

# Full version

## 1. Introduction: Why This Report Matters

The 2025 German federal election is a crucial moment for the country—and for you as a voter. The decisions made on February 23 will shape Germany’s economy, migration policies, social benefits, and foreign relations for years to come. But with so many parties making different promises, how do you decide who truly represents your interests?

For Russian-speaking voters in Germany, the election is especially important. Many in our community follow news from both German and Russian sources, often encountering different narratives and interpretations of political events. Some parties appeal to Russian-speaking voters directly, while others take strong positions on issues that may affect them—such as migration, social benefits, and relations with Russia.

This report is designed to help you navigate the key issues and make an informed decision. We have analyzed the election programs of all major German parties, breaking them down into **clear, practical comparisons**. We also go beyond the surface, identifying **propaganda techniques, manipulative rhetoric, and empty promises**—helping you separate **facts from emotional appeals**.

### How We Conducted the Analysis

Our team examined the official election programs of all major parties. We used AI-driven tools to detect common themes, policy differences, and manipulative techniques. We also rated parties on **how much they rely on propaganda versus concrete policy proposals**.

### What You Will Learn

- **Which parties align with your values and priorities?**
- **What economic, migration, and social policies each party proposes?**
- **Which parties rely on fear-mongering, manipulation, or vague promises?**
- **How to critically evaluate political messages and avoid misinformation?**

Our goal is not to tell you **who to vote for**, but to give you the tools to **think critically and make a confident, informed decision**.

### 2.1. Economy and Taxes

**Big question:** *Who will make life more affordable?*

For many Russian-speaking voters in Germany, **economic stability, wages, taxes, and the cost of living** are top concerns. Some parties promise **lower taxes** and fewer regulations for businesses, while others advocate for **higher taxes on the wealthy** to fund social programs. Here’s where they stand:

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## ◆ Lower Taxes & Pro-Business Approach

### → Partei 3 & Partei 1

- **Cutting income and corporate taxes** to encourage economic growth.
- **Eliminating “unnecessary” environmental and EU regulations** to reduce costs for businesses.
- **Fewer social benefits** and lower government spending.
- **Key promise:** "Germany needs to reward hard work, not punish it with high taxes."

💡 *What it means for you:* If you are a **business owner, high-income professional, or investor**, this approach could mean **lower taxes**. However, it may lead to **reduced social benefits and public services**, affecting those who rely on them.

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## ◆ Moderate Taxation & Balanced Investment

### → Partei 4 & Partei 7

- **Gradual tax relief** for middle-class families and small businesses.
- **State-led investment in infrastructure, digitalization, and clean energy** to stimulate growth.
- **Social benefits remain, but with efficiency reforms.**
- **Key promise:** "Economic growth and social security must go hand in hand."

💡 *What it means for you:* If you are a **middle-class worker or entrepreneur**, this approach could provide **stable public services** while avoiding extreme taxation. However, government spending on infrastructure may lead to **higher national debt** in the long term.

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## ◆ Higher Taxes on the Wealthy & Social Investments

### → Partei 5 & Partei 6

- **Tax the rich and large corporations** to fund social programs.
- **Increase public sector jobs and social spending** on housing, healthcare, and pensions.
- **Introduce new wealth taxes** to reduce inequality.
- **Key promise:** "A fair economy means taxing those who can afford it."

💡 *What it means for you:* If you rely on **government support, pensions, or rent-controlled housing**, this approach could mean **better services**. However, **higher taxes on businesses** could lead to **job cuts or slower wage growth**.

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## ◆ Mixed Approach: Debt Brake Reform & State Investment

## → Partei 2

- **More state investment in infrastructure and industry** but within a reformed "debt brake" rule.
- **Lower taxes on small businesses**, but keep taxation on the wealthy.
- **Higher minimum wage & pension reform** to help workers.
- **Key promise:** "Germany must invest in its future without relying on endless debt."

💡 *What it means for you:* This approach tries to **balance growth with social fairness**, but **higher government spending may still lead to inflation and debt concerns**.

