

The document is a detailed summary of the CDU/CSU party's election program, titled "Policy Change for Germany." It outlines the party's vision and plans across various areas, aiming to address significant challenges and improve prosperity, security, and social cohesion. Below is a comprehensive summary:

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## **1. Economic and Tax Reforms**

- Reduce income tax for low and middle-income earners and aim to cap social security contributions at 40%.
  - Exempt overtime pay for full-time employees from tax and increase the commuter allowance.
  - Reform corporate taxes, cutting rates to a maximum of 25% and abolishing the solidarity surcharge.
  - Simplify bureaucracy and repeal restrictive laws like the German Supply Chain Act.
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## **2. Energy and Climate Policies**

- Reduce electricity taxes and grid fees to lower energy costs.
  - Invest in grid expansion, storage facilities, and renewable energy, emphasizing affordability and supply security.
  - Reevaluate nuclear energy, including research into advanced technologies.
  - Abolish previous heating laws and promote low-emission, technology-driven heating solutions.
  - Commit to emissions trading as a tool for climate protection.
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## **3. Innovation and Digitalization**

- Establish a federal digital ministry to lead in AI, cloud applications, and digital re-industrialization.
  - Encourage research, targeting 3.5% of GDP for R&D by 2030.
  - Promote start-ups with reduced bureaucratic regulations and foster high-tech industries like quantum computing and aerospace.
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## **4. Social and Family Policies**

- Replace social welfare with a new essential income support system emphasizing the principle of "supporting and challenging."
- Maintain the statutory retirement age and introduce incentives for working beyond it, such as tax-free salaries.
- Provide state support for early retirement savings for young people.

- Enhance parental leave and benefits, align child allowances with basic parental allowances, and improve childcare options.
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## **5. Education**

- Focus on language skills, mandatory testing at preschool age, and emphasize effort and performance in core subjects.
  - Create a high-standard, nationwide baccalaureate.
  - Improve vocational education and modernize the student financial aid system (BAföG).
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## **6. Law and Order**

- Pursue a zero-tolerance strategy against crime with strengthened law enforcement and expedited legal proceedings.
  - Use modern tools like electronic ankle monitors and facial recognition to combat crime.
  - Reverse cannabis legalization and tighten drug-related policies.
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## **7. Migration**

- Enforce strict border controls and limit migration.
  - Accelerate asylum processes and repatriations, with stricter policies for family reunification.
  - Advocate European asylum law changes to process claims in safe third countries.
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## **8. Agriculture**

- Provide financial relief to farmers, such as reintroducing full agricultural diesel rebates.
  - Simplify agricultural regulations and ensure planning security.
  - Support innovative and sustainable farming technologies.
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## **9. Foreign Policy and Security**

- Strengthen geopolitical influence, focusing on transatlantic partnerships and European unity.
- Support Ukraine diplomatically and militarily while advocating for NATO commitments.

- Reintroduce conscription and enhance military readiness, including missile defense initiatives.
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## **10. Housing and Mobility**

- Reduce building regulations to promote affordable housing and social housing construction.
  - Reverse the ban on combustion engines while supporting the expansion of e-mobility infrastructure.
  - Improve public transport infrastructure and separate rail infrastructure from operations for increased competition.
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## **11. State Reform**

- Halve the number of commissioners, reduce government staff, and uphold fiscal responsibility by adhering to the debt brake.
  - Accelerate planning and approval processes for infrastructure projects.
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## **12. Cultural Cohesion**

- Promote integration through mandatory agreements and emphasize German language acquisition.
  - Oppose dual citizenship and express naturalization policies.
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The program seeks to restore Germany's economic strength, secure energy supply, advance innovation, enforce law and order, manage migration, and strengthen family and social policies. The CDU/CSU calls for support, emphasizing their commitment to governing effectively.