

Grüne Hochschulgruppe Saar



Wahlprogramm 2026

As a student body, we have the power to bring about change. However, there are times when we also have to rely on the university, the student union or politicians. To ensure the greatest possible transparency, we have divided our election manifesto into two parts: the measures we will actually implement, and the issues we will champion with the bodies mentioned above.

Kapitel 1

So you have more money left at the end of the month

The current economic situation is placing a particular strain on students, as BAföG rates have not been increased for years; that is why we are calling for studying that is as affordable and liveable as possible!

What we will actually implement

- All discounts for UdS students should be clearly listed in the university app and on the AStA website
- Expansion of partnerships and discounts following the model of the Staatstheater, particularly in Homburg (e.g. cinemas, museums, swimming pools, bouldering halls)
- Support services, such as the canteen assistance for students, should be published transparently on the AStA website and in the university app, along with their eligibility criteria, and further expanded

What we are campaigning for

- To work with other universities to push for a reduction in semester fees, for example by abolishing the administrative fee (€50 per semester) and providing greater funding for the Studierendenwerk or the Germany Semester Ticket
- An affordable canteen: daily, affordable vegan meals (as is already the case at htw and HfM) as well as the option for smaller, cheaper portions in the canteen
- Mensa vouchers must always be valid for vegan meals
- Affordable housing for students
- Parties on campus must be more affordable again, particularly student-friendly drink prices at semester kick-off parties and similar events
- The bus to Luxembourg must once again be included free of charge in the Semester Ticket
- Advocacy with the university sports department for affordable and flexible sports programmes (e.g. free trial sessions at the gym)

Kapitel 2

So that there's something going on at uni again

The university is a central hub where students spend a lot of time outside of their lectures. A liveable campus requires not only good accessibility and infrastructure, but above all an affordable cultural offering that brings this place to life.

What we will actually implement

- Freshers' weeks in Homburg and Saarbrücken featuring cultural events at the start of the winter term; in the long term, these would be organised together with institutions at the university and in the city, with a viewable calendar in the university app
- New AStA-Referat for student culture, organising small events in Homburg and Saarbrücken once a month (e.g. pub crawls, day trips, hikes, bowling, tours of the state parliament, etc.)
- Monthly AStA newsletter, available both digitally on social media and on noticeboards at the university (e.g. in the mensa, at the AStA Freiraum, etc.)

Homburg

- A requirement for the AStA's event departments to organise at least one event per semester in Homburg
- Improved networking between Homburg student councils, associations and the AStA through the creation of a messaging group and a monthly meeting between the AStA chair and the Homburg AStA departments
- Greater visibility for information on services offered by the university (Career Centre, Student Advisory Service, etc.) and the AStA (advice, etc.) on the Homburg campus, e.g. through information events and advertising

What we are campaigning for

Student Culture

- A shared events calendar for all institutions on the Saarbrücken and Homburg campuses, available via the university app
- Student workrooms managed by the AStA & event rooms that can be booked free of charge by all students
- Student councils & student societies (in Homburg and Saarbrücken) should have the right to appropriately equipped and spacious rooms
- Replace the 'first come, first served' principle for university sports course selection with a fairer system

A more liveable Homburg campus

- More study spaces on campus (as the library is far too small)
- Weatherproof, comfortable common rooms
- The university shuttle between Homburg and Saarbrücken must run reliably and more frequently
- The university shuttle's departure points and times must be clearly displayed on campus via stop signs and digitally via the university and Saar timetable apps
- Expansion of the vegetarian and vegan options in the mensa, including the introduction of a salad bar
- More and cheaper catering options outside the core hours of 10 am to 3 pm (e.g. via food vending machines)

- Adjustment of library opening hours to allow, for example, use on Sundays and for students during clinical duties

A more liveable Saarbrücken campus

- Support and better promotion of the new evening meal offering (Mensgarten) on Französischer Platz and in the Audimax
- Improved bus connections to the campus, particularly after midnight
- A properly lit and signposted footpath from the Guckelsberg hall of residence to the campus
- Digital payment must be available throughout the campus (parking meters, Philocafé, etc.), preferably using the UdS Card
- Extended opening hours for libraries
- A wider and more affordable range of shopping options with longer opening hours, including on Saturdays
- Food options on campus at weekends too (e.g. food vending machines, 24/7 store)

Kapitel 3

So that you feel welcome on campus

The university must be an open place where all students can flourish and develop freely in a safe environment. We call for respectful treatment, accessibility and inclusivity in all areas of university life.

