

ISACA Germany: Christmas greetings from the President and review of the year 2024



Dear member of the ISACA Germany Chapter,

At this festive time of year, I would not only like to send you warm Christmas greetings, but also look back on some of the highlights we experienced as a chapter in the challenging year 2024.

This year was characterised by economic stagnation, military conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East, political turbulence such as the Trump election and the end of the "Ampel" (traffic light) coalition, as well as new EU regulations such as DORA, NIS2 and CRA. The CrowdStrike incident has once again highlighted the vulnerability of our digital world, while new technologies such as generative AI pose both opportunities and risks. Despite these choppy waters, we can look back on a very successful year for our chapter.

A particular highlight was the **IT GRC Congress** on 3 and 4 June in my home city of Hamburg. With 300 participants, we were once again able to send a strong signal about the relevance of our topics. The evening event with a big harbour cruise will also be remembered by most people. I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to make a note of the **10th IT-GRC Congress 2025** on 26 and 27 May in Cologne. We look forward to your contributions and [submissions](#) to make this event a success.

Our **She@ISACA** initiative experienced a 'new start'. With new meet-ups and the cooperation with the Women4Cyber Chapter Germany, we are continuing to promote the advancement of women. We look forward to further expanding this initiative in the coming year.

Another highlight was the development of the new **'IT Regulatory Assurance Manager' (ITRAM)** certificate course in cooperation with the Frankfurt School of Finance & Management. Our training program is responding to the current DORA requirements, which will apply to all financial companies across all sectors from 2025. The course offers a comprehensive exploration of the key IT requirements as well as practical solutions for their implementation and continuous monitoring. The aim is to optimally prepare companies for the challenges of regulatory audits.

The second **expert group conference days** on 25 and 26 September at KfW in Frankfurt am Main with almost 100 participants once again demonstrated the importance of personal and professional exchange. We are planning the next expert group conference days for next year on 24 and 25 September 2025 in Düsseldorf. Participation in these events is exclusive to members of the [expert groups](#), making it even more worthwhile to get involved in our expert groups.

Among the publications in 2024, I would like to highlight the new **'Individual Data Processing' guide** (in German) from the IT Audit expert group, which provides practical tips for secure operation, identification and auditing.

I am particularly pleased that Mona Asikömer has joined our office and has been actively supporting our team since 1 November. Together with Anett Bolanz and Valentina Breise, she ensures that our events run smoothly and that our members are looked after. My special thanks go to all three of them for their tireless efforts!

Our chapter continues to grow strongly: we now have almost 4000 members! This growth is not least **the result of your voluntary commitment**. Your knowledge and your contributions are the basis for our success.

On behalf of the entire Board, I would like to thank you for your support and commitment. We wish you and your loved ones a peaceful Christmas and a healthy, happy and successful New Year 2025. May it be a year full of successes and new insights.

Warm Christmas greetings

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