### ♦ Key Takeaway: What's at Stake?

Policy	Lower Taxes (P3, P1)	Balanced (P4, P7)	Tax the Rich (P5, P6)	Mixed Approach (P2)
<b>Corporate Taxes</b>	▼ Lower	⚖️ Moderate	▲ Higher	⚖️ Moderate
<b>Social Benefits</b>	▼ Reduce	⚖️ Maintain	▲ Expand	▲ Expand
<b>State Investment</b>	▼ Reduce	▲ Increase	▲ High	▲ High
<b>National Debt</b>	▼ Decrease	⚖️ Balanced	▲ Likely Increase	▲ Likely Increase
<b>Best for:</b>	Businesses, investors	Middle-class workers	Low-income families, retirees	Mixed-income workers

💡 **The main choice is between:**

- ✓ **Lower taxes and fewer social programs** (*better for businesses & high earners*)
- ✓ **Higher taxes on the wealthy and stronger state support** (*better for social benefits & public services*)

Which one aligns with **your** financial priorities?

## 2.2. Energy and Climate

**Big question:** *Will your electricity bill go down or up?*

Energy prices and climate policies affect everyone—from families struggling with heating costs to businesses relying on stable electricity supplies. The key debate in this election is: **Should Germany focus on cheap energy now (nuclear and fossil fuels) or invest in renewables for the future?**

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## ◆ Cheap Energy Now: Nuclear & Fossil Fuels

→ Partei 1, Partei 3, Partei 2

- **Support nuclear power and fossil fuels** (coal, gas, and oil).
- **Reduce green energy regulations** to lower costs for consumers and businesses.
- **Stop subsidies for wind and solar energy**, arguing they are inefficient and drive up prices.
- **Key promise:** "We need energy security and affordability, not green ideology."

💡 *What it means for you:* Lower **short-term energy prices, less risk of blackouts**, but **potentially higher long-term environmental costs** and **EU conflicts over climate targets**.

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## ◆ Balanced Approach: Clean Energy, But Affordable

→ Partei 4, Partei 7

- **Gradual transition to renewables** (solar, wind, hydrogen) while keeping some fossil fuel backup.
- **Government support for energy price caps** to prevent excessive costs.
- **Invest in grid modernization** and battery storage to make green energy stable.
- **Key promise:** "Clean energy is the future, but it must remain affordable."

💡 *What it means for you:* **Lower risk of energy price spikes** while still **moving towards sustainability**, but **some dependence on fossil fuels remains**.

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## ◆ Green Future: Fast Transition to Renewables

→ Partei 5, Partei 6

- **Massive investment in renewable energy** (wind, solar, hydropower).
- **Higher taxes on polluting industries** to fund climate-friendly policies.
- **Strict environmental rules** to speed up the energy transition.
- **Key promise:** "Climate action cannot wait—invest now for a livable future."

💡 *What it means for you:* **Potentially higher electricity costs in the short term**, but **long-term benefits for the environment and energy independence**.

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### ◆ Key Takeaway: What's at Stake?

Policy	Nuclear & Fossil Fuels (P1, P3, P2)	Balanced (P4, P7)	Green Future (P5, P6)
Nuclear Power	✔ Yes	✘ Limited	✘ No
Coal, Oil, Gas	✔ Keep	⚖ Reduce Gradually	✘ Phase Out
Wind & Solar	✘ Cut subsidies	✔ Expand with price caps	▲ Rapid expansion
Energy Prices	▼ Lower (short term)	⚖ Stable	▲ Higher (short term)
Best for:	Industry, cost-conscious voters	Balanced consumers	Climate-conscious voters

💡 The main choice is between:

✔ Short-term affordability (fossil fuels, nuclear) vs. long-term sustainability (renewables).

✔ Keeping traditional energy sources vs. rapid investment in green alternatives.

Which future do you believe in? **Cheap energy now, or a climate-friendly tomorrow?**

## 2.3. Migration and Integration

**Big question:** *Will Germany tighten or ease migration policies?*

Migration remains one of the most controversial topics in German politics. Some parties want **stricter border controls and fewer asylum seekers**, while others focus on **humanitarian policies and faster integration**. The debate is not just about **who can enter Germany**, but also **how newcomers integrate into society and the labor market**.

