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Current job description

I am head of the Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (150 staff) at the Robert Koch Institute (RKI), the national public health institute in Germany. The Department for Infectious Disease Epidemiology collects, analyses and interprets national data on infectious diseases, conducts research in infectious disease epidemiology as well as sentinel surveillance projects, supports the federal states in outbreak investigations and represents the RKI in EU and WHO networks. The department hosts the office of the Advisory Board for Public Health Microbiology which manages the system of National Reference and Consultant Laboratories. Prior to my appointment as head I was deputy head of the department since 2003 and head of the HIV/AIDS, STI and Bloodborne Infections Unit since 1995, responsible for HIV/AIDS, STI and blood donor surveillance in Germany. I have worked in prevention, surveillance and epidemiology since 1987 and have led numerous surveillance and research projects in the field.

Why do you want to be a board member?

I have enjoyed and supported the fruitful collaboration of this network since its founding days and I believe I can contribute further to its success in the coming years.

What is your contribution to ESAR?

I have been part of SPREAD, EHR and ESAR from the very beginning and have supported these programmes through my activities at national, European and international level in a number scientific and formal networks.

What is your vision for ESAR?

My vision for ESAR is, that we will be the central hub for surveillance of HIV and Hepatitis resistance in Europe and provide a platform for research in the field at the same time, thus creating an added value for all participants as well as for public health in Europe.