What we will actually implement

- We want to support our AK Queer, as the second-largest queer community in Saarland, to further expand the wide range of activities both at and outside the university
- Hoisting rainbow flags on campus and at AStA locations as a visual sign of our solidarity with the AK Queer and queer people in general
- Providing an overview with basic information on all counselling services offered by the AStA and the university, as well as other free counselling centres in the Saarbrücken and Homburg areas
- To improve access to period products, the interactive map in the university app must also allow users to filter for self-service vending machines
- The self-service vending machines for period products must be made more attractive and visible in order to destigmatise the topic of periods and raise awareness of it

What we are campaigning for

Queer & Feminist

- Everyone has the right to be addressed correctly. Therefore, gender-neutral language should be used in all forms and documents. Furthermore, it should be possible or made easier to change names on Teams and the letters in one's ID, so that everyone can use the name they themselves go by
- Gender-neutral toilets in all buildings and gender-neutral changing rooms for university sports
- To tackle period poverty, there should be at least one self-service vending machine for period products in every building

Accessibility

- A university that is accessible in terms of both physical access and sanitary facilities.
- In particular, we call for an accessible design in the canteen that allows all visitors to use the canteen facilities without encountering locked doors (no key system!)

- To ensure equal opportunities for all students, the university must issue an internal policy standardising the application process for disability support across the university. This primarily concerns the anonymisation of applications to protect students from discrimination and disadvantage and to guarantee access to support
- The university must provide greater financial support to the Office for Inclusive Studies. For students with disabilities, support with, for example, applying for disability support, as well as advice on subject-specific issues relating to their studies, is essential
- As an international institution, the university and the Student Services Organisation should publish all information in at least two languages (German and English); this applies to all documents, job advertisements, the UdS app, mensa menus, news, etc.
- The university app should be usable on more and older devices, regardless of the device's age and operating system, so that everyone can use it.

Health

- Low-threshold support and opportunities for students with disabilities to engage with others are essential. Therefore, initiatives such as the 'Round Table for Students with Disabilities or Chronic Illnesses' or the 'Walk and Talk about Depression' must continue and be further promoted.
- Greater expansion and support for the Psychological and Psychotherapeutic Counselling Service (PPB), which provides confidential, accessible and free support to students facing personal or study-related crises, in order to place greater focus on students' mental health and destigmatise mental health issues.
- More free water dispensers on campus, particularly in summer
- The option to filter by dietary preferences or intolerances in the university app (modelled on the former Uni Saar app)
- Whether dishes are vegan/vegetarian must be communicated more clearly, as vegan dishes currently often come with non-vegan side dishes

Security

- The university currently has no lighting plans in place for either Saarbrücken or Homburg; this must change!
- The university app must include a feature to report poorly lit areas and broken streetlights and forward these reports to the relevant departments, so that the campuses remain safe at night
- To ensure safety on the campuses – particularly after dark – the university should provide an infrastructure similar to the SafeNow app

Kapitel 4

So that the university can set an example for the future

The university should live up to its role as a role model and take proactive steps towards a future worth living in, as well as a fair and sustainable world!

What we will actually implement

- A sustainability AStA-Referat that addresses key issues through events, but also brings about direct change at our university through participatory activities and the Meet&Green working group (e.g. wildflower meadows, herb spirals, flower pots)
- Bringing students' needs to the fore in university bodies, such as the Sustainability Council, and putting more pressure on the university to implement changes
- The implementation of a fault and complaint reporting function in the university app and on the university website for university-related issues (e.g. problems with the SaarVV)
- Current issues with the SaarVV or disruptions at the university (e.g. Eduroam, Moodle, etc.) should be visible in the university app
- Greater focus on events that also facilitate exchange with non-university institutions and people in the Saarland

What we are campaigning for

Mobility

- A low-traffic campus with a car-free core (from the Campuswiese to Französischer Platz), with the only through road running from the main gate via Stuhlsatzenhausweg
- Better connectivity for the university campus, both in Homburg and Saarbrücken, through safe cycle paths and more public transport (with lower passenger numbers at peak times), e.g. through faster connections to surrounding neighbourhoods and towns
- Ending traffic chaos on the Homburg campus (30 km/h speed limit across the board, expansion of zebra crossings and cycle symbols, better parking management instead of fly-tipping)
- Expansion of e-bike charging stations and covered bike racks, particularly in Homburg

