The society consists of full, extraordinary, international, associated and corresponding members as well as
• Full members: all physicians specialising in or with a vocational interest in trauma surgery/traumatology can
  apply as full members. 
• Extraordinary members: Persons and associations of individuals, other than physicians, who are actively
  involved in the field of traumatology or share a scientific or practical interest in this field, can apply as
  extraordinary members.
• Associate members: All physicians who are currently full members of a German or international scientific society
  involved in the field of traumatology or share a scientific or practical interest in this field, can apply as associate
  members.
• Corresponding members: All foreign physicians or scientists who will be honoured may be appointed as
  corresponding members.

Development throughout the years: In 2008, the German Society for Orthopaedics and Trauma was founded in cooperation between the German Trauma Society (DGU) and the German Society for Orthopedics and Orthopedic Surgery (DGÖOC). With this new corporate society, a professional representation for the newly established ‘specialist for orthopaedics and trauma surgery’ could be created. In contrast to the Anglo-American orthopaedic surgeon, this training also includes acute care surgery and emergency medicine.

Membership:
1. The society consists of full, extraordinary, international, associated and corresponding members as well as
   honorary members.
2. Full members: all physicians specializing in or with a vocational interest in trauma surgery/traumatology can
   apply as full members.
3. Extraordinary members: Persons and associations of individuals, other than physicians, who are actively
   involved in the field of traumatology or share a scientific or practical interest in this field, can apply as
   extraordinary members.
4. International members: All physicians who are currently full members of a foreign scientific society for trauma
   surgery or traumatology or another society whose tasks and objectives correspond to those of the German
   Trauma Society, can apply as international members.
5. Associate members: All physicians who are currently full members of a German or international scientific society
   for trauma surgery or traumatology, or another society whose tasks and objectives correspond to those of the
   German Trauma Society, and who want to become member of only a section or working group of the German
   Trauma Society, can apply as associate members.
6. Corresponding members: All foreign physicians or scientists who will be honoured may be appointed as
   corresponding members.


Milestones:
1970 Adoption of a new model ordinance for advanced training by the German Medical Assembly: Introduction of the
surgical subspeciality trauma surgery
1970 Implementation of the first German Chair in Trauma Surgery at the Hannover Medical School
1989 Adoption of the DGU “Memorandum on Trauma Surgery”: Call on political decision makers, faculties and
medical associations in Germany to promote the structural development of trauma surgery in clinical practice and
research
1990 Rejection and admission of GDR trauma surgeons
1992 Amendment of the model ordinance for advanced training by the German Medical Assembly: Implementation of
the surgical emphasis ‘trauma surgery’
1992 Adoption of the DGU “Memorandum on Trauma Surgery”: Call on political decision makers, faculties and medical
associations in Germany to promote the structural development of trauma surgery in clinical practice and
research
1994 Adoption of the DGU “Memorandum on the Status of Trauma Surgery in German Universities”
1997 Adoption of the DGU “Structure Paper”: “Recommendations on the Structure, Organisation and Equipment of Preclinical and Clinical Treatment of Patients in Trauma Surgery Departments in Germany”
2003 Adoption of a new model ordinance for advanced training by the German Medical Assembly: Introduction of the new “specialist in orthopaedics and trauma surgery” and the additional qualifications “special orthopaedics” and “special trauma surgery”

Aims of the society: The aim of the German Trauma Society is the comprehensive and sustained promotion of scientific, practical, vocational and interdisciplinary activities in the field of traumatology, especially in trauma surgery.

We focus our efforts on:
• Organisation of the annual “German Congress for Orthopaedics and Trauma Surgery”
• Promotion of vocational and advanced training courses, hands-on workshops and interdisciplinary cooperation
• Precordial and clinical, ambulant and in-patient training of accident victims on a high level of interdisciplinary
% cooperation (DGU White Paper on the Structure, Equipment and Organisation of Trauma Treatment in Germany, 2006)
• External and internal quality assurance through the foundation of a trauma network in Germany and
neighbouring countries, across national boundaries by means of external certification and audits (www.
traumanetzwerk-dgu.de)
• DGU Trauma Registry which is designed to mirror the quality of results – www.tauamaregister-dgu.de –, including
benchmarking processes and online data entry. The DGU Trauma Registry for the treatment of severely injured
patients, ISS > 16, was founded in 1993. It contains and uses more than 120,000 patient records which form the
basis for the optimisation of treatment processes
• Optimisation of patient safety through active involvement in the action coalition for patient safety, offering
training courses and publishing treatment guidelines on ‘wrong side surgery’, ‘safe surgery according to WHO
guidelines’ etc.
• Hand Over Team Training (HOTT) – shock room training for physicians and nursing staff
• Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)
• DGU Trauma Registry which is designed to mirror the quality of results – www.traumaregister-dgu.de –, including
promotion of quality assurance programs in different fields of injured patients, especially in the field of severe
injuries from the site of accident to the reintegration into working and social life by means of:
  • Definition of standards for the medical education and the advanced training (training courses, hands-on
workshops and interdisciplinary cooperation)
• Research Fellowship Osteology for young researchers. The fellowship is
worth 25,000 €.
• Hans Liniger Prize (prize for the best doctoral dissertation): Promotion of young academics for extraordinary
achievements in the fields of traumatology, insurance medicine, the healthcare system and traffic medicine or their
border areas. The prize is worth 10,000 €.
• Innovation Award: This award is worth 2,500 €.
• Berlin Declaration, 2013
• Doctoral Dissertation Award for the best Dissertation in Orthopedics
• Trauma, This award is worth 2,500 €.
• Research fellowship Osteology for young researchers. The fellowship is
worth 25,000 €.

