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Dr. Katharina Reich has been Head of the Public Health and Health System Section and Director General for Public Health at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Health, Care, and Consumer Protection since December 2020. She is also Chair of the Federal Office for Safety in Health Care (BASG) and a member of the Austrian Federal Health Commission.

She studied medicine in Vienna and has been working as a general practitioner in various clinical areas since 2007. In addition, she has completed training and worked in the areas of patient safety, quality management, and clinical risk management, as well as serving as a hygiene officer in hospital hygiene and emergency medicine.

Through her five years as Medical Director at the Barmherzige Brüder Hospital in Vienna and as Deputy Medical Director at Hietzing Hospital, she has gained in-depth management knowledge. The implementation and establishment of methods and instruments for greater patient safety, physician training, and process optimization according to lean management methods.