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Abstract

The traditional German system of academic appointments and careers has recently become a focus of policy reorganisation. The article analyses the ongoing debates and changes on the basis of an examination of the origins and overall function of the academic career system. It is argued that the recruitment, promotion, and appointment of academic staff are seen as more important issues in countries, like Germany, where they shape the institutional pattern of higher education and where they are major link to the state and society. (Abstract vom Verfasser übernommen)