

Press Release

TU9 Calls for Unambiguous Qualification Titles in Vocational Education and Training

Lack of transparency caused by almost identical qualification descriptions for different educational paths

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Today, the German Bundesrat (Federal Assembly) will come to a decision on its response to the draft of the Vocational Training Act (Berufsbildungsgesetz, BBiG). The aim of the new qualification designations in the current draft amendment to the BBiG is to underline the equivalence of academic and vocational education and training. The proposed designations of “Bachelor professional” and “Master professional” are thought to be highly unsuitable for this purpose because, by following the nomenclature of academic degrees, they blur the lines between higher education and vocational education and training.

The TU9 Universities believe that the German education system is characterized by its diversity of excellent and internationally positively-perceived, high-quality educational paths. Non-transparent qualification titles lead to confusion, both in career choices and in the labor market.

“TU9 welcomes the approach to introduce attractive new qualification titles in VET. These should clarify the value of VET qualification and emphasize the equivalence of vocational and academic qualifications. However, avoiding confusion with academic degrees is nonetheless essential,” says TU9 President Wolfram Ressel.

About TU9

TU9 is the Alliance of leading Universities of Technology in Germany: RWTH Aachen University, Technische Universität Berlin, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Technical University of Darmstadt, Technische Universität Dresden, Leibniz University Hannover, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Technical University of Munich, and University of Stuttgart.

Tradition, excellence, and innovation are the hallmarks of TU9 Universities. Founded during the Industrial Age, they contributed decisively to technological progress back then and continue to do so today. They enjoy an outstanding reputation around the world as renowned research and teaching institutions that promote the transfer of knowledge and technology between universities and practice. As such, they train exceptional young academics for careers in science, business, and administration and assume social responsibility. TU9 Universities foster top-class international networks and diverse cooperation with industry, making them a key element of Germany’s position as a location of science and innovation.