The Berlin university administrations do not see any adequate room for manoeuvre in this, while the representatives of the academic mid-level faculty are delighted. The range of arguments is wide and will continue to preoccupy the universities and the new Berlin government, in which Bündnis 90/Die Grünen will be responsible for the science department, in the new year.

The event will discuss the following questions, among others:

- What will happen to the issue in 2022?
- What are the paths along which solutions can be found?
- What could these solutions look like?

At a glance

Time: 9 December, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Place: [Zoom](#)

Moderation: Hans-Christoph Keller, Head of Communication and Media Unit

The event is organised by the Department of Communication, Marketing, Event Management (VIII).

Panel guests



Jule Specht

Psychology professor and higher education expert

„Creating perspectives for academics with fixed-term contracts requires modernising the personnel structure of the university as a whole. This requires an intensive exchange across status groups and institutes and co-operation between politics and the university.“



Ludwig Kronthaler

Vice-President for Budget, Personnel and Technology

„Talent promotion is a tough competition that must remain. More permanent positions in the science system are always to be welcomed in principle, but must not lead to a reduction in sustainable qualification opportunities. This is not possible without substantial additional funding.“



Constanze Baum

Literature scholar

„We should seize the opportunity and rethink good work in teaching and research together now. Universities that succeed in offering academic continuity and good working conditions for employees will be able to perform and compete in the long term. Prospects for tenure reductions in the academic mid-level staff strengthen such a path to good and sustainable science and act as a model for future generations.“



Stefan Grundmann

Law Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Law

„In a democratic society based on the rule of law, it is problematic to design the law-making process in such a way that it can no longer be considered participatory and discourse-based and that it also ignores the constitutional order - and particularly problematic if the content of the changes is epoch-making. In terms of content, it is problematic to provide a one-size-fits-all solution for a wide variety of situations without having obtained differentiated information on them and to ignore fundamental differences due to a lack of information. A mandatory legal uniform solution adopted in the summer recess is confronted with these problems.“

Employees can contribute & comment

The event will take place in a fishbowl format: Participants can join the panel virtually and present their opinion on the topic or ask the panelists a question. In advance, there is also the possibility to leave your own position, suggestions and wishes for the event in the comments column on the intranet.

[Go on the intranet to comment](#)



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Photo: Matthias Heyde

Portrait Jule Specht: Jens Gyarmaty

Portrait Constanze Baum: private

Portrait Ludwig Kronthaler: Matthias Heyde

Portrait Stefan Grundmann: private

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