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### ◆ Strict Border Control & Reduced Migration

➔ Partei 1, Partei 3, Partei 2

- **Tighten asylum laws** and reduce the number of migrants.
- **Deport rejected asylum seekers faster** (including to Syria and Afghanistan).
- **Stop family reunification for asylum seekers** and restrict citizenship access.
- **Limit social benefits for non-citizens** to prevent “migration into the welfare system.”
- **Key promise:** "Germany must control its borders and decide who comes and who stays."

💡 *What it means for you:* If you are **worried about high immigration numbers** or **believe the welfare system is overstretched**, these policies could reduce migration. However, they might also lead to **labor shortages in some industries** and potential **diplomatic tensions with the EU**.

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### ◆ **Balanced Approach: Skilled Migration & Controlled Asylum**

➔ **Partei 4, Partei 7**

- **Attract highly skilled workers** with a points-based immigration system.
- **Speed up asylum decisions** while ensuring fair procedures.
- **Support integration through language courses and job programs.**
- **Limit irregular migration but maintain humanitarian commitments.**
- **Key promise:** "Germany needs migration, but it must be controlled and beneficial."

💡 *What it means for you:* This **middle-ground approach** tries to balance economic needs with humanitarian responsibilities. However, **some critics argue it may still allow too much migration** or **fail to fully address labor shortages**.

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### ◆ **Open Migration & Stronger Integration**

➔ **Partei 5, Partei 6**

- **Expand asylum rights** and make it easier for migrants to stay.
- **Increase government support for integration, education, and work placement.**
- **Simplify citizenship laws** for long-term residents.
- **Oppose border controls that limit asylum seekers' rights.**
- **Key promise:** "Migration enriches Germany—we must welcome and integrate newcomers."

💡 *What it means for you:* If you **support open borders and multiculturalism**, these policies prioritize **human rights and inclusivity**. However, **they may lead to higher public spending** and **more political resistance from those who want stricter controls**.

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### ◆ **Key Takeaway: What's at Stake?**

Policy	Strict Migration (P1, P3, P2)	Balanced (P4, P7)	Open Migration (P5, P6)
Border Control	▲ Stricter	⚖️ Moderate	✗ Oppose
Deportations	✔ Increase	⚖️ Case-by-case	✗ Oppose
Asylum Rights	▼ Reduce	⚖️ Keep limited	▲ Expand
Skilled Migration	✗ Restrict overall	✔ Encourage	✔ Encourage
Social Benefits for Migrants	▼ Reduce	⚖️ Moderate	▲ Increase
Best for:	Nationalists, security-focused voters	Economy, moderate voters	Humanitarians, pro-immigration voters

💡 The main choice is between:

- ✔ Stronger border control & reduced asylum (P1, P3, P2)
- ✔ Balanced immigration based on skills & integration (P4, P7)
- ✔ More open migration with stronger integration programs (P5, P6)

Which vision of migration matches your beliefs? **Tighter controls, a skills-based system, or open borders?**

## 2.4. Social Policies and Pensions

**Big question:** *Will life get easier for workers and pensioners?*

For many voters, **job security, fair wages, pensions, and social benefits** are top priorities. The main political debate revolves around **how much the government should intervene**—some parties want **lower social spending and more individual responsibility**, while others advocate for **higher wages, stronger worker protections, and expanded benefits**.

### ◆ Less State Involvement & Lower Social Benefits

➔ Partei 1, Partei 3

- **Reduce social benefits** to encourage work rather than dependence on welfare.
- **Abolish or replace "Bürgergeld"** (citizen's income) with stricter job requirements.
- **Keep the pension age high** and oppose early retirement options.
- **Encourage private savings for retirement** instead of relying on state pensions.
- **Key promise:** "Germany must reward work, not welfare dependency."

💡 *What it means for you:* If you **prefer lower taxes and self-reliance**, these policies might appeal to you. However, **they could lead to reduced support for low-income families, pensioners, and unemployed individuals.**

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## ◆ **Balanced Approach: Support for Workers & Pension Stability**

➔ **Partei 4, Partei 7**

- **Maintain social benefits but improve efficiency.**
- **Increase the minimum wage moderately** while keeping labor market flexibility.
- **Ensure pension stability** without drastically raising the retirement age.
- **Invest in childcare and parental leave** to support working families.
- **Key promise:** "A fair balance between worker rights and economic growth."

