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For immediate release:

## ***Employee share ownership: German politics finally needs to act***

The European Federation of Employee Share Ownership (EFES), the voice of employee share ownership in Europe, draws the attention to the recent call published by the German Share Institute (*Deutsches Aktieninstitut*).

Whereas in other European countries like France (3.3 million employee shareholders) and Great Britain (2.2 million) the numbers of employee shareholders are counted in millions, in Germany only 800.000 employees benefit from employee share ownership.

In its article *Deutsches Aktieninstitut* therefore demands of the governmental parties to finally create higher tax incentives and better regulation to promote employee share ownership. Due to continuing low interest rates Germans will neither be able to maintain their savings nor obtain a sufficient amount of money for their retirement arrangements without more share investment.

Dr. Christine Bortenlänger, Chief Executive *Deutsches Aktieninstitut*: "*Employee share ownership is a good way to get a first insight into saving with shares. However, the number of employee shareholders is declining in Germany. In fact, it has never been so small.*"

Marc Mathieu, Secretary General of the EFES said: "*Fiscal aspects play a major role for the dissemination of employee share ownership. If Germany really wants to promote employee share ownership, it needs to adapt its allowances to common international levels and to increase it strongly.*"

The call from the *Deutsches Aktieninstitut* is available on the EFES' website on [www.efesonline.org](http://www.efesonline.org).

The detailed publication can be downloaded here [in English](#) and [in German](#).

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### **Notes to editors:**

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***Deutsches Aktieninstitut represents the entire German economy interested in the capital markets. Its about 200 members are listed corporations, banks, stock exchanges, investors and other important market participants. Deutsches Aktieninstitut keeps offices in Frankfurt am Main, Brussels and in Berlin.***

***The European Federation of Employee Share Ownership (EFES) is an international not for profit organisation. EFES is the voice of employee share ownership in Europe. It was established in 1998 as the umbrella organisation of employee owners, companies and all persons, trade unions, experts, researchers, institutions looking to promote the development of employee share ownership and participation in Europe.***