

Inaccurate Information in Manager Magazin – Refutation of the Report

In an online article published on June 12, 2026, Manager Magazin discussed The Platform Group SE & Co. KGaA (TPG) in relation to current issues. The facts and assertions presented in the article are neither accurately portrayed nor correct. **TPG firmly refutes these misrepresentations.**

The Platform Group has decided to take action against this portrayal in two ways:

1. Transparency: 1. Transparency: TPG has commissioned a legal review of the article. The media law firm LHR will conduct this review. At the same time, The Platform Group firmly rejects the allegations and representations cited. To ensure a high degree of transparency and provide concrete responses, the following rebuttal is being published. The website <https://www.tpg-fakten-gegen-mythen.de/> is also being regularly updated to specifically address the false claims made by Manager Magazin.

2. Legal Action: TPG has retained the media law firm LHR to take legal action against Manager Magazin. The proceedings include both a request for a preliminary injunction against the current article and a lawsuit regarding other articles published by the magazine. Lawsuits have been filed against Manager Magazin in the past, and TPG prevailed in the Higher Regional Court of Cologne. Likewise, Manager Magazin has already received a preliminary injunction regarding false representations about TPG. The law firm LHR has also commented on the current publication dated June 12, 2026, which is available at: <https://www.lhr-law.de/en/magazine-en/press-releases/further-interim-injunction-proceedings-and-further-lawsuit-against-manager-magazin/>

Regarding the above-mentioned article in Manager Magazin dated June 12, 2026, the following should be noted:

Allegations Regarding Banks: In its article, *Manager Magazin* attempts to give the impression that banks are widely calling in or terminating loans to The Platform Group. This is neither true nor accurate. In a detailed response from our law firm, Manager Magazin was fully informed that the Group maintains over 48 bank accounts in Germany and abroad, and that the number of bank accounts has increased in the past, not decreased as claimed. The claim that loans from an alleged “house bank” would be necessary to increase TPG’s credit volume is also inaccurate and untrue. The alleged case of averting insolvency is also false and inaccurate. The claim that a former member of the Executive Board was entrusted with these financial matters is likewise inaccurate. Ms. Laura Vogelsang was specifically responsible for the Human Resources (HR) department. The statement from our law firm, which Manager Magazin received on June 8, 2026, was neither included in the Manager Magazin article nor was its content taken into account.

The actual situation is rather that the loan volume decreased slightly in the 2025 fiscal year due to repayments, from 59.2 million euros to 57.5 million euros. Likewise, the debt-to-equity ratio decreased, while the equity ratio rose from 42% to 48%. The company’s financial statements are available at: <https://corporate.the-platform-group.com/de/veroeffentlichungen/#financial-results>

During the conference call on the Q1 2026 results, TPG provided a detailed overview of current business performance in the ongoing 2026 fiscal year as well as its strategy regarding future debt levels. The Executive Board’s goal is to further reduce the already conservative debt ratio, which currently stands at 2.0x. The link to the conference call is as follows: <https://corporate.the-platform-group.com/de/veroeffentlichungen/#financial-results>

Manager Magazin also cites an East German bank with which TPG has a loan agreement. First, this does not concern TPG itself, but rather a subsidiary. Second, it was TPG's Executive Board that filed a complaint regarding an incident involving a former employee. Manager Magazin is deliberately attempting to misrepresent the situation and give the impression that these actions are directed against TPG's Executive Board. This is not the case. The opposite is true: both the aforementioned investment, which is included in the joint liability declaration, and TPG's Executive Board share the same interest. Furthermore, there is neither a connection to nor any basis for the actions of a public prosecutor in Wiesbaden. This was also explained to Manager Magazin in a written response from the law firm LHR dated June 8, 2026.

The claim regarding Aktivbank is also inaccurate. There is no loan agreement between TPG and Aktivbank. Rather, a subsidiary has a contract governing the payment of goods delivered between suppliers and customers. Manager Magazin received a detailed explanation of this in a written response from the law firm LHR dated June 8, 2026, but did not include these responses in the article.

Allegations Regarding Taxes: The account presented by Manager Magazin lacks any factual basis and was thoroughly refuted by the law firm LHR on June 8, 2026. Nevertheless, Manager Magazin included the false allegations in the article and published it without a correction. TPG therefore firmly rejects these false representations. Rather, this concerned a tax group that no longer exists. The subsidiary has accordingly confirmed this to the relevant tax office as well.

The claim that Dominik Benner, as a member of the TPG Executive Board, is personally liable for this is also neither accurate nor correct.

For information on previous lawsuits and court rulings against Manager Magazin, please refer to the following links from the law firm LHR:

<https://www.lhr-law.de/en/magazine-en/press-releases/further-interim-injunction-proceedings-and-further-lawsuit-against-manager-magazin/>

<https://www.lhr-law.de/magazin/pressemitteilungen/olg-koeln-manager-magazin/>

<https://www.lhr-law.de/magazin/pressemitteilungen/lg-koeln-manager-magazin-abschlusserklaerung/>

The current statement is also available at the following link: <https://corporate.the-platform-group.com/de/veroeffentlichungen/#statements>

You can find all financial information at the following link: <https://corporate.the-platform-group.com/de/veroeffentlichungen/#financial-results>

Previous rebuttals and analyses of these claims are available on the following website: <https://www.tpg-fakten-gegen-mythen.de/>

You can find the latest bank and research estimates for TPG at the following link: <https://corporate.the-platform-group.com/de/publications/#analyst>

Excerpt from an article by the LHR law firm regarding the current case in Manager Magazin:

Further Interim Injunction Proceedings and Further Lawsuit Against manager magazin

50 minutes ago | From Arno Lampmann



On 12 June 2026, manager magazin once again reported on The Platform Group SE & Co. KGaA and its CEO Dr. Dominik Benner in an article entitled "Banks Want Their Money Back from The Platform Group".

This publication also contains numerous inaccurate and misleading statements that are capable of seriously impairing the business and personal reputation of the company and Dr. Dominik Benner.

The reporting concerns distorted and false statements regarding alleged tax liabilities, banking relationships and credit facilities, as well as matters relating to individual subsidiaries. The Platform Group SE & Co. KGaA rejects the central conclusions of the reporting. Individual events are placed in an incorrect overall context; exculpatory circumstances and facts essential for a proper assessment are not taken into account, or not taken into account sufficiently.

Our law firm has therefore been instructed to take press-law action against this latest publication as well, in particular by seeking interim injunctive relief against the further dissemination of the challenged statements. In addition, our clients are preparing comprehensive main proceedings against manager magazin, which will also address previous publications and the continued false portrayal of our clients, and will include claims for damages.

Judgments Against manager magazin

Today's publication is not the first article by manager magazin about The Platform Group SE & Co. KGaA and Dr. Dominik Benner to be challenged under press law. Our clients have already successfully initiated legal proceedings against manager magazin in two cases.

By judgment of 26 February 2026, case no. [15 W 7/26](#), the Higher Regional Court of Cologne prohibited manager magazin and several responsible editors, by way of interim injunction, from reporting on The Platform Group SE & Co. KGaA and Dr. Dominik Benner in a specific manner. The case concerned, in particular, unlawful



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