



U.S. - Bavaria Ties

Economic

- The U.S. is Bavaria's largest trade partner for exports, and second largest for imports. American trade with Bavaria accounts for nearly 25 percent of the \$130 billion in annual trade from Germany to the U.S.
- The U.S. is the biggest foreign investor in Bavaria, with some 850 U.S. firms located there.
- Munich is home to the largest contingent of U.S. state representative offices in Europe, promoting trade and investment in the U.S.
- Bavaria excels at "globalization" – BMW is the largest exporter of automobiles made in the U.S. to non-NAFTA countries. (Over 49 of the 182 companies that make up BMW's extensive global supplier network are located near BMW's Spartanburg, South Carolina production facility.)
- Aircraft giant EADS, with headquarters in Munich and Paris, is a significant defense supplier (Eurocopter).
- Bavaria is home to nine of the "DAX 30" firms, including Siemens, Allianz, and BMW. Many have extensive U.S. operations. Siemens alone employs some 60,000 in the U.S.
- Bill Gates dubbed Bavaria the "European High Tech Mecca" – several U.S. tech firms, including TI, Microsoft and GE have chosen to settle in Bavaria. Of the 850 U.S. firms located in Bavaria, some 400 are in a high tech field.
- With a gross national product of Euro 385 billion, Bavaria's economy is larger than 19 of the 27 EU member states.
- Bavaria is a top location for international exhibitions. The Munich and Nuremberg "Messens" host about 90 trade shows a year and are strong both in consumer and investment goods. Some 50,000 exhibitors attract about over 3 million visitors a year.

People to People

- Bavaria - with Oktoberfest, castles, the Alps, and lederhosen - is the number one destination for U.S. tourists in Germany. In 2007, more than 1,394,000 Americans visited Bavaria, including an estimated 165,000 attending Oktoberfest.
- There are nearly 40,000 Americans residing in Bavaria. Each year, the American Consulate General in Munich registers 500 Reports of Americans born in Bavaria and renews 5,000 American passports.
- There are 31 U.S.-Bavaria sister city partnerships.
- U.S. Consulate General Munich reopened its Nonimmigrant Visa section in July 2006 and since then issued more than 23,000 non-immigrant visas.

Political-Military

- Munich is host to the annual Munich Conference on Security Policy – the "Davos" of the security policy world, with a strong U.S. delegation led by cabinet and Congressional-level participants.
- Bavaria is host to the largest contingent of U.S. Army forces in Europe. The U.S. Army is the third-largest employer in Bavaria, after BMW and Siemens.

Education and Research

- More than 3,500 Bavarian (pre-university) exchange students go to the U.S. every year; more than 1,400 U.S. students come to Bavaria.
- 389 U.S. students attended Bavarian universities in 2007/2008. There are approximately 210 exchange programs between Bavarian and U.S. universities.