CANOPY OF PRAYER

October #203-2026
Author
Karin Heepen
European Christian Political Party

Germany and Europe

In many areas, Germany is the driving force in Europe and within the EU, alongside France. As the largest economy and the most populous country, German industry has long been the economic and commercial engine of the European Union single market. Around 53 % of German exports go to other EU Member States; conversely, German demand generates significant added value for neighbouring countries. However, high energy prices, crippling bureaucracy and the slump in exports – particularly to the US and China – are increasingly holding back German industry.

Climate and energy policy as a negative example

As a key driver of the European Green Deal, it is not only Germany that is suffering a loss of competitiveness on the global market. The regulations, CO_2 limits, high energy prices and German subsidies are also putting other European companies at a disadvantage. Energy- and emissions-intensive sectors such as the steel and chemical industries are at risk of relocating outside the EU. Environmental regulations and set-aside schemes are jeopardising agriculture. Added to this are supply chain legislation, taxonomy (the classification of sustainable economic activities) and reporting obligations, which have since been scaled back by the EU because they place an excessive burden on small and medium-sized enterprises in particular. German energy policy is putting a strain on the European electricity market as a result of the simultaneous phase-out of nuclear and coal power and the previous reliance on Russian gas. Due to its central location, the German transmission grid acts as a hub for European electricity exchange and for balancing fluctuations. Germany's unregulated feed-in or massive electricity imports can make electricity prices in neighbouring countries unpredictable, and the delayed expansion of the grid is undermining its stability. At the same time, Germany continues to block EU initiatives to promote nuclear power.

Destabilisation of the Euro

The only sector currently experiencing growth is the defence industry, whose public funding is driving up public debt while generating hardly any added value for the economy as a whole. Until the Covid crisis, Germany was a guarantor of the EU's Maastricht criteria of a maximum of 3 % of gross domestic product in new borrowing per year and a maximum of 60 % in total debt, partly due to the debt brake enshrined in the Basic Law, which has since been circumvented through the use of special funds. The combination of high debt, a bloated state, excessive taxes and a lack of growth potential is leading to rising costs across the board in several major eurozone countries, which are eroding the economy and the middle class. French government bonds in particular are falling in value, but German bonds are also no longer regarded as safe assets. As a major global currency, the euro is exposed to the risk of a currency reform as a result of this development.

Going it alone on migration policy

The opening of Germany's borders in 2015–16 to an uncontrolled influx of refugees has permanently shaken intra-European trust and, as a result, the political fabric of Europe. The failure to apply the Dublin Regulation led to an erosion of EU asylum law. Central and Eastern European states in particular resisted the subsequent demand for burden-sharing. This resulted in border closures and temporary border controls within the Schengen Area, the rise of nationalist parties across Europe, and the military securitisation of the EU's external borders. What had been a humanitarian EU asylum policy ultimately gave way to a restrictively reformed Common European Asylum System (CEAS) designed to deter irregular migration.

Israel and Germany's national interest

As a geopolitical actor, the EU relies on Germany taking a clear stance. Europe's strength in standing up to Russia and in the Middle East depends to a large extent on Germany's political actions. Within the EU, Germany has been and remains an important voice for Israel against anti-Israeli resolutions and boycotts. Repeated calls by the European Commission for the suspension of the Association Agreement and for sanctions against Israel have been rejected. However, the arms embargo imposed intermittently in 2025 has weakened Germany's pro-Israel influence and fuelled increasing pressure not to isolate itself from the EU.

Systems breaking down

The CDU (Christian Democratic Union) has just failed to clear the 5 % threshold in a state parliament – a people´s party with Christian roots, the sort that played a key role in governing Germany and many European countries for around 50 years after the Second World War. God blessed West Germany with the Marshall Plan and the 'economic miracle', restoring the once-hated Germany to the status of a respected nation with a leading role in Europe. He granted us the miracle of the fall of the Wall, the grace of reunification and a rebuilt East Germany.

We have forgotten God in all this and believed that we could maintain or even increase all this without Him. Through high-handed, ideologically-driven political action, Germany has increasingly lost the trust placed in it as an economic and political driving force and a stabilising factor in Europe.

The Lord wants Europe back

We know that Germany is admired rather than loved, yet Europeans look to Germany with expectations of leadership whilst at the same time viewing with concern the faltering German economy, the political vacillation of successive governments and the paralysis of necessary reforms. At the *International Berlin Meeting* in June, the former Slovak Prime Minister Eduard Heger expressed his appreciation and gratitude towards Germany. He also called on the German politicians present to restore the Word of God and the Christian faith as a guiding principle at the heart of politics and society. He concluded with the words of encouragement: "We pray for you".

Prayer

I would like to thank our brothers and sisters in Europe from the bottom of my heart for your prayers for our country. Please let us stand together for our continent, which God has blessed so richly, making it an example to the world of how nations, guided by biblical ethics, can become humane, successful and free, and a blessing to others:

- that, in its present weakness, Germany may help Europe to turn away from our self-willed ways, with humility and with a sense of responsibility before God and within the EU (Ps 25:11–13),
- that government spending and regulation may be scaled back and sustainable incentives for private investment and productivity put in place, in order to safeguard basic services in Europe (Proverbs 22:7ff and 29:4),
- that Germany may be a clear voice for Israel in Europe (Zechariah 2:12).

Let us pray, not out of worry and fear, but out of love for Europe and trusting in God's grace and renewal (Psalm 85).

Why not press the button and visit our Facebook page to get the latest items for prayer.

TO DONATE: Hebron Europe e.V., IBAN DE53 6129 0120 0488 0210 06 BIC GENODES1NUE Giving your name and address. Thank you!

Donate

Hebron Europe e.V. August-Bebel-Straße 7, D-02747 Herrnhut info@hebroneurope.org
Chairman: Nicolas Pease, Deputy Chairman: Dr. Wolfgang Rathmann, VR 721 899 Amtsgericht ULM
Bank details: Volksbank Mittlerer Neckar – DE53 6129 0120 0488 0210 06 – BIC GENODES1NUE

CONTACT: Canopy of Prayer, Dr. Wolfgang and Christiane Rathmann
Ian Jeal, Jill Jeal, Karin Heepen, Nick Pease, Csaba Szakály,
info@canopyofprayer.eu www.canopyofprayer.eu