

# **Database for International Youth Work**

## **GERMANY**

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# 1 General Information

List of relevant links which provide an overview of the country and its people:

- <http://www.deutschland.de> (Official and independent portal of the F.R.G.)
- <http://www.tatsachen-ueber-deutschland.de> (A Manual for Germany from the Foreign Office of the German Federal Government, in different languages)
- <http://www.magazine-deutschland.de> (*Deutschland Magazine*. Foreign language periodical on politics, culture, business and science. Published by the Societäts-Verlag, Frankfurt/Main, in co-operation with the Foreign Office of the German Federal Government)
- <http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deutschland> (Homepage of Wikipedia)
- <http://www.destatis.de> (Homepage of the Federal Office for Statistics)

*Basic data*

**Inhabitants:** 82 258 000; foreigners as a percentage of the population: 8.8%

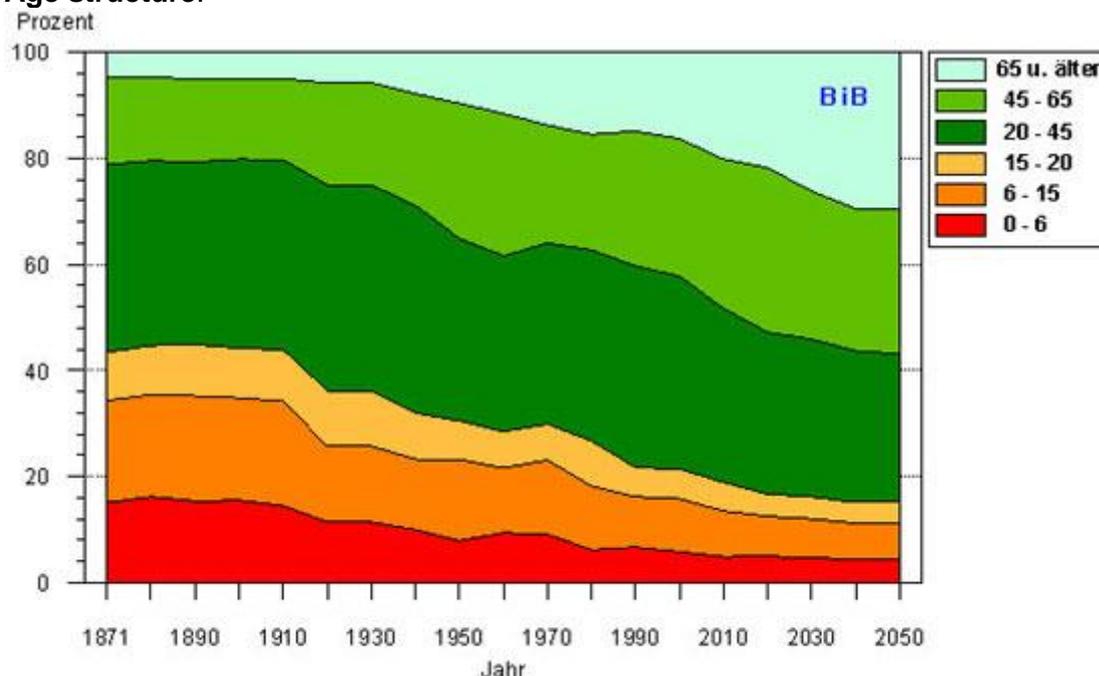
**Capitol:** Berlin

other big cities: Hamburg, München, Köln, Frankfurt/Main, Leipzig, Dresden

**Official language:** German, minority languages Frisian, Sorbian, Danish and Romany

**Gross national income:** € 2.447 trillion

**Age structure:**



Datenquelle: Statistisches Bundesamt und Bundesministerium des Innern; eigene Berechnungen

**Life expectancy:** Men 77 years, women 82 years

**Population growth:** increasing life expectancy, low birth rate. The proportion of the population made up of young people is falling, while the proportion of older people is increasing.

**Administration:** Democracy. Parliamentary Federal State with 16 states

**Head of State:** Federal President Horst Köhler. Head of Government: Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel

**Religion:** Christian 62.6% (Catholic 31.5%, Protestant 31.1%); Muslim 3.9%; Jewish 0.1%

**Other data:**

- Unemployment: 8.2% (annual projection for 2008)
- Inflation rate: 2.8% (02/08)
- Membership of international organisations: United Nations, NATO, Council of Europe, OECD, EC, OSCE and all of the important Specialised Agencies of the United Nations

(Sources: Auswärtiges Amt, Wikipedia, Statistisches Bundesamt, Eurostat)

## 2 Basic Conditions for Youth Work

### 2.1 Situation of Children and Youth

#### 2.1.1 Culture and Life-styles

At the end of 2005, approximately 26.2 million young people aged under 30 lived in the Federal Republic of Germany. Living conditions for young people are relatively good in terms of the European average. Young Germans enjoy travelling and make large numbers of trips both within Germany and abroad.

