# Corporate Governance Statement in accordance with §§ 289f and 315d of the German Commercial Code

Sound systematic corporate governance based on sustainable value creation is particularly important for an international group such as Deutsche Telekom, with its many subsidiaries and associates. The Company complies with applicable laws, ethical standards, and national and international guidelines. The Supervisory Board and the Board of Management of Deutsche Telekom AG are convinced that corporate governance of this nature, taking both company- and industry-specific issues into account, is an important building block for the future success of Deutsche Telekom AG. Responsibility for compliance with the principles of sound corporate governance is vested in senior management, accordingly.

In the 2023 financial year, the Board of Management and Supervisory Board once again carefully examined the corporate governance of Deutsche Telekom AG and the Deutsche Telekom Group as well as the contents of the German Corporate Governance Code. During the reporting period just ended, Deutsche Telekom AG fulfilled all of the Code's recommendations with the exception of recommendation C.5, for which a deviation was declared in advance. The Supervisory Board and Board of Management of Deutsche Telekom AG issued a Declaration of Conformity with the German Corporate Governance Code on December 30, 2023. No deviations were declared for the 2024 financial year.

Deutsche Telekom AG additionally voluntarily complies with the suggestions promulgated by the Code, with the following exception in respect of suggestion A.8: A.8 suggests that the Board of Management convene an extraordinary shareholders' meeting in the event of a takeover offer at which shareholders will discuss the offer and may decide on corporate actions. However, even utilizing the option of a virtual meeting and applying the rules on shorter notice periods for convocation provided for in such instances by the Securities Acquisition and Takeover Act (Wertpapiererwerbs- und Übernahmegesetz – WpÜG), holding an extraordinary shareholders' meeting poses a sizable organizational challenge for listed companies, especially in the case of a takeover. In view of this, the Board of Management will decide on a case-by-case basis either to electively call an extraordinary shareholders' meeting or to set up an online forum to provide shareholders with an adequate alternative platform for dialog on the takeover offer.

# Declaration of Conformity pursuant to § 161 of the German Stock Corporation Act (Aktiengesetz - AktG)

I. The Board of Management and the Supervisory Board of Deutsche Telekom AG hereby declare that in the period since submission of the most recent declaration of conformity pursuant to § 161 AktG on December 30, 2022, Deutsche Telekom AG has complied with the recommendations of the Government Commission on the German Corporate Governance Code announced by the Federal Ministry of Justice on June 27, 2022, in the official section of the Federal Gazette (Bundesanzeiger), with the exception of recommendation C.5 (maximum number of supervisory board mandates).

# Reason for the declared deviation from recommendation C.5 in the past:

According to recommendation C.5, members of the management board of listed companies should not have, in aggregate, more than two supervisory board mandates in non-group listed companies or comparable functions, and should not accept the chairmanship of a supervisory board in a non-group listed company. In the opinion of the Management Board and the Supervisory Board, the total number of supervisory board mandates held or the supervisory board chairmanship in non-group listed companies and comparable functions should be assessed more appropriately on a case-by-case basis than by means of a rigid limitation. As long as it is ensured that a member of the Supervisory Board of Deutsche Telekom AG has sufficient time to exercise this supervisory board mandate with due regularity and care, a deviation from recommendation C.5 may appear appropriate in individual cases, taking into account all relevant aspects of the respective circumstances.

- II. The Board of Management and the Supervisory Board of Deutsche Telekom AG further declare that as of today Deutsche Telekom AG will completely comply with the recommendations of the Government Commission on the German Corporate Governance Code, announced by the Federal Ministry of Justice on June 27, 2027, in the official section of the Federal Gazette (Bundesanzeiger).
- This Declaration of Conformity can be found on the Deutsche Telekom AG website. It also provides access to the declarations of conformity from previous years.

# Remuneration report/remuneration system

The remuneration system applicable to members of the Board of Management pursuant to § 87a (1) and (2), sentence 1 AktG, as approved by the shareholders' meeting on April 5, 2023, and the resolution of the shareholders' meeting on April 5, 2023 pursuant to § 113 (3) AktG on remuneration for the members of the Supervisory Board, are available to the public on the Deutsche Telekom AG website. The remuneration report and the related external auditor's report pursuant to § 162 AktG are also published on the same website.

# Additional corporate governance practices

# Compliance and internal Group rules

Compliance involves the observance of legal requirements and internal Group rules. Deutsche Telekom's compliance culture is a key component for corporate governance based on integrity and respect. Deutsche Telekom has expressed a Group-wide commitment to complying with ethical principles and both legal and statutory requirements. The Group has anchored this commitment in its Guiding Principles and its Code of Conduct.