💡 *What it means for you:* This approach ensures a **safety net without excessive government spending**. However, **some argue it doesn't go far enough to fix inequality or rising living costs.**

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## ◆ **Higher Social Benefits & Stronger Worker Protections**

➔ **Partei 5, Partei 6**

- **Increase minimum wage significantly** (€15 or higher).
- **Expand pensions and introduce early retirement options.**
- **Introduce universal basic income or strengthen social security.**
- **Stronger union rights and worker protections** (e.g., limits on short-term contracts).
- **Key promise:** "No one should struggle to afford housing, healthcare, or retirement."

💡 *What it means for you:* If you **support a stronger welfare state**, these policies aim to **reduce inequality**. However, **they may require higher taxes or debt to fund these benefits.**

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## ◆ **Key Takeaway: What's at Stake?**



Policy	Less Welfare (P1, P3)	Balanced (P4, P7)	More Welfare (P5, P6)
Minimum Wage	✗ No increase	✓ Moderate increase	▲ Significant increase
Pension Age	▲ Higher	⚖ Stable	▼ Lower
Social Benefits	▼ Cut	⚖ Keep efficient	▲ Expand
Bürgergeld (Citizen's Income)	✗ Abolish	⚖ Reform	✓ Expand
Government Spending	▼ Lower	⚖ Balanced	▲ Higher
Best for:	High earners, free-market supporters	Middle-class workers	Low-income families, pensioners

💡 The main choice is between:

- ✓ Lower social spending & more self-reliance (P1, P3)
- ✓ Balanced worker protections & economic stability (P4, P7)
- ✓ Higher social benefits & stronger pensions (P5, P6)

Which matters more to you—**lower taxes and individual responsibility, a balanced system**, or **expanded social protections**?

## 2.5. Foreign Policy and Security

**Big question:** *Should Germany focus on defense or diplomacy?*


Germany's foreign policy affects national security, economic stability, and its role in global politics. The key debates in this election revolve around **military spending, NATO, Ukraine, and relations with Russia, the EU, and the U.S.** Some parties **prioritize national security and stronger defense**, while others **focus on diplomacy and de-escalation**.

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### ♦ Strong Military & Higher Defense Spending

➡ Partei 1, Partei 3

- **Expand the German military (Bundeswehr)** with more funding and personnel.
- **Increase NATO contributions** and support European defense cooperation.
- **Strengthen border security** and prepare for geopolitical threats.
- **Reintroduce or expand military conscription.**
- **Key promise:** "Germany must be able to defend itself and support its allies."


 *What it means for you:* If you prioritize **national security and strong alliances**, these policies ensure **military preparedness**. However, **higher military spending may divert funds from social programs**.

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## ◆ **Balanced Approach: Diplomacy with Strong European Security**

 **Partei 4, Partei 7**

- **Support NATO but emphasize diplomacy and conflict prevention.**
- **Continue supporting Ukraine but avoid direct military escalation.**
- **Strengthen the EU's strategic autonomy** without excessive militarization.
- **Promote sanctions and economic pressure instead of military action.**
- **Key promise:** "Security means both defense and diplomacy."


 *What it means for you:* This approach balances **defense cooperation with diplomatic solutions**, but **some critics argue it may not go far enough to deter threats**.

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## ◆ **De-Escalation & Anti-Militarization**

 **Partei 2, Partei 6**

- **Stop military aid to Ukraine** and push for immediate peace talks.
- **Reduce defense spending** and oppose NATO expansion.
- **Withdraw Germany from foreign military interventions.**
- **Seek closer diplomatic ties with Russia and China.**
- **Key promise:** "Germany should be a force for peace, not war."

 *What it means for you:* If you **oppose militarization and prefer diplomacy**, these policies focus on **de-escalation**. However, **reducing defense spending could weaken Germany's global standing and security guarantees**.

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## ◆ **Key Takeaway: What's at Stake?**

Policy	Strong Military (P1, P3)	Balanced (P4, P7)	De-Escalation (P2, P6)
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<b>NATO Support</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strong	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce
<b>Ukraine Aid</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military & financial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Limited aid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stop
<b>Defense Budget</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce
<b>Military Conscription</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reintroduce/expand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Russia Relations</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	<input type="checkbox"/> Cautious diplomacy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Normalize
<b>Best for:</b>	Nationalists, security-focused voters	Moderates, pro-EU voters	Pacifists, anti-war voters

💡 The main choice is between:

- A strong military & higher defense spending (P1, P3)
- Balanced diplomacy with EU & NATO security (P4, P7)
- Reducing military spending & pursuing peace talks (P2, P6)

What do you believe Germany's role should be—a **military power**, a **diplomatic leader**, or a **neutral force for peace**?

