Federal Association of Food Inspectors Germany e. V. (BVLK)

# **CONTACT**



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# Move more in community!





### Who are we?

The Federal Association of Food Inspectors Germany e. V. was founded in 1978 and, as a **professional association**, stands up for the professional, economic and social interests of food inspectors in the Federal Republic of Germany towards employers, politics, government, authorities at federal level as well as the public.

The BVLK is involved beyond its national borders in the network of the European Working Community for Food Control and Consumer Protection (EWFC) and the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH).



### What do we stand for?

The BVLK unites under its roof 90 percent of the approximately 2,500 food inspectors organized in the 15 member associations and is their **service provider and mouthpiece**.



### Institutions and boards Of the BVLK

- · Federal Board with head office
- 15 Member associations
- Representatives for the areas: collective bargaining law komba, Legal Committee of Officials komba, Committee on Women's Policy and Equality Issues komba, EWFC, IFEH
- Representatives in the following boards: German Food Code Commission (DLMBK), Professional association for food and gastronomy (BGN, e.g. Beverage dispensing systems, hand hygiene), German Institute for Standardization (e.g. Working Group Out-of-Home Catering), Expert Advisory Board Food Fraud at BVL, Advisory Board Pest Control at Weihenstephan Institute for Grain Research (WIG)



## What do we do?

The BVLK supports, promotes, informs and represents the colleagues:

- Professional Law
- Advanced training as food inspector
- Further training to maintain the professional competence
- Occupational safety, health care, prevention

- Bundling of the opinions of the regional associations in statements on legislative projects in order to ensure a practical and harmonized implementation of the official food control (not only in Germany)
- Public Relations (homepage, social media, e. g. Facebook, presentation of the profession at trade fairs, situation-related press work primarily in specialist publications)
- Provision of current professional information and jurisdiction as well as information on association activities via the association's own trade journal "Der Lebensmittelkontrolleur" and the regular newsletter
- Exchange of knowledge and experience among each other and with science, the food industry and non-governmental organizations

The komba union is our strong partner when it comes to classification/collective bargaining law and salary/official law. As a specialist trade union for the public sector under the umbrella of the central organization dbb beamtenbund and tariff union, the komba union conducts collective bargaining with employers on behalf of our profession and provides assistance with regard to country-specific civil service law.

### Moving more in community!

The meanwhile global trade with food, changed consumption habits, new technologies in food production, new distribution structures, new data processing systems, ... all this confronts us with new challenges every day.

It means to "keep the ball" in order to achieve the best possible health consumer protection.

- We stand up for the continuation of the professional profile "food inspector" and are committed to ensuring that the professional orders for food inspectors are adapted to current requirements.
- We are committed to sustaining jobs and securing the next generation of employees.
- We are committed to improving and maintaining working conditions in the workspace and in the field.
- We organize and co-finance further education and training events and ensure that the high professional qualification of food inspectors is maintained so that a high level of consumer health protection is guaranteed
- We promote the exchange of knowledge and experience among our colleagues, also beyond national borders within the framework of conferences, congresses and seminars and in the social media (e. g. closed group "Erfahrungsaustausch für LMK" [exchange of experience for food inspectors] on Facebook).
- We intervene! As a registered association at the German Bundestag, we are able to bring the experience and knowledge from the practice and basis of official food control into the legislative process in order to help shape enforceable legal basis as tool for daily work.
- We are an active, engaged partner and maintain contact with political decisionmakers, among other things, in the Bundestag, Bundesrat and the responsible ministries. The association's work focuses on identifying subject-specific problems and developing efficient solutions.