Deutsche Telekom implemented a compliance management system with the aim of minimizing risks arising from systematic infringements of legal or ethical standards that could result in regulatory or criminal liability on the part of the company, its executive body members, or employees, or result in a significant loss of reputation. The Board of Management considers its overall responsibility for compliance as a key leadership task. The Chief Compliance Officer is responsible for the design and management of the compliance management system. Compliance officers implement the compliance management system and the compliance goals locally at the level of operating segments and national companies.

Deutsche Telekom's compliance management system is based on the Compliance Risk Assessment (CRA), which can be used to identify and assess compliance risks and introduce suitable preventative measures. To this end, Deutsche Telekom has introduced a process to be carried out at regular

intervals. The companies that take part in the CRA are selected using a risk-based approach according to the level of maturity of their compliance management system (maturity-based model).

The CRA methodology was adjusted in the reporting year and a focus CRA carried out. The focus CRA is a further evolution of the existing Compliance Risk Assessment approach. Under the new approach, the goal is to assess the effectiveness of the control environment in selected compliance risk areas. The focus was laid on our procurement processes in 2023. Ten international companies (EU and TSI) and one domestic company (OSD) took part in this focus CRA. The companies were selected according to risk, with a focus on international companies with their own procurement organization. Each of the Group companies was responsible for performing its own CRA. The central compliance organization managed the overall process, providing support and advice at all stages. Going forward, these focus CRAs will be alternated with the broader-based standard risk assessments using the existing methodology.

As a company listed on the United States stock exchange, T-Mobile US uses its own methodology to carry out a risk assessment; the company reports regularly on this risk assessment to the relevant bodies, which include representatives of Deutsche Telekom AG.

Deutsche Telekom regularly engages external auditors to audit its compliance management system in accordance with Auditing Standard 980 laid down by the Institute of Public Auditors in Germany (Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer in Deutschland e.V. – IDW) focusing on the fight against corruption. Nine German companies were audited in 2020. A further 13 international companies were then assessed in 2021. A total of 22 companies were therefore successfully audited in the 2020 and 2021 financial years and the effectiveness of their respective compliance management systems verified. Alongside compliance processes, the audits focused in particular on processes that are exposed to an increased risk of corruption, for example, in procurement, sales, events, donations, sponsorships, mergers and acquisitions, and human resources. A further IDW AuS 980 audit of Deutsche Telekom AG and of selected Group companies is planned for the 2024 and 2025 financial years.

For further information on the compliance management system, the Code of Conduct, and the Code of Ethics, please refer to the Deutsche Telekom AG website.

# **Guiding Principles**

Culture is part of the corporate DNA and, as such, influences not only the ways of working, but also the success of a company. Deutsche Telekom AG has therefore introduced a set of Guiding Principles, which are continually updated and adapted. They allow us to reflect on our behavior on a daily basis and act as an indicator of our culture.

For further information on the Guiding Principles, please refer to the section "Employees" in the 2023 Annual Report or to the Deutsche Telekom AG website.

#### Corporate responsibility

Corporate responsibility forms the basis for all of our business relationships and activities. As a component of the Group strategy, sustainability is systematically anchored in our organization. Sustainability management enables Deutsche Telekom to take the interplay among financial, environmental, and social aspects into account efficiently and with a focus on solutions.

We will publish further information on corporate responsibility in our 2023 CR Report.

# Working methods of the Board of Management and the Supervisory Board as well as composition and working methods of committees

# Cooperation between the Board of Management and the Supervisory Board

The Board of Management and the Supervisory Board work closely together for the good of the Company and maintain regular contact. The Board of Management agrees the Company's strategic alignment with the Supervisory Board and discusses the status of strategy implementation with the Supervisory Board at regular intervals. The Supervisory Board of Deutsche Telekom AG holds a minimum of four meetings a year. In the 2023 financial year, there were seven Supervisory Board meetings and one off-site conference on the strategic alignment of the Company. In addition to the long-term financial goals, environmental and social goals are also given due consideration in the corporate strategy. In the lead-up to the Supervisory Board meetings, separate preparatory meetings of the shareholders' and employees' representatives are held on a regular basis. The Supervisory Board also convenes meetings without the Board of Management in attendance as and when it deems necessary. Every member of the Supervisory Board is required to declare any conflicts of interest to the Chair of the Supervisory Board. The Supervisory Board's report to the shareholders' meeting contains disclosures of any conflicts of interest and action taken in this regard.

