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The actors of the German research and innovation system employ different ways of self-monitoring (e.g. investment calculation in enterprises, freedom of science in case of higher education systems and Max Planck Society, contract research market at the Fraunhofer Association). On the one hand, Federal Ministry of Education and Research finances parts of this system with little or without regulative intentions, on the other, it performs its regulating tasks via specialised programmes. The statement focuses on the objectives intended by such regulation.