The DGU’s activities are performed by:
• Congress: www.dkou.de
• Regional congresses and workshops: approximately 50/year.
• Other events: approximately 15/year.

The motto of this year’s congress will be: “Hinterm Horizont (behind the horizon)”. With around 11,000 participants, it is one of the biggest of its kind.

At the core of the DGU’s activities is the “German Congress for Orthopaedics and Trauma Surgery” –  www.dkou.de

The DGU awards the following prizes and scholarships:
- Hans Liniger Prize (prize for the best doctoral dissertation): Promotion of young academics for extraordinary
achievements in the fields of traumatology, insurance medicine, the healthcare system and traffic medicine or their
border areas. The prize is worth 10,000 €.
- Innovation Award: This award is worth 2,500 €.
- Travel scholarship: This scholarship is designed to support young academics in their visits to clinically or
experimentally significant foreign institutions. The scholarship is worth 5,000 €.
- Doctoral Dissertation Award for the best Dissertation in Orthopedics and
Trauma, This award is worth 2,500 €.
- Research fellowship Osteology for young researchers. The fellowship is
worth 25,000 €.

Official publication organ:
Orthopädie und Unfallchirurgie – Mitteilungen und Nachrichten (DUUM)
Orthopädie und Unfallchirurgie (i.e. The Trauma Surgeon)
Orthopädie und Unfallchirurgie (i.e. News and Information)

Website: www.dgu-online.de
Congres: www.dgu.de
Institutional member delegate: Christoph Josten

Institutional member of the European Society for Trauma & Emergency Surgery

History - Founding year:
The German Trauma Society, as it is called today, was founded on September 23, 1922 as “Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Unfallchirurgie” (i.e. German Society of Traumatology). Two of its founding fathers were Hans Liniger and Eberhard Kühne. After a largely passive era during the Second World War and another period between 1940 and 1950 during which the society was dormant, it was refounded in 1950 due to the initiative of Prof. Dr. Heinrich Bürkle.

2006 Publication of the DGU “White Paper on the Treatment of Severely Injured Patients”: “Recommendations on the
Structure, Organisation and Equipment of In-Patient Facilities for the Treatment of Severely Injured Patients in
Germany”
2007 Start of the implementation of the recommendations from the White Paper through the establishment of
regional trauma networks
2008 Foundation of the German Society for Orthopaedics and Trauma (DGOU)
2009 Implementing the German Trauma Network (TMW)
2012 Second revised and updated Edition of the “Whitebook Medical Care of the Severely Injured (English version
available), Guidelines on Treatment of Patients with Severe and Multiple Injuries (English version available)
2013 20-Year celebration of DGU Trauma Registry
2014 Inauguration of a geriatric trauma network
Other: AFKL courses since 2003, JSTC courses since 2009, different chapters of Specialisation – Concerning education,
training courses and clinical studies including health care surveys – for Surgery of the Hand, Pelvic Surgery including
a pelvic fracture register since 2002, Spine Surgery, Paediatric Trauma Surgery, for Rehabilitation and Expertise and
the care of severely injured patients including emergency
prehospital care.

Working groups for research and development of special fields, such as: joint surgery, ultrasound, computerassisted
surgery, tissue engineering, development of student training programs, foot and ankle surgery, trauma research,
evaluation of the trauma network’s implementation in
Germany, advice of young researchers in the field of basic
medical and health care research.

Yearly reiterating activities:
At the core of the DGU's activities is the “German Congress for Orthopaedics and Trauma Surgery” –  www.dkou.de

Institutional member of the European Society for Trauma & Emergency Surgery