### 3. Propaganda and Populist Manipulation in Campaigns

In every election, political parties don't just present their policies—they try to **persuade, influence, and sometimes manipulate voters**. While some focus on **facts and solutions**, others use **fear, exaggerated crises, or "us vs. them" narratives** to gain support.

This section examines **how different parties use propaganda techniques** and how you can recognize them.

#### 3.1. Fear-Mongering and Crisis Narratives

**Big question:** *Are parties offering solutions, or just scaring you into voting for them?*

One of the most common political tactics is **fear-mongering**—presenting society as being on the verge of collapse and blaming a specific group (migrants, elites, foreign powers) for the problem. Some parties focus on **national decline**, others on **war fears**, and some on **economic doom**.

## ◆ Examples of Fear-Based Messaging

### ▼ Partei 1 & Partei 3 (*National crisis and social collapse narrative*)

- “Germany is no longer safe because of uncontrolled migration.”
  - “Our culture and values are under attack.”
  - “The EU is taking away our sovereignty.”
- 🔴 **What to watch for:** These messages often **exaggerate threats** to increase fear and demand radical solutions.

### ▼ Partei 2 (*War fear and government failure narrative*)

- “Germany is being dragged into a war we cannot win.”
  - “The government is lying about the true costs of supporting Ukraine.”
  - “NATO is putting us at risk.”
- 🔴 **What to watch for:** Fear of war is a **powerful emotional tool**. It can be **realistic**, but also used to push for isolationism.

### ▼ Partei 6 (*Economic collapse and class war narrative*)

- “The rich are stealing from ordinary people.”
  - “Corporations and elites want you to stay poor.”
  - “We must fight back against capitalist exploitation.”
- 🔴 **What to watch for:** Economic injustice is a **serious issue**, but **extreme crisis framing** can create **resentment rather than solutions**.

### ▼ Partei 5 & Partei 7 (*Climate emergency & inequality narrative*)

- “If we don’t act now, our planet is doomed.”
  - “Social injustice will destroy our democracy.”
- 🔴 **What to watch for:** While climate change and inequality **are real issues**, exaggerated doomsday rhetoric can make people feel **hopeless instead of empowered**.

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## ◆ How to Recognize Fear-Mongering in Political Campaigns

- ✅ Does the party provide realistic solutions, or just describe how bad things are?
- ✅ Are the claims supported by facts, or just emotional statements?
- ✅ Is the problem exaggerated to make voters feel scared and desperate?

📌 **Fear works best when it makes you react emotionally instead of thinking critically.** Parties that use fear want **you to vote with your emotions, not your logic**.

💡 **Tip:** Whenever a politician claims “disaster is coming,” ask yourself: **Is this true? Who benefits from me being afraid?**

## 3.2. Us vs. Them Rhetoric

**Big question:** *Is a party uniting or dividing society?*

A classic propaganda technique is **framing politics as a battle between "good" and "evil," "the people" and "the elite," "patriots" and "traitors."** This oversimplifies complex problems and creates **scapegoats** instead of solutions.

◆ **How Different Parties Use "Us vs. Them" Narratives**

▼ **Partei 1 & Partei 3** (*Nationalists vs. Globalists / Migrants vs. Natives*)

- "Our culture is under attack by mass migration."
- "The political elite and the EU are betraying ordinary Germans."  
🔴 **What to watch for: Dividing society into "real Germans" vs. outsiders** ignores the economic and social complexity of migration and integration.

▼ **Partei 2** (*Germany vs. NATO & U.S. influence*)

- "The U.S. is dragging us into a war we don't want."
- "NATO and the German government are working against our national interest."  
🔴 **What to watch for: Blaming foreign influence** for internal issues is a **common populist technique**.

