



Press release

Clément Schwebig new CEO of RTL Group – Alexander von Torklus to succeed Björn Bauer as CFO

Luxembourg/Cologne, 12 May 2026 – RTL Group's Board of Directors today appointed Clément Schwebig as the new CEO of RTL Group, as already announced in November 2025. Clément Schwebig succeeds Thomas Rabe, who has served as CEO of RTL Group since 1 April 2019 and who will stay on as Executive Director and member of RTL Group's Executive Committee to ensure a smooth transition.

RTL Group's Board of Directors also decided that Alexander von Torklus, currently Executive Vice President Corporate Controlling and Strategy at Bertelsmann, will succeed Björn Bauer as CFO of RTL Group by the end of September 2026. Björn Bauer has served as CFO of RTL Group since 1 September 2019 and will become CFO of the global music company BMG. At the end of April 2026, Bertelsmann announced the combination of BMG and Concord to create the world's leading independent music company. The transaction is subject to approval by the relevant regulatory authorities.

Alexander von Torklus, who is currently a Non-Executive Director of RTL Group's Board of Directors, will join RTL Group as designated CFO in July 2026. He is also expected to become Executive Director upon his appointment as CFO.

Martin Taylor, Chairman of RTL Group's Board of Directors, says: "I would like to congratulate Clément Schwebig on his appointment as CEO of RTL Group, taking over the leadership of the Group at a pivotal moment, just after the unconditional approval of the acquisition of Sky Deutschland. Alexander von Torklus has already been on our Board since 2023, demonstrating financial expertise and a deep understanding of the media industry. I wish both of them every success in their new roles. At the same time, I would like to express, on behalf of the entire Board, our gratitude to Thomas Rabe and Björn Bauer for their outstanding leadership, determination, and commitment in ensuring a smooth leadership transition."

Alexander von Torklus, born in 1979, studied Business Administration at Freie Universität Berlin, where he also earned his doctorate while pursuing his professional career at PwC. In October 2006, he joined Bertelsmann as Director Corporate Controlling and Consulting at Arvato Group and was promoted to Senior Vice President Corporate Controlling and Consulting in September 2009. In October 2015, Alexander von Torklus became CFO of Bertelsmann's global supply chain business, Arvato, which generated around €3 billion in revenue in 2025. In January 2023, he was appointed Executive Vice President Corporate Controlling and Strategy at Bertelsmann.

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About RTL Group

RTL Group is a leading entertainment company across broadcast, streaming, content and digital, with interests in 52 television channels, six streaming services and 40 radio stations. The Group's families of TV channels are either number one or number two in five European countries, while RTL Group owns or has interests in radio stations in France, Germany, Spain and Luxembourg. RTL Deutschland is the Group's largest business unit and Germany's leading entertainment company, operating across TV, streaming, radio, digital and publishing. RTL Group's streaming services include RTL+ in Germany and Hungary, and M6+ in France. Fremantle is one of the world's largest creators, producers and distributors of scripted and unscripted content, and is responsible for more than 11,000 hours of programming per year, alongside an international network of teams operating in 28 countries. The streaming tech company Bedrock, the ad-tech company Smartclip and the social media company We Are Era are also owned by RTL Group. As a market leader, RTL Group strives to foster alliances and partnerships within the European media industry, for example by building a one-stop advertising sales house in Germany with Ad Alliance and driving international advertising sales with RTL AdAlliance. Bertelsmann is the majority shareholder of RTL Group, which is listed on the Luxembourg and Frankfurt stock exchanges and in the MDAX stock index.