For further information on conflicts of interest, please refer to the section "Supervisory Board's report to the 2024 shareholders' meeting" in the 2023 Annual Report and on the Deutsche Telekom AG website.

In addition, in the 2023 financial year, 23 meetings of the Supervisory Board committees were held. The Board of Management keeps the Supervisory Board fully and regularly informed in good time, in particular of corporate strategy, planning, business development, sustainability, regulation, the risk situation, the risk and opportunity management system, compliance, innovation focuses, and any deviations in the business developments from original plans, as well as significant business transactions involving the Company and major Group companies. The Board of Management regularly submits written and oral reports. Between meetings, the Board of Management also informs the Supervisory Board of the current business development of the Group and its segments on a monthly basis. The Board of Management reports to the Supervisory Board on individual issues in writing or in discussions. The reporting obligations of the Board of Management specified by the Supervisory Board go beyond statutory requirements. The activities of the Board of Management and the Supervisory Board, as well as the Audit Committee of the Supervisory Board (Audit and Finance Committee from January 1, 2024), are specified in separate Rules of Procedure. Those governing the Board of Management, in particular, in particular, the schedule of responsibilities and the majorities required for resolutions. The members of the Board of Management, in particular the Chair, exchange information regularly in person with the Chair of the Supervisory Board.

For further information on cooperation between the Board of Management and the Supervisory Board, please refer to the section "Supervisory Board's report to the 2024 shareholders' meeting" in the 2023 Annual Report and on the Deutsche Telekom AG website. This is where you can also find the current Rules of Procedure of the executive bodies.

# Working methods and schedule of responsibilities of the Board of Management

The Board of Management normally meets on a weekly basis. As a rule, its resolutions are adopted by simple majority and within the scope of its meetings. The Board of Management's Schedule of Responsibilities states that there are eight Board departments: the department of the Chair of the Board of Management; Finance; Human Resources and Legal Affairs; Technology and Innovation; Germany; Europe; T-Systems; and USA and Group Development. The members of the Board of Management jointly bear responsibility for the management of the entire Company. They work together in a cooperative manner and continually inform one another of important measures and activities in their departments.

Irrespective of the joint responsibility of all members of the Board of Management, each individual member of the Board of Management is authorized to manage the spheres of responsibility allocated to them in the Schedule of Responsibilities. Certain matters, particularly those where the law requires the

involvement of the entire Board of Management, are subject to approval by the full Board of Management. Furthermore, every Board of Management member can submit matters to the full Board of Management for decision.

The Chair of the Board of Management leads the work of the Board of Management and regulates the cooperation of the members of the Board of Management, particularly in the event of any overlap in the areas of responsibility. They represent the Company and its corporate policy to the public, unless special matters have been assigned to another Board of Management member by the Schedule of Responsibilities or based on any special Board of Management resolution. They are also responsible for directing the cooperation with the Supervisory Board.

# Composition and working methods of the Board of Management committees

To further the efficient performance of its duties, the Board of Management has established two permanent committees that include people who are not members of the Board of Management. These committees do not have the authority to take decisions that are by law matters to be dealt with by the Board of Management.

The Asset Committee advises the entire Board of Management on matters concerning the economically and strategically optimum allocation of resources, on investment projects, and on measures with key economic significance.

The Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) Committee deals with the implementation of certain M&A transactions of low strategic relevance and which are below defined value thresholds, as well as the integration of these transactions.

# **Board of Management committees**

Committee	Members				
Asset Committee					
	Member of the Board of Management,				
	Member of the Board of Management,				
	Chief Operating Officer				
	Chief Information Officer				
	Senior Vice President, Group Controlling				
	Senior Vice President, Group Strategy				
	Senior Vice President, Group Procurement				
	Financial Directors of the segments Germany,				
	Chief Technology Officer, Germany				
	Senior Vice President, Consumers, Germany				
	Senior Vice President, Technology (NT/IT), EU				
	Senior Vice President, Commercial, Europe				

Committee	Members				
M&A Committee					
	Chair of the Board of Management  Member of the Board of Management,				
	Member of the Board of Management,				
	Senior Vice President, Mergers & Acquisitions				
	Senior Vice President, Group Strategy				

For the current composition of the Board of Management committees, please refer to the Deutsche Telekom AG website.

