

Stabilisation of the Lufthansa Group

COMPLETELY IN PRIVATE HANDS AGAIN

The Covid-19 pandemic hit the Lufthansa Group hard, causing great financial difficulties. In spring 2020, the governments of Germany, Austria, Belgium and Switzerland responded by pledging a total of €9bn in aid. In Germany, the federal government took a 20% stake in Lufthansa. By doing so, the politicians have stabilised the Lufthansa Group – and at the same time achieved a plus for the treasury.

The 20% stake was acquired by the federal government in the summer of 2020 via the Federal Republic’s Economic Stabilisation Fund (ESF) for a purchase price of €306m. Already in August 2021, the federal government reduced its participation again. In mid-September 2022 – and thus a good year before the deadline set by the EU – the ESF sold the last shares. In total, the ESF achieved sales proceeds of €1.07bn – and thus a profit of around €700m.

The Lufthansa Group had already repaid all loans and deposits from the federal government in November 2021. Interest of around €92m was paid for this part of the stabilisation package. Calculated on the basis of the aid utilised, this corresponds to a return for the federal government of 22% over two years. Government loans were also reduced in the other home markets of Lufthansa Group Airlines. SWISS was already able to repay the state loan in full and ahead of schedule at the end of May 2022. Interest and fees amounted to CHF60m. Austrian Airlines and Brussels Airlines will repay their stabilisation funds by the end of 2022.

Lufthansa completely in private hands again



“On behalf of all Lufthansa employees, I would like to thank politicians and taxpayers for their support of Lufthansa in the most serious financial crisis in the company’s history. Stabilisation has been successful and it is also paying off financially for the federal government.”

Carsten Spohr

Chairman of the Executive Board of Deutsche Lufthansa AG on 14 September 2022