

PRESS RELEASE 06/2025

Military Bishop Bernhard Felmberg appointed to the German Ethics Council

Berlin, 3 December 2025

The President of the Bundestag, Julia Klöckner, has appointed Protestant theologian Dr Bernhard Felmberg to the German Ethics Council with effect from 1 December 2025.

The 60-year-old military chaplain was nominated by the CDU/CSU parliamentary group to succeed Petra Bahr, who stepped down from her post in June 2025.

Dr Bernhard Felmberg has been Bishop for Protestant Chaplaincy in the German Armed Forces since October 2020. Prior to that, he headed the Directorate for Civil Society, Churches and Economy in Development Cooperation at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development from 2014 to 2018 and the Central Directorate-General from 2018 onwards. From 2009 to 2013, Bernhard Felmberg was the Representative of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Germany to the Federal Republic of Germany and the European Union.

“We warmly welcome Bernhard Felmberg and look forward to working with him,” emphasises Helmut Frister, Chairman of the German Ethics Council.

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