

**29 April 2015**

**HRK President receives the Order of Merit of the federal state of Baden-Württemberg**

On Saturday, HRK President Professor Dr. Horst Hippler was awarded of the Order of Merit of the federal state of Baden-Württemberg. The "Landesorden", or 'State Order', is the highest distinction endowed by Baden-Württemberg, in recognition of outstanding contributions to the federal state.

In his laudation, state Prime Minister Winfried Kretschmann praised Professor Hippler's contributions, citing his "focus on the different university sites in Baden-Württemberg and their development potential", in roles including former President of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and Chairman of the Baden-Württemberg State Rectors' Conference. His commitment is continuing to benefit the "competitiveness of our university landscape, and thus the prosperity of our federal state," Mr. Kretschmann commented.