

Dr. Benjamin Mohr
Head of Sovereign Ratings

Hellersbergstr. 11, 41460 Neuss
Phone 0 21 31 / 1 09 - 5172
Fax 0 21 31 / 1 09 - 8320
E-Mail b.mohr@creditreform-rating.de
Internet www.creditreform-rating.de

PRESS RELEASE

Creditreform Rating publishes unsolicited sovereign rating for the Federal Republic of Germany

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Creditreform Rating has published the unsolicited long-term sovereign rating of “AAA” for the Federal Republic of Germany. Creditreform Rating has also published Germany’s unsolicited ratings for foreign and local currency senior unsecured long-term debt of “AAA”.

We believe that Germany’s reliable and efficient system of political, legal and monetary institutions is one of the country’s most important credit strengths. Germany has a prospering economy with a highly diversified and competitive corporate sector. Due to its innovative corporate sector and skilled labor force, Germany’s per capita income is among the highest in the world. Moreover, the labor market has continued its robust and strong performance. Concerning fiscal sustainability, the country’s balanced budget and its declining debt trend indicate a continued fiscal consolidation and strong fiscal position. At the same time, Germany’s creditworthiness is strongly supported by the favorable structure of its outstanding government debt.

Our Rating outlook on the long-term sovereign rating of AAA is stable as we believe that the risks surrounding the perspectives for the German economy are broadly balanced over the medium term.

Downside risks relate to contingent liabilities, as the German government has issued substantial financial guarantees. Furthermore, a downgrade could follow in the event of a significant deterioration in growth or government debt trends. In the long run, the ageing of the German population poses a substantial downside risk for the AAA credit rating.

ABOUT CREDITREFORM RATING

Creditreform Rating AG is a European Rating Agency registered with the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA). We are an External Credit Assessment Institution (ECAI) and a shareholder of European DataWarehouse GmbH. Creditreform Rating issues corporate, bank and sovereign ratings as well as structured finance and issue ratings. The European Banking Authority (EBA) has provided mappings for our corporate and structured finance ratings. We are a dynamically growing enterprise and currently employ more than 70 staff from ten countries. We are specialist providers of credit risk assessments and offer a wide range of rating and credit services as well as risk management solutions.