▼ **Partei 6** (*Workers vs. The Rich / The 99% vs. The 1%*)

- "The billionaire class is exploiting ordinary people."
- "The government protects corporate profits instead of workers."  
🔴 **What to watch for: While economic inequality is real**, reducing all problems to a **rich vs. poor battle** can **oversimplify solutions**.

▼ **Partei 5 & Partei 7** (*Progressives vs. Reactionaries / Social Justice vs. Old Structures*)

- "The right-wing wants to take away your freedoms."
- "We must fight against racism, sexism, and inequality."  
🔴 **What to watch for: While social justice is important**, **framing all disagreement as "oppression"** can shut down debate instead of solving problems.

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◆ **How to Recognize "Us vs. Them" Rhetoric in Campaigns**

- ✅ Does the party describe solutions or just blame a group for all problems?
- ✅ Does it encourage dialogue, or just tell you to "fight" the other side?
- ✅ Does it appeal to logic, or to anger and division?

🔴 Parties using this tactic want you to see politics as a fight, not a discussion.

💡 **Tip:** If a party tells you there is a **clear "enemy" to blame for everything**, ask yourself: **Are the problems really that simple? Or is this just an emotional shortcut?**

### 3.3. Emotional Triggers in Language

**Big question:** *Are parties appealing to your logic or your emotions?*

Words are powerful. Political campaigns use **emotional language** to influence how people think and feel. Instead of presenting facts and solutions, some parties use **anger, nostalgia, fear, or hope** to create strong emotional reactions. This makes voters **less likely to think critically** and more likely to **act impulsively**.

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## ◆ Common Emotional Triggers in Political Rhetoric

### ■ Fear and Panic ("*The world is falling apart!*")

#### ▼ Partei 1 & Partei 3

- "Germany is no longer safe."
- "Mass migration is destroying our way of life."
- "The government is lying to you."

#### ▼ Partei 2

- "Germany is being dragged into war."
- "NATO is putting us in danger."
- "The government has lost control."

● **What to watch for:** These statements are designed to make you **feel unsafe** and look for a "strong leader" to protect you.

### ■ Hope and Utopia ("*A perfect future is just one election away!*")

#### ▼ Partei 5 & Partei 6

- "We can build a fair society where no one struggles."
- "We will make the economy work for everyone."
- "A green, just, and equal future is possible."

● **What to watch for:** While hope is important, **vague promises with no concrete steps** can be misleading.

### ■ Nostalgia and "The Good Old Days" ("*Everything was better before!*")

#### ▼ Partei 1 & Partei 3

- "Germany was stronger before the EU's interference."
- "We need to return to traditional values."
- "Our country must regain its greatness."

#### ▼ Partei 2

- "We need to return to an era of real diplomacy."

- “The West has lost its way.”

🔴 **What to watch for: Romanticizing the past** ignores the reality that every era had problems. The world changes, and no country can “go back in time.”

### 🟡 **Anger and Blame (“You should be furious!”)**

#### ▼ **Partei 6**

- “The billionaires and corporations are robbing you.”
- “The elites don’t care about ordinary people.”

#### ▼ **Partei 1 & Partei 3**

- “Left-wing politicians are destroying Germany.”
- “Migrants get more benefits than hardworking Germans.”

🔴 **What to watch for:** Politicians use anger to make you **vote against someone**, not for policies that actually help you.

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## ◆ **How to Recognize Emotional Manipulation in Politics**

✅ Does the statement make you feel very angry, afraid, or nostalgic?

✅ Does it lack facts or real-world examples?

✅ Does it promise an easy solution to a complex problem?

📌 **Emotions are important, but decisions should be based on facts, not just feelings.**

💡 **Tip:** When a politician **makes you feel very emotional**, stop and ask: **“Where are the facts?”**

## **4. How to Think Critically Before Voting**

**Big question:** *How can you see through political manipulation and make an informed choice?*

In every election, parties try to **persuade, inspire, or even manipulate** voters. Some use **facts and concrete plans**, while others rely on **emotional appeals, blame, or vague promises**. Your vote matters—so how do you make sure you’re making the best decision for yourself and your future?


This section provides simple strategies to **identify manipulation, verify facts, and evaluate political promises rationally**.