The **birth rate** (currently 1.4 children per woman) is consistently low, while at the same time life expectancy is increasing. This will lead to an increase in the ageing population (the percentage of people over the age of 65) from the current 15% to 30% by 2040. According to the most recent population projection made by the German Federal Statistical Office, by 2050 half of the German population will be older than 48 and a third will be 60 or above. The population of Germany is set to decrease gradually in the long term, even taking into account assumed immigration levels.

Following a small increase to 83 million people, as of 2013 the population is set to decline and by 2050 it will have reached its 1963 level (around 75 million people). This is due to the birth rate, which is consistently 1.4 children per woman, increased life expectancy at birth in 2050 to 81.1 for boys and 86.6 for girls, and an annual positive migration balance of around 200,000 people.

This **long-term decrease in the population level** is because for the last 30 years and also in the coming five decades, more people will die in Germany than the number of children that will be born. Today's yearly birth rate of around 730,000 babies will have decreased to around 560,000 by the year 2050, making it only half the level of the annual death rate.

The **low birth rate** will mean that the younger age groups, up to around the age of 50, will in general have fewer people than the older groups. The number of under-20s will decrease from the current level of 17 million (21% of the population) to 12 million (16%) by the year 2050. The 60 and above age group will be more than twice as large (28 million, or 37%). By 2050, 9.1 million people will be over the age of 80, accounting for 12% of the population (2001: 3.2 million, or 3.9%).

(Source: Federal Statistical Office, <http://www.destatis.de>)

The **15<sup>th</sup> Shell Youth Study for 2006** shows that young people have a high level of awareness of the major issues concerning society. They know how to rise to a challenge, seek a solution and do not allow themselves to become disheartened in the process. Today's young people have a healthy respect for the older generation. They see their future prospects as more uncertain than they were four years ago. Against this background, the importance of the family has increased. 72 percent of young people feel that a person needs a family in order to be really happy. Almost three quarters of the young people surveyed (73%) aged between 18 and 21 still live with their parents. The current study shows that young people today have a stable value system.

Young people from socially advantaged homes attend schools that provide better future prospects than young people from less socially advantaged backgrounds. Young people from these less privileged backgrounds are more likely to attend "Hauptschule", the lowest level of Germany's three-tier secondary education system, or schools for pupils with special needs. They also do not perform as well in subsequent training programmes as they should.

In terms of school education, girls have overtaken boys and in their future education they generally continue to attain higher qualifications. This is a trend that was already visible in the Shell Youth Study for 2002. In 2006, 55 % of the girls surveyed were working towards their school-leaving exams, in contrast to only 47% of boys.

The current Shell Youth Study shows that the majority of young people in Germany still have a very lukewarm view of faith and religious requirements. Among young people from immigrant backgrounds, however, "real" faith still has strong support. 52% of foreign young people believe in their own God, in contrast to only 28% of young Germans.

For more information, see <http://www.shell.de/jugendstudie>

According to the **KidsVerbraucherAnalyse 2008** (a study of consumption among young people in Germany), the 5.73 million children in Germany aged between six and 13 have savings worth €3.79 billion (2006: €3.59 billion). Children receive monthly pocket money or other allowances of around €23.30 (2006: €20.50). This money is spent mainly on sweets (59%), magazines and comics (46%) and ice cream (35%). Mobile phones are still very high on children's wish lists, with 46% of children expressing a wish for their own mobile phone (2004: 57%). This age group already has some 2.2 million (2004: 1.6 million) mobile phones, with the most part (1.8 million) owned by the 10-13 age group.

Brand awareness among 6-13 year-olds is again very pronounced. In terms of non-food products, this is very clear in sports shoes, bags and satchels, clothes and jeans, school items and mobile phones.

The consumption of sweets has generally fallen somewhat in comparison to the previous year, while chocolate bars have become more popular again. In contrast to this, mineral water has meanwhile become the most popular thirst-quencher.

Girls and boys most enjoy spending their free time with their friends. Girls still prefer listening to music and cycling, while for boys, alongside cycling, football is the favourite pastime. 4.0 million children regularly read children's magazines and 70% of parents regularly read with their children. For more information on the subject, see [http://www.ehapa-media.de/pdf\\_download/Praesentation\\_%20KVA08.pdf](http://www.ehapa-media.de/pdf_download/Praesentation_%20KVA08.pdf)

*Link*

[http://pressenetzwerk.de/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=96&Itemid=103](http://pressenetzwerk.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=96&Itemid=103) - Article on young people and culture 2008 "*Jung, bunt, vielseitig*" (Young, colourful and eclectic) by Jörg Wild (*Pressenetzwerk für Jugendthemen* – the German Press Network for Youth Issues)

### **2.1.2 Unemployment**

The 15<sup>th</sup> Shell Youth Study 2006 shows that young people are significantly more concerned about losing their job or being unable to find suitable employment. While in 2002 55% were concerned about this matter, by 2006 this figure had increased to 69%. The fear of a difficult economic situation and rising poverty levels also increased in the same four-year period from 62% to 66%. For further information see <http://www.shell.de/jugendstudie>.

