

09.2.2026

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**Title**

Autonomy and accountability

**Publication year**

2012

**Source/Footnote**

In: Leadership and governance in higher education : for decision-makers and administrators - Berlin : Raabe.- 2 (2012) 1, S. 1 - 24

**Inventory number**

32140

**Keywords**

Hochschule und Gesellschaft ; Hochschule und Staat : allgemein ; Hochschulreform : allgemein ; Freiheit von Forschung und Lehre

**Abstract**

Institutions of higher education and research contribute to society by generating new ideas, furthering not only research but societal and economic progress as well. To enhance the quality of research results, scholarship has traditionally been based on freedom of teaching and research ? in many countries this is guaranteed by the constitution. In the classical model of research, developed since the 17th century, publishing is the functional precondition for certifying and validating scientific claims. However, for at least a decade now, a ?new autonomy? of the university is being sought. The concept of the ?unchained university? (Müller-Böling 2000) is one that demands exoneration from state control as well as from corporate regulation. In the course of this paper, different concepts of the autonomy and accountability of science and its participants will be analyzed. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)