# Working methods of the Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board appoints the members of the Board of Management and regularly supervises its management of the Company. The Supervisory Board is directly involved in all decisions of strategic importance to the Company. This involvement is guaranteed through the specification of approval provisos for the Supervisory Board and through the agreement of the strategic alignment of the Company. The work of the Supervisory Board is specified in Rules of Procedure. To clarify the reporting obligations on the part of the Board of Management, the Supervisory Board has drawn up a list of transactions and actions subject to approval. This list forms an integral part of the Rules of Procedure for the Supervisory Board and the Board of Management, respectively.

For the current Rules of Procedure, please refer to the Deutsche Telekom AG <u>website</u>.

The Supervisory Board and Audit Committee each assess the efficiency of their work every two years, to regularly review how effectively the full Supervisory Board and its committees fulfill their mandates, and to provide fresh impetus for the Supervisory Board's work. The internal self-assessment carried out to this end is based on a comprehensive questionnaire followed by intense discussion and consultation on the results by the entire Supervisory Board and the Audit Committee. The questionnaire covers aspects that have a material effect on the Supervisory Board's performance of its duties, such as key agenda topics, culture, the flow of information, committee structure, the Supervisory Board Chair's leadership, the quality of consultations and strategic discussions, as well as the working relationship between the Supervisory Board and the Board of Management. The evaluation of the questionnaire provides a detailed self-assessment from which action areas are derived. The Supervisory Board carried out its last efficiency assessment in the 2023 financial year. As well as the work of the Supervisory Board as a whole, it also considered the work of all of the Board's committees. A further, separate evaluation of the Audit Committee was carried out most recently in the 2022 financial year. The assessments were carried out without external support.

An onboarding process for new Supervisory Board members is in place. The Company offers new Supervisory Board members a customized program to introduce them to the industry and the situation of the Company. This includes discussions with all Board of Management members; an introduction to the corporate strategy, current trends, and challenges; and opportunities to learn about specific technology-related topics.

The members of the Supervisory Board generally take on the necessary training and further education measures required for their tasks on their own initiative. Deutsche Telekom offers supporting information events and workshops – in 2023 the main focus was on artificial intelligence, ESG requirements, compliance, and sustainability reporting – delivered by experts from within and outside the Company. Company visits and presentations of the latest product innovations are additionally arranged and offered to the Supervisory Board members to enhance their understanding of the Company. They also inform themselves and undergo continued training on current topics both within and outside of the Supervisory Board's meetings.

The Chair of the Supervisory Board coordinates the work of the Supervisory Board and presides over its meetings. In addition to the organizational tasks relating to the Supervisory Board, they maintain regular contact with the Board of Management, particularly the Chair, to discuss issues relating to the Company's strategy, planning, business development, sustainability, regulation, the risk situation, the risk and opportunity management system, and compliance, and are informed of the general business situation and significant events. In this context, the Chair of the Board of Management in particular informs the Chair of the Supervisory Board of all events that are significant to the situation, development, and governance of the Company.

# Composition and working methods of the Supervisory Board's committees

In order to perform its tasks effectively, in the 2023 financial year the Supervisory Board had seven committees with the following responsibilities: The General Committee deals with personnel matters relating to the Board of Management (including Board of Management remuneration matters) and prepares the meetings of the Supervisory Board. The Audit Committee performs the tasks required by law and recommended by the German Corporate Governance Code. These include, in particular, the monitoring of accounting and the accounting process, the effectiveness of the internal control system, the risk and opportunity management system, the internal auditing system, the auditing of financial statements, compliance, including the compliance management system, and data privacy and data security. The Staff Committee deals with general personnel matters not relating to the Board of Management, including structures of human resources development and quantitative and qualitative staff planning. The Finance Committee deals in particular with the Company's investment planning and focuses, and handles complex financial and commercial business transactions (such as M&A transactions). The Technology and Innovation Committee supports innovation and technological developments at infrastructure and product level and supports the Board of Management with advice on how to tap new growth areas. Furthermore, the Supervisory Board has formed a Nomination Committee, which consists exclusively of shareholders' representatives. The Nomination Committee is responsible in particular for proposing to the Supervisory Board suitable candidates for the latter to subsequently propose to the shareholders' meeting for election. The Nomination Committee does this in compliance with legal requirements, the German Corporate Governance Code, and the Rules of Procedure of the Supervisory Board, and taking into account the targets adopted by the Supervisory Board as regards its composition, as well as the profile of skills and expertise developed by the Supervisory Board for the overall Board and its qualification matrix. Moreover, the Nomination Committee defines the requirements for the specific position to be filled. In addition, there is a Mediation Committee, which was formed in accordance with § 27 (3) of the Codetermination Act. The Supervisory Board may also establish temporary committees to serve needs as they arise (e.g., Special Committee for U.S. Business). In the 2023 financial year, there were no such temporary committees.

