

## **IO2 Germany Today: political, economic, cultural and historic aspects**

Germany is a diverse country with a long history and various traditions. In the first part students will get a short overview of German history, with a focus on the Hanseatic League as a precursor of the European Union, Nazi Germany and the destruction of the first German democracy as well as the political & economic development of Germany after WWII.

In the second part, we will look at the economy with a special focus on small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) and "Hidden Champions". Accounting for more than 99% of all companies, SME form the backbone of the German economy and are also characterized by their high share of industrial production.

During the course, participants need to work in teams and prepare group presentations.

**Assessment: Exercises with presentations 50%, Group Presentation 50%**

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**ECTS: 4**