

**Press release**

## **Former Senator Joachim Lohse new ZIA Managing Director**

**Berlin, 13.06.2022** A change in the management of the German Property Federation (ZIA) is due to take place on August 15. Dr. Joachim Lohse will succeed German Lawyer Gero Gosslar as managing director. Lohse is regarded as an excellent connoisseur of a forward-looking environmental policy and as a shaper of a housing policy that embeds social principles as a core element in decision-making. Lohse was a founding partner of the Hamburg-based institute Ökopol - Institut für Ökologie und Politik GmbH. For more than eight years, he set broad political accents for the Greens as Senator for the Environment, Building and Transportation of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen. In 2015, the chemist with a doctorate was awarded the European prize for sustainable transport development planning in cities (EU SUMP Award) in Brussels for the "Transport Development Plan Bremen 2025".

"Dr. Joachim Lohse is a pioneer of forward-looking environmental policy. He has shown time and again how to translate the necessary requirements for responsible climate policy into concrete plans for housing and transport," said ZIA President Dr. Andreas Mattner. "I am very much looking forward to working with him. With his broad profile, Lohse will further advance ZIA's pro-progress agenda. The fact that he is also a proven expert in the real estate industry makes him additionally valuable to us." Lohse will enrich the "strong leadership group around Chief Executive Oliver Wittke and Deputy Chief Executive Aygül Özkan" with "innovative experience."

ZIA President Mattner also paid tribute to outgoing Managing Director Gero Gosslar, who took over the position in 2017 after many years in Brussels: "Gero Gosslar helped shape ZIA in very decisive years and made a significant contribution to the association's growth." Gosslar's "tireless efforts in reorienting European and national climate protection and energy policy, tax policy, and the Sustainable Finance Agenda" will remain visible far beyond his tenure at ZIA, he said. "I thank him very

much for our joint successes and am pleased that he will remain with the industry in another capacity outside the association," Mattner added.

## ZIA

The German Property Federation (ZIA) is the leading umbrella association for the property sector. With its registered office in Berlin and a European office in Brussels, it speaks through its more than 350 members, including 30 associations, on behalf of approximately 37,000 industry companies right across the value chain. ZIA provides comprehensive, unified representation for the interests of the real estate sector in all its diversity at both national and European level, including as a member of the Federation of German Industries (BDI) and the German Economic Institute (IW). The President of the association is Dr Andreas Mattner.

With more than 837,000 companies and approximately 3.5 million employees, the real estate sector is one of the largest and most dynamic in Germany. It generated approximately €644 billion in 2021, approximately 20% of Germany's gross value added and therefore more than the automotive sector, for example. The sector is aware of its role in climate protection and therefore reduced its CO2 emissions from 209 to 120 million tons per annum between 1990 and 2020.

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