The Supervisory Board changed its committee structure effective January 1, 2024: A new Strategy, ESG, and Innovation Committee was created, subsuming the former Technology and Innovation Committee, to take account of the **correlation between innovation and ESG topics and our strategy**. This committee periodically deals with the Group strategy, the strategy for the operating segments (Germany, United States, Europe, T-Systems), ESG topics, and preparations and decision-making in connection with M&A transactions. It also supports innovation and technological developments at infrastructure and product level and supports the Board of Management with advice on how to tap new growth areas. Additionally, the Audit Committee and the Finance Committee have been combined to form the new Audit and Finance Committee to holistically cover financial and business transactions within a single body.

For the current composition and new structure of the Supervisory Board committees, please refer to the Deutsche Telekom AG website.

The committee chairs each report to the Supervisory Board on a regular basis on the work of the committees.

The Chair of the Audit Committee (Audit and Finance Committee from 2024), Dagmar P. Kollmann, due to her many years of experience in investment banking as a Board member and as CEO of Morgan Stanley Bank AG, Frankfurt/Main, and her numerous memberships lasting for many years in a range of audit committees and risk committees of the supervisory boards of listed and non-listed multinational companies, in some cases also as chairwoman, has considerable expertise in the fields of accounting and the audit of financial statements, including sustainability reporting and its auditing. Her expertise in regard to accounting consists in particular of specific knowledge and experience in the application of accounting standards and internal control and risk management systems, and in regard to the audit of financial statements, of specific knowledge and experience in that area. Dagmar Kollmann undergoes regular training on the topics listed above from both internal and external providers. In her recent training, she has focused in particular on national and international legislation governing sustainability reporting.

Ms. Kollmann is independent from the Company, and is not a former member of the Board of Management of Deutsche Telekom AG.

As a member of the Audit Committee (Audit and Finance Committee from 2024), Petra Steffi Kreusel, due to her responsibilities in Group Controlling and Group Accounting at Grundig AG, Fürth, Philips GmbH, Hamburg, and at the Deutsche Telekom Group, as well as her long-term membership of the Audit Committee of the Supervisory Board of Deutsche Telekom AG, Bonn, has considerable expertise in the fields of accounting and the auditing of financial statements, including sustainability reporting and its auditing. Her expertise in regard to accounting consists in particular of specific knowledge and experience in the application of accounting standards and internal control and risk management systems, and in regard to the audit of financial statements, of specific knowledge and experience in that area. Ms. Kreusel undergoes regular training on the topics listed above from both internal and external providers. In her recent training, she has focused in particular on national and international legislation governing sustainability reporting.

As a member of the Audit Committee (Audit and Finance Committee from 2024), Dr. Helga Jung, due to her diverse responsibilities in the Finance department at the Allianz Group and her years of experience as a member of the Board of Management of Allianz SE, Munich, as well as her long-term membership of the Audit Committee of Allianz Deutschland AG, Munich, also has considerable expertise in the fields of accounting and the auditing of financial statements. Her expertise in regard to accounting consists in particular of specific knowledge and experience in the application of accounting standards and internal control and risk management systems, and in regard to the audit of financial statements, of specific knowledge and experience in that area. Dr. Jung undergoes regular training on the topics listed above from both internal and external providers.

# Supervisory Board committees (until December 31, 2023)

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Committee	Supervisory Board member				
General Committee					
	Dr. Frank Appel (Chair)				
	Katja Hessel				
	Kerstin Marx Frank Sauerland				
Finance Committee					
	Karl-Heinz Streibich (Chair)				
	Eric Daum, since Nov. 8, 2023				
	Constantin Greve				
	Nicole Koch, until Nov. 7, 2023				
	Dagmar P. Kollmann				
	Karin Topel				
	Stefan B. Wintels				
Audit Committee					
	Dagmar P. Kollmann (Chair)				
	Dr. Günther Bräunig, until Apr. 5, 2023				
	Dr. Helga Jung				
	Petra Steffi Kreusel				
	Kerstin Marx				
	Susanne Schöttke				
	Stefan B. Wintels, since Apr. 5, 2023				
Staff Committee	, , ,				
	Frank Sauerland (Chair)				
	Dr. Frank Appel				
	Odysseus D. Chatzidis				
	Harald Krüger				
	Kerstin Marx				
	Margret Suckale				
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Committee	Supervisory Board member				
Nomination Committee					
	Dr. Frank Appel (Chair)				
	Katja Hessel				
	Dagmar P. Kollmann				
Mediation Committee					
	Dr. Frank Appel (Chair)				
	Katja Hessel				
	Kerstin Marx				
	Frank Sauerland				
Technology and					
Innovation Committee	Lothar Schröder (Chair), until Nov. 7, 2023				
	Karl-Heinz Streibich (Chair), since Nov. 8, 2023				
	Odysseus D. Chatzidis				
	Lars Hinrichs				
	Nicole Seelemann-Wandtke				
	Margret Suckale				

