

## Whistleblower protection

### Internal reporting office for whistleblower protection

Employees are often the first to notice legal violations. Many are afraid to report them for fear of reprisals. Whistleblowers now have better protection:

EU Directive 2019/1937 (EU Whistleblower Protection Directive) aims to protect individuals who report information about violations of Union law. The federal legislature has implemented this EU directive into German law with the Whistleblower Protection Act (HinSchG). Against this background, the TUHH has set up an internal reporting point where employees of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg can report violations of the law that fall within the scope of the directive<sup>1</sup> or fall within the material scope of the Whistleblower Protection Act<sup>2</sup> and that occurred within the area of responsibility of the TUHH's internal reporting point. The identities of the whistleblowers and third parties mentioned in the report are treated confidentially. This is also intended to protect whistleblowers from undue disadvantages such as mobbing, poor evaluations, or other professional consequences. In this context, please note exceptions to the confidentiality requirement pursuant to Section 9 of the HinSchG.

Our common goal is to investigate and remedy reported violations.

Notifications to the Internal Reporting Office are "notifications in official business" within the meaning of Section 37 of the Federal Civil Service Act (BeamtStG) and are therefore generally permissible. Employees who report information acquired in the course of their work to an internal reporting office using the prescribed method are generally performing an official duty. However, the regulations governing certain areas remain unaffected by the EU Whistleblower Protection Directive<sup>3</sup>; therefore, information from these areas may generally not be reported as part of a whistleblower report under the EU Whistleblower Protection Directive. Under German law, information that does not fall within the scope of the Whistleblower Protection Act is regulated in Sections 5 and 6 of the Whistleblower Protection Act. Section 4 of the Whistleblower Protection Act contains a list of provisions that take precedence over whistleblower protection.

You are welcome to contact the Internal Reporting Office in advance of submitting a whistleblower report and obtain further information.

Your contact person at the Internal Reporting Office

Maria Lüders

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Tel.: 040-428 78 4123

TUHH, Am Schwarzenberg-Campus 1A, 21073 Hamburg, Ostflügel Raum A2.70

The following reporting channels are available to the Internal Reporting Office:

By email to: [internemeldestelle\[at\]tuhh.de](mailto:internemeldestelle[at]tuhh.de)

Note: If you submit a report by email, please note that the transmission is not automatically encrypted (no automatic transport encryption).

By mail, marked "confidential," to:

TUHH

Internal Reporting Office (Internal Audit / IR)

Am Schwarzenberg-Campus 1A

21073 Hamburg

Note: The Internal Reporting Office mailbox is located in the entrance area of the main building / Information Office (porter's lodge), on the left.

Reports can also be submitted by phone using the numbers provided.

Note: If you leave a message on the answering machine, it will be deleted immediately after receipt and treated confidentially.