

Announcement by the  
University of Münster

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– **Suspension of electoral preparations** –  
for the upcoming Senate and faculty board elections  
in all member groups in SuSe 2024

Date 13th May 2024

Dear Members of the University,

I wish to inform you that I am formally suspending the current electoral preparations for the upcoming Senate and faculty board elections in the summer semester 2024 in agreement with the Central Electoral Committee in accordance with § 12a (1) WahLO Senat and WahLO FBR.

Reason:

The decision by the NRW Higher Administrative Court (OVG NRW) of 23 April 2024 (15 B 373/23, Walter / University of Münster, on the equality of the Senate elections in the student group in 2022) influences the preparations for the 2024 elections at the University of Münster. The participating organs and committees (University management, Senate, ZWA, election supervisor) agree that the legal position of the court must be taken into account in the 2024 elections even though it was issued as a preliminary decision in summary proceedings.

In an extraordinary meeting on 8 May 2024, the Senate amended the electoral regulations for the Senate (WahLO Senat) and faculty boards (WahLO FBR) to reflect the opinion of the court. The amendment went into effect on 9 May 2024. For more details, read the official announcements (in German only) at: <https://www.uni-muenster.de/Rektorat/abuni/2024/AB2413.html>.

In the WahLO Senat, the four electoral districts of the student group were replaced by a single, combined electoral district. In accordance with the amended regulations, the four electoral districts are now abolished, which means the previous electoral nominations, which have already been submitted to the Election Office, are to be rendered null and void. The student body is instructed to submit electoral nominations for the newly created single district. Due to these special circumstances, the previously scheduled electoral preparations have to be changed accordingly.

In order to plan and conduct the elections in 2024 with due diligence, we have no choice but to suspend the electoral preparations. We will suggest changing the deadlines and dates for the current electoral procedure and ask the Rectorate to change the electoral period. We will provide you with information about the new deadlines and dates in a

revised University-wide election announcement. Likewise, we will promptly inform you about the future steps we will take to properly conduct the Senate and faculty board elections.

Kind regards,

Dr Anne Sprafke  
–Election Supervisor–

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