#### Transparent shareholder communication

To provide our shareholders with a high level of transparency and equality of information, we are committed to providing institutional investors, retail shareholders, financial analysts, and the general public with regular, comprehensive, transparent, and up-to-date information about the Company's position at the same time and on an equal basis. Significant information, such as press releases, ad hoc notifications, presentations from analyst conferences, financial reports, and the financial calendar, is made available on the Company's websites. Dr. Appel, Chair of the Supervisory Board, is additionally in constant dialog with investors on Supervisory Board-specific topics.

# Targets for the number of women on the Board of Management and at the two management levels directly below the Board of Management; compliance with minimum percentages for Supervisory Board members

# Composition targets for the Board of Management and the two management levels directly below Board of Management level

The executive bodies at Deutsche Telekom AG are required by law (§ 76 (4) and § 111 (5) AktG) to set targets for the number of women on the Board of Management and at the two management levels directly below the Board of Management level, and to set deadlines for the achievement of these targets, on a regular basis. A report is to be made each year on the targets set and on the achievement of the targets set after the expiry of each deadline for implementation of these. Grounds must be given for any failure to meet the targets during the implementation period. Additionally, new appointments to the Board must comply with the legal requirement (§ 76 (3a) AktG) to include at least one woman and one man on the Board of Management. With three women and five men on its Board of Management at the close of the reporting year, Deutsche Telekom AG fulfills this requirement.

For the third, current, implementation period which began at the start of 2021, the executive bodies of Deutsche Telekom AG have set targets for the number of women on the Board of Management and the two management levels directly below the Board of Management level, as well as deadlines for their implementation. For the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025, the Supervisory Board has set a target of 38 % of women (3/8) on the Board of Management, and the Board of Management has set a target of 30 % of women in each case for the two management levels directly below the Board of Management level.

When filling leadership positions within the Company, the Board of Management takes the aspect of diversity into account and strives in particular to give due consideration to women and internationality.

# Minimum percentages for Supervisory Board members

In accordance with the law, the Supervisory Board of Deutsche Telekom AG must consist of a minimum of 30 % women and a minimum of 30 % men. Deutsche Telekom AG is required by law (§ 96 (2) AktG) to comply with minimum percentages for both the number of men and women when appointing members to the Supervisory Board. Grounds must be given for any failure to meet these standards. In the 2023 financial year, the proportion of men and women on the Supervisory Board up to the date of the 2023 delegates' assembly amounted to 50 % respectively. After the delegates' assembly, the proportion of women was 45 % and men 55 %. The minimum percentages of 30 % on the Supervisory Board were met in the 2023 financial year through joint compliance, i.e., considering the shareholders' representatives and the employees' representatives.

# Information on the diversity concept

The aim of the diversity concept for the Supervisory Board and the Board of Management is to ensure in each case that the composition of these bodies takes into account the criteria of background, gender, origin, and age (diversity criteria), making them more diverse so that different experience and backgrounds are represented on the Supervisory Board and the Board of Management and to contribute to good corporate governance with the help of diversity of opinion and knowledge.

The aim of taking the selected diversity criteria into account in the composition of these bodies is to work towards creating diversity of expertise and opinions in the bodies in question. The diversity of expertise in the bodies is to promote the members' understanding of the current business situation of the Company, while diversity of points of view within the bodies enables the members to consider other perspectives than their own and to better recognize opportunities and risks when making decisions.

# Diversity concept for the Board of Management

Taking into account the stipulations of the German Corporate Governance Code, the diversity concept encompasses the following objectives for the composition of the Board of Management:

As a whole, the Board of Management is in particular to have many years of experience in the telecommunications sector, technology, innovation, finance, digitalization, human resources management, and legal and compliance affairs.

The Supervisory Board has stipulated a quota for the Board of Management of 38 % women (3/8) by the end of 2025.

As a rule, members of the Board of Management should not be older than 65 years of age. At present, no Board member is over the age of 65.