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### ◆ **1. Spot Manipulative Language**

Ask yourself:

- ✓ Does this politician use emotional buzzwords without real facts?
- ✓ Do they focus more on attacking opponents than explaining solutions?
- ✓ Are they making extreme claims (“the country is collapsing,” “traitors are everywhere”) without evidence?

 **Example:** "Migrants are stealing jobs, and the government is letting them!"

 **Critical thinking approach:** *What does the data say? Are all migrants taking jobs, or is this an exaggeration?*


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## ◆ 2. Check Feasibility: Can This Actually Be Done?

Politicians love to promise **big changes**—but not all of them explain **how** they will make it happen. Some ideas sound great, but they may be **impossible to implement** or **unrealistic without huge costs**.

- ✓ Does the party explain how they will pay for their policies?
- ✓ Are their promises legally possible, or just election slogans?
- ✓ Have similar policies worked before in other countries?

 **Example:** "We will increase pensions, lower taxes, and invest billions in infrastructure!"


 **Critical thinking approach:** *How will they fund all of this? Will they raise taxes, take on debt, or cut spending elsewhere?*


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## ◆ 3. Compare Actions vs. Words

Many parties say **what voters want to hear**, but their **history** tells a different story.

- ✓ Has this party delivered on past promises?
- ✓ Do their actions match their words?
- ✓ Are they consistent, or do they change their stance depending on public opinion?

 **Example:** A party promises to fight corruption—but in the last government, its members were involved in corruption scandals.

 **Critical thinking approach:** *What is their real track record?*

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## ◆ 4. Use Multiple Sources of Information

Don't rely on just one news source or social media feed. **Different sources show different perspectives**—and some may be biased.



- ✓ Check independent news outlets, not just party websites.
- ✓ Look at both sides of an issue—how do different parties describe the same event?
- ✓ Use fact-checking websites to verify claims.

 **Example:** A politician says, “Crime has doubled because of migrants.”


 **Critical thinking approach:** *What do police statistics show? Is crime actually increasing, or is this a scare tactic?*


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## ◆ 5. Vote for Policies, Not Personalities

Some politicians use **charisma and emotion** to win support, even if their policies lack substance.

- ✓ Are you supporting them because of their ideas—or just because they “seem strong” or “speak well”?
- ✓ Would you still support them if someone else proposed the same policies?
- ✓ Are they making realistic commitments or just playing to emotions?

 **Example:** A leader acts confident and says, “Only I can fix this country!”

 **Critical thinking approach:** *No one person can fix everything—what’s their actual plan?*

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## ◆ Final Thought: Think Before You Vote

Your vote is **your power**—don’t let **fear, anger, or false promises** guide your decision.

 **Before voting, ask yourself:**

- Which policies actually benefit me and my family?
- Am I voting based on facts, or emotions?
- Does this party offer real solutions—or just complaints and slogans?

✓ **An informed voter is a powerful voter.** Make your decision based on **logic, facts, and what matters most to you.**

## 5. Conclusion: How to Make an Informed Decision

**Big question:** *How do you choose the party that best represents your values and interests?*

The 2025 German election will shape the country’s future—**and your own**. From the economy to migration, from pensions to foreign policy, the decisions made on February 23 will impact your everyday life. But in a world of political spin, propaganda, and emotional manipulation, **how do you make the best choice?**


This report has analyzed **key party positions, propaganda tactics, and how to think critically before voting**. Now, let's summarize the essential steps to **making an informed and confident decision at the ballot box**.

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### ◆ Step 1: Identify Your Priorities

Not every issue matters equally to every voter. **What is most important to you?**

- ✓ *Do you care most about lower taxes and economic growth?*
- ✓ *Do you want stronger social protections and a higher minimum wage?*
- ✓ *Is migration policy your top concern?*
- ✓ *Do you prioritize Germany's role in international security or diplomacy?*
- ✓ *Are climate policies crucial to you?*


 **Tip:** If a party aligns with your top concerns but you dislike some of their other policies, ask yourself: *Which trade-offs am I willing to make?*

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### ◆ Step 2: Look Beyond Slogans

- ✓ *Does the party have clear, realistic plans, or just vague promises?*
- ✓ *Are their solutions practical and funded, or are they just saying what people want to hear?*
- ✓ *Have they delivered on their past promises?*