Campus Development

- HanniBleibt! The woodland areas must not be cleared until all other alternatives have been exhausted!
- Because we remain firmly committed to the campus university, the existing space must be used more efficiently! To this end, the city council should revise the development plan to allow for denser, taller and more sensible use
- Teaching, learning and research buildings instead of administration and other infrastructure not required on site
- New student accommodation should be created in the city, where students want it and where space is available due to high vacancy rates
- More green spaces on campus that provide shade (e.g. Französischer Platz)
- Review of all old and new buildings to increase greening of façades and roofs

Setting an example

- Greater digital sovereignty, more open source software and more solutions developed in-house at the university, rather than dependence on large corporations

- A university-wide, informed approach to AI, taking into account its climate-damaging and social implications
- The Department of Political Education should organise critical events addressing structural problems within state institutions (particularly the armed forces and the police)
- A critical review of the University of Saarland's (UdS) partnerships with states and companies in light of criteria such as sustainability and international law
- We call for guidelines on advertising on campus to ensure it is ethically sound and aligns with the university's values. This applies in particular to advertising and events organised by arms manufacturers and the Bundeswehr.

Kapitel 5

So that studying at the UdS is fun again

Sometimes the university gives us the feeling that it wants to put obstacles in our way, whether through outdated regulations, sudden changes or a lack of study spaces. That is why we are campaigning for:

What we will actually implement

- Provision of more seating options (e.g. loungers, tables, hammocks) and shaded areas in Homburg & Saarbrücken

What we are campaigning for

Teaching

- The loss of the right to study following a third failed attempt is to be removed from the Landeshochschulgesetz. Instead, the university should work with students to find an individual solution.
- Compulsory attendance at lectures must be abolished; instead, lectures should be mandatory hybrid sessions and all materials made available online. This change will benefit students facing additional burdens (e.g. due to illness, work, caring for relatives or children)
- Exam dates must be set and communicated to students from the first week of the semester. Resit dates must be scheduled before the start of the next semester
- The automated marking of exams using AI must remain prohibited; furthermore, no exams may be created using AI
- CP credits from language courses should also be transferable for German and French courses
- Departments should coordinate with one another regarding course scheduling and take overlaps into account (e.g. for teacher training students)

Organisation & Clarity

- The clarity and usability of the LSF need to be improved. The range of languages on offer must be expanded and consistently applied throughout the LSF
- Clearer maps (e.g. 'You are here' markers or colour-coding in Homburg) of the respective campus location, including at bus stops
- Signposts to key locations or areas of university life (e.g. canteen, campus centre, university sports facilities)
- All buildings must provide sufficient seating and study spaces to ensure there is enough room for studying

Kapitel 6

So that our voice is heard once again

Young people, particularly students, are repeatedly overlooked by politicians. To ensure this no longer happens and that our problems and concerns are taken into account in the state parliament – and especially during the state election in April 2027 – we will make our voices heard together with the other universities!

What we will actually implement

- Establishment of a Landesstudierendenvertretung (state student council) in collaboration with htw, HBK and HfM, modelled on those in other federal states.
- Unicampus Homburg is to be represented with at least one seat on the Landesstudierendenvertretung
- Organisation of political events and demonstrations in collaboration with the other Saarland universities to raise awareness of student issues, particularly in the run-up to the state parliamentary elections in April 2027
- Information campaigns ahead of elections to educate students about the university political bodies up for election (e.g. posters, leaflets)
- A clearer overview and more information about the university's subject groups to involve more students in university development
- In future, the Student Parliament should send members to the university's subject groups

What we are campaigning for

- Landesstudierendenvertretung should be included in the Higher Education Act
- The state government should continue to advocate for a collective agreement for student employees
- Greater student involvement in shaping university sports
- An obligation for all lecturers to set aside the first 15 minutes of every session during the week of the university elections to provide information about the elections and how to vote

Kapitel 7

So you know what happens to your money

The General Student Committee (AStA), the Student Parliament (StuPa) and the faculty student councils are funded by your student union fee. It is therefore important to know how to get the most transparent overview possible of the budget and the meetings!

What we will actually implement

- Publication of the AStA budget, including commentary, on the AStA website
- Greater promotion of the already public StuPa and AStA meetings, and, as a result, new premises that facilitate this public access
- Enabling the StuPa to obtain more information about the AStA's activities, expenditure and objectives through written enquiries and by making the AStA meeting minutes available

What we are campaigning for

- Full breakdown of the semester fee, including a breakdown of the administrative costs contribution and the contribution to the Studentenwerk, on the AStA and university websites