In view of the Company's international focus, at least one member of the Board of Management is to have an international background.

# Long-term succession planning for the Board of Management

Together with the Board of Management and supported by the General Committee, the Supervisory Board ensures that there is long-term succession planning for the Board of Management. Long-term succession planning gives due consideration not only to the requirements of the Stock Corporation Act (Aktiengesetz), the German Corporate Governance Code, and the Rules of Procedure of the Supervisory Board, but also to the target set by the Supervisory Board for the number of women on the Board of Management, and the requirements laid down in the diversity concept adopted by the Supervisory Board regarding the composition of the Board of Management. Regular discussions are held with regard to internal and external candidates for each Board of Management department. In these discussions, the candidates' experience and qualifications are matched to the specific requirements profile of the respective Board of Management department. Potential succession candidates are then grouped into the categories "immediate," "medium term," and "long term." In addition, the Supervisory Board monitors an internal talent pool filled with high-potential candidates as a further category. Wherever development or training needs arise for individual candidates, specific development measures are agreed with them in person. A structured process is put in motion that is designed to provide the candidates in question with the requisite skills to assume responsibility for a Board of Management department. Where necessary, the Supervisory Board/General Committee is assisted by external advisors.

# Implementation of the diversity concept for the Board of Management

The diversity concept for the Board of Management is brought to bear during the process of appointing new Board members. When selecting candidates or proposing individuals for appointment to the Board of Management, the Supervisory Board/General Committee of the Supervisory Board takes into account the requirements adopted in the diversity concept for the Board of Management.

The members of the Board of Management cover a broad spectrum of knowledge and experience, and have strong educational and professional backgrounds and extensive international experience. The Board of Management members as a group are in possession of all of the knowledge and experience considered essential to Deutsche Telekom AG's activities. The experience of the Board of Management as a whole spans all business areas of importance to Deutsche Telekom AG, in particular in the field of telecommunications and infrastructure, as well as longstanding experience in the areas of information technology, innovation and digitalization, corporate development, finance, as well as legal affairs and human resources.

By resolution of October 13, 2023, Adel Al-Saleh's appointment as the Board member responsible for T-Systems was ended effective midnight on December 31, 2023. Also by resolution of October 13, 2023, Dr. Ferri Abolhassan was appointed as the Board member responsible for T-Systems for the period from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026. The diversity concept was taken into consideration when making this decision.

Ensuring the adequate representation of women is of paramount importance in long-term succession planning for the Board of Management. Various age groups are represented on the Board of Management.

# Targets for the composition, profile of skills and expertise, and diversity concept for the Supervisory Board

Taking into account the stipulations of the German Corporate Governance Code, the diversity concept encompasses the following objectives for the composition of the Supervisory Board:

- Taking into account the Company's specific situation, the Supervisory Board resolves to consider the aspect of diversity in addition to the requisite expertise of a candidate when issuing recommendations for future appointments to the Supervisory Board to the competent election bodies.
- The Supervisory Board has to be composed in such a way that its members as a group possess the knowledge, ability, and expert experience required
  to properly perform its tasks.
- The Supervisory Board supports an appropriate representation of women on the Supervisory Board. A minimum of 30 % of members of the Supervisory Board shall be women.
- In view of the Company's international focus, candidates with an international background are to be given appropriate consideration in future appointments to the Supervisory Board.
- Conflicts of interest are to be avoided in appointments to the Supervisory Board.
- The term of office for members of the Supervisory Board shall end no later than the close of the shareholders' meeting after the Supervisory Board member reaches the age of 75 (standard age limit) unless there are special reasons for this not to be the case.
- A regular limit of three terms of office applies for membership of the Supervisory Board. Appointments by court order that are limited until the next shareholders' meeting, however, are not considered a term of office.

- Supervisory Board members representing the shareholders' side are proposed to the shareholders' meeting for appointment as a rule for a four-year term of office.
- The Supervisory Board shall include what the shareholders' representatives consider to be an appropriate number of independent members in line with recommendation C.6 of the German Corporate Governance Code. As such, the shareholders' representatives side considers that more than half of the shareholders' representatives shall be independent from the Company and its Board of Management within the meaning of recommendation C.7 of the German Corporate Governance Code. At least two shareholders' representatives must be independent from any controlling shareholder.

