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HRK urges the federal states to invest newly available BAFöG funding in education

The HRK is calling on the federal states to stand by their commitment to re-invest all the funding which will become available to them through changes to BAFöG, (the German Federal Law on Support in Education) in education.

"Basic financing for the higher education institutions has not kept pace with the increasing demand for higher education. With the federal government now taking on the federal states' share of BAFöG funding, there is an opportunity to go at least some way towards redressing the negative development. Therefore, as a minimum the funding which is released from students' BAFöG should be allocated fully to the higher education institutions," said HRK President Prof. Dr. Horst Hippler. "It is particularly important that the BAFöG funding should not be used for any other purpose. Investment in education pays off in the long term. The federal states should have the foresight not to use the funding which has now become available to cover their general budget deficit."

In the wake of the "compromise" on education funding, the federal government has said that it is prepared to take on the contribution that the federal states have hitherto made. This means that the federal states will have €1.17 billion more at their disposal every year.