 **Example:** "We will make Germany rich and safe again!"


 **Critical thinking approach:** *How? What policies will achieve this? What do experts say?*

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### ◆ Step 3: Recognize Emotional Manipulation

- ✓ *Are they making you afraid, angry, or nostalgic without facts?*
- ✓ *Do they blame a single group (migrants, elites, foreign powers) for all problems?*
- ✓ *Are they presenting a complex issue as if there's only one solution?*


 **Example:** "If we don't act now, Germany will collapse!"


 **Critical thinking approach:** *Is this claim based on facts, or just meant to scare voters?*

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### ◆ Step 4: Compare Policies, Not Personalities

- ✓ *Is the party leader's charisma distracting from weak policies?*
- ✓ *Would you still support the party if someone else was leading it?*
- ✓ *Are they acting responsibly, or making extreme statements for attention?*

 **Example:** A leader claims, “Only I can fix Germany.”


 **Reality check:** No leader governs alone—politics requires teamwork, negotiation, and real plans.

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### ◆ Step 5: Use Reliable Sources

 Check multiple news sources, not just one-sided reports.


 Use fact-checking websites to verify extreme claims.

 Listen to different perspectives—even from parties you don’t support—to understand their arguments.

 **Tip:** Be cautious of **social media and WhatsApp groups**, where disinformation spreads quickly.

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### ◆ Final Thought: Your Vote, Your Voice

 **The best vote is an informed vote.** Before you make your choice, ask yourself:




- *Am I voting for policies that truly benefit me and my family?*
- *Am I making a decision based on facts, not emotions?*
- *Have I considered the long-term consequences of my vote?*





























 **Your decision on February 23 will shape Germany’s future. Make it count.**

## 6. Appendix: Party Comparison Table

**Big question:** *Which party aligns most with your views?*

This table summarizes the **key positions of each party** on major issues, helping you quickly compare where they stand.

Topic	Partei 1	Partei 2	Partei 3	Partei 4	Partei 5	Partei 6	Partei 7
<b>Taxes &amp; Economy</b>	▼ Lower taxes, fewer social benefits	 Reform tax rules, balance investment	▼ Lower corporate & income tax	 Moderate taxes, investment in infrastructure	▲ Higher taxes on wealthy, social investments	▲ Tax the rich, expand welfare state	 Targeted tax relief for middle class


<b>Energy &amp; Climate</b>	 Nuclear & fossil fuels, less regulation	 Reduce green energy policies, cheaper energy	 Pro-nuclear, cut renewable subsidies	 Balance renewables with affordability	 Fast transition to green energy	 Heavy investment in renewables	 Gradual shift to clean energy, maintain price stability
<b>Migration Policy</b>	 Strict limits, deportations, cultural preservation	 Very strict limits, reduce asylum claims	 Stricter border controls, deportations	 Skilled migration, controlled asylum	 Open migration, fast-track integration	 Stronger asylum rights, easier citizenship	 Balanced migration policies
<b>Social Policies &amp; Pensions</b>	 Cut social benefits, promote self-reliance	 Higher pensions, fewer social benefits	 Fewer social programs, increase retirement age	 Stable pensions, better worker protections	 Higher minimum wage, expanded welfare	 Universal basic income, strong union rights	 Social safety net with economic flexibility
<b>Foreign Policy &amp; Security</b>	 Strong military, increase defense spending	 Reduce NATO support, focus on diplomacy	 Expand military, protect national interests	 Pro-NATO but prioritize diplomacy	 EU security, reduce global conflicts	 Anti-NATO, cut military spending	 Balance security & diplomacy, support Ukraine
<b>Best for:</b>	Businesses, conservatives, nationalists	Anti-war, pensioners, isolationists	Free-market advocates, security-focused voters	Moderates, pragmatists, centrists	Progressives, climate-focused voters	Socialists, anti-capitalists, working-class	Balanced voters, European integrationists


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## How to Use This Table

 **Step 1:** Identify your top 2-3 issues (**e.g., economy, migration, social benefits**).

 **Step 2:** Compare which parties align most with your views.

 **Step 3:** Research their **track record**—have they delivered on promises before?

 **Tip:** No party will match your views 100%. Focus on **who aligns with your priorities the most**.

 **Your vote is your power—use it wisely!**