#### Profile of skills and expertise

The Supervisory Board considers the following skills, expertise, and knowledge to be essential for it to exercise its role:

# 1. Strategic skills and expertise

- TC/IT industry, related industries
- Market (competition and customers), sales and customer business, marketing
- Products
- Market participants
- Regulated industries
- M&A processes

# 2. Financial skills and expertise

- Accounting processes, risk management, audit of financial statements
- Financial KPIs and systems
- Capital and financial markets
- Corporate financing

# 3. Control skills and expertise

- Management/CEO
- Supervisory board
- International management experience
- Co-determination
- Legal affairs/compliance
- Data privacy/data security
- Corporate governance
- Regulatory and competition law
- Accounting, audit of financial statements, control and risk management systems

# 4. Innovation skills and expertise

- New technologies
- Digitalization
- IT/NT/telecommunications

# 5. ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) skills and expertise

- Environmental sustainability
- Social sustainability
- Sustainability management

# 6. HR skills and expertise

- Human resources
- Change management
- Human resources development
- Organizational and cultural change
- Diversity
- Sustainability

# Implementation of the composition targets including the profile of skills and expertise, the qualification matrix, and the diversity concept for the Supervisory Board; independence of Supervisory Board members

Both the Supervisory Board and the Nomination Committee of the Supervisory Board take account of the composition targets and the requirements laid down in the diversity concept for the process of selecting and nominating candidates for appointment to the Supervisory Board. The proposals to the shareholders' meeting regarding candidates for election took account of the targets, including the profile of skills and expertise, the qualification matrix, and the diversity concept.

In the Supervisory Board's opinion, the Supervisory Board in its current composition meets the composition targets and rounds out both the profile of skills and expertise and the diversity concept. The members of the Supervisory Board possess the professional and personal skills considered essential for the task. As a whole, they are familiar with the telecommunications sector and have the knowledge, abilities, and experience required to advise and monitor the Board of Management of Deutsche Telekom AG. A significant proportion of Supervisory Board members are active internationally or have extensive international experience. Diversity is given due consideration in the Supervisory Board. In the 2023 financial year, ten – and later nine – members of the Supervisory Board were women. As such, women accounted initially for 50 % and then for 45 % of the Supervisory Board in the reporting year.

# Qualification matrix a

Name	Strategic skills and expertise	Financial skills and expertise	Control skills and expertise	Innovation skills and expertise	ESG skills and expertise	HR skills and expertise
Dr. Frank Appel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Odysseus D. Chatzidis	✓	_	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eric Daum	_	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Constantin Greve	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Katja Hessel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lars Hinrichs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dr. Helga Jung	✓	✓	✓	_	✓	✓
Dagmar P. Kollmann	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Petra Steffi Kreusel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Harald Krüger	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kerstin Marx	✓	✓	✓	_	✓	✓
Dr. Ploss, Reinhard	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Frank Sauerland	✓	✓	✓	_	✓	✓
Susanne Schöttke	✓	✓	✓	_	✓	✓
Christoph Schmitz	✓	_	✓	_	✓	✓
Nicole Seelemann-Wandtke	✓	_	✓	✓	_	✓
Karl-Heinz Streibich	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Margret Suckale	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Karin Topel	✓	✓	✓	_	✓	✓
Stefan B. Wintels	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Based on self-assessment by the Supervisory Board members. In order to respond in the affirmative to one of the six skills and expertise areas, it is not necessary for the members of the Supervisory Board to offer every individual skill in the skills and expertise area in question.

The avoidance of conflicts of interest and compliance with the standard age limit and the regular limit on terms of office were taken into consideration in the appointments to the Supervisory Board.

With her proven experience and expertise in environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria, Margret Suckale has been appointed as the Supervisory Board's ESG expert.

In particular, Dr. Helga Jung, Dagmar P. Kollmann, and Petra Steffi Kreusel possess proven financial expertise and were therefore appointed by the Supervisory Board as members with particular knowledge and experience in accounting and financial reporting, within the meaning of § 100 (5) AktG.

According to the assessment of the shareholders' representatives on the Supervisory Board, all members on the shareholders' side are currently independent within the meaning of the German Corporate Governance Code. These are: Dr. Frank Appel, Katja Hessel, Lars Hinrichs, Dr. Helga Jung, Dagmar P. Kollmann, Harald Krüger, Dr. Reinhard Ploss, Karl-Heinz Streibich, Margret Suckale, and Stefan B. Wintels.

As the largest shareholders in Deutsche Telekom AG, the Federal Republic of Germany and the KfW Bankengruppe, with an aggregate holding of 30.5 % (as of December 31, 2023), do not have a controlling interest either individually or jointly. It was therefore not necessary to consider the existence of a controlling shareholder in the assessment of the independence of the shareholders' representatives on the Supervisory Board.