



## **The Protestant Academy Bad Boll**

The Protestant Academy Bad Boll is a meeting place for people from all walks of life, who are interested in topics relating to education, society, politics, religion, economics or the environment. It is located 45 km south-east of Stuttgart, the state capital of Baden-Wuerttemberg in southern Germany. The aim of the Academy is to build bridges between people and traditional conceptions and new, unfamiliar or perhaps even forgotten ideas.

The Academy is an institution of the Protestant Church, but does not seek to lay down specific rules on religious beliefs. In fact, the Academy encourages discussion of controversial issues as well as the awareness and acceptance of differing points of view. Since it was founded in 1945, the Academy has continuously provided a forum for intellectual, intercultural and ecumenical exchange.

### *Tolerant and Protestant*

The Protestant Academy Bad Boll attends to the message and consolation of the Gospel. The conferences are guided by the reference to Christian humanity and the spirit of an open-minded, tolerant Protestantism as one possibility in the search for orientation and clarification of ethical viewpoints. The Protestant State Church of Baden-Württemberg has assigned the Academy the task of participating in “efforts to achieve a Christian way of life and a better sense of community”.

### *Thematic priorities*

The Protestant Academy Bad Boll focuses particularly on work with professional groups. The Academy’s conference activities are structured around three closely related thematic areas:

- economy, globalisation, sustainability
- society, politics, the state
- culture, education, religion

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### *Conferences and more*

The Academy employees not only organise conferences, seminars and symposia but in “teams of experts”, they also provide training, advising and accompany projects above and beyond the confines of Bad Boll. The Church Service in the World of Work (Kirchlicher Dienst in der Arbeitswelt, KDA) focuses on issues related to creating appropriate economic, social and political framework conditions in businesses and enterprises, establishing connections between the Church and the economy, and attending to the training and further education of vicars and pastors. The Academy for Management and Responsibility (AFV) targets people in management positions and, on the basis of a Christian image of humankind, offers support through coaching and supervision, and advice on questions relating to organisational developments as well as team formation.

For more than 25 years, the Meeting Point 50plus has been mediating the services provided by the Offene Altenhilfe (Senior Citizens' Assistance) in Stuttgart. These include education, encounter, advice and involvement of elderly people. The SocioPolitical Youth Education programme addresses themes and questions relevant to young people at the junctures between society and individual, school and vocation. Its aims are to strengthen young people's social competence and equip them for participation in a democratic society.

*Sustainable hospitality*

The concept behind catering and housekeeping at the Protestant Academy Bad Boll is to harmonise service, hospitality and the best of ingredients with an environmental awareness. Chef de cuisine Wolfram Siebeck awarded the Bad Boll catering team the silver Biostar Prize, which acknowledges creative organic concepts for largescale catering. The slogan which guides our purchase of ingredients is »seasonal, regional, fair«. The Academy makes its contribution to the environment through its use of rainwater, thermal power, pellets and solar energy. The Academy has also developed a certified sustainability management in the areas of economics and social welfare.

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