According to ILO figures, in November 2006 unemployment among the under-25s was 13.8%.

(Source: [http://www.destatis.de/themen/d/thm\\_erwerbs.php](http://www.destatis.de/themen/d/thm_erwerbs.php), 29.04.05)

### **2.1.3 Crime**

Among youth it is particularly the boys who commit crimes. The offences that young people commit are primarily trifling ones such as travelling without a ticket, slandering, brawling, buying hashish, theft, vandalism or minor break-ins.

In 2003 5.4% of children recorded as suspects were 14 or younger, 23% were adolescents and young adults (14 to 21 years of age) and 22.8% were adults between 21 and 30. Among the German (non-German) suspects 5.8% (3.9%) are children up to 14 years or age, 13.6% (9%) adolescents between 14 and 18 years, 10.8% (9.6%) young people between 18 and 21 years as well as 10.9% (15%) young adults between 21 and 25. There is a higher percentage of suspected lawbreakers among German children and youth: among non-Germans the percentage of young adults and adults is higher. Altogether the percentage of children suspected of criminal acts has declined since 2000. In 2003 the percentage of German children suspected of breaking the law declined 6.8%; for non-German children it declined by 2.4% compared to the year before.

In 2003, the most common offence among both German (104,757) and non-German (21,601) children up to age 14 was shoplifting (48,811 incidents among German children – a reduction of 10.2% compared to 2002; 9889 incidents among non-German children, a reduction of 4.1% compared to 2002). In second and third place among German children are vandalism and bodily harm; among non-German children bodily harm was in second place and vandalism in third. Both German and non-German adolescents between 14 and 18 years of age came to the attention of the authorities most frequently as a result of simple theft, followed by shoplifting and bodily harm. In the age group of 18 to under 21, German young adults most frequently committed drug offences (increase of 1.8% compared to 2002) followed by fraud (increase of 12.2% compared to 2002) and bodily harm (increase of 4.1% compared to 2002). Non-Germans from 18 to under 21 most often violate the foreigner and refugee procedure laws (decline of 15.3% compared to 2002), followed by incidents of fraud and bodily harm (increase of 4.9% compared to 2002). Altogether there was a 2.5% increase in offences committed by German suspects in the age group 14 to 21 compared to 2002. Among the non-German suspects in this age group, there was a 5.4% decline in incidents.

A 6.1% increase in young adults suspected of breaking the law was noted in 2003 compared to 2002. Altogether there was a 4.1% decline in offences among non-Germans. However, in individual areas there was a substantial increase in offences, particularly offences against the weapons laws. (German suspects: +91.2% compared to 2002, non Germans +104% compared to 2002). There were also increases in drug offences, especially in connection with cannabis, as well as in bodily injury.

In 2003 in Frankfurt/Main 55% of the young people suspected of breaking the law and 58.3% of the 18-21 year olds were of non-German backgrounds. Frankfurt/Main also had the highest percentage of non-German juvenile offenders (50.3%) ahead of Munich (40%), Cologne (38.5%), Stuttgart (38.3%) and Mannheim (34.3%). In the large cities of the new states non-German juvenile offenders do not play a significant role (Chemnitz 6.4%), Leipzig (4.6%), Erfurt and Potsdam 4% each and Dresden 2.5%)  
(Source: Bundeskriminalamt, <http://www.bka.de/pks/pks2003/index2.html>, 29.04.05)

#### **2.1.4 Drugs**

Teenagers try drugs more often than they used to. According to the drugs and addiction report of the drug representative of the Federal Government 2000 the age of drug consumers has also declined. Among young consumers, the so-called *party-drugs* play a significant role. One third of the young people drink alcohol, a small proportion of them daily. A quarter has experience with the consumption of cannabis. The differences observed between consumer patterns in East and West-Germany are marginal. Young people are also affected by the consumption of medication. A study in the city of Bremen revealed that more than 50% of the 14-year olds are taking medication regularly. The willingness of parents to give medication to their children so that they perform better in school, sports etc is alarming.

Among young people about one quarter smokes on a regular basis. The number of girls and boys is about equal.

The illegal drug used most frequently is cannabis. About 25% of the young people have some experience with it. A small proportion (3-4%) consumes ecstasy and amphetamines. However, the number of ecstasy consumers reported by the police for the first time has increased.

Drugs and Addiction Report of the Federal Government 2006:  
[http://www.bmg.bund.de/clin\\_041/nn\\_604240/SharedDocs/Publikationen/Drogen-und-Sucht/dsb2006.html](http://www.bmg.bund.de/clin_041/nn_604240/SharedDocs/Publikationen/Drogen-und-Sucht/dsb2006.html)

Information for persons concerned, family and personnel in the field of drug relief:  
<http://www.drogen-hilfe.de>

## 2.2 Legal Bases

### 2.2.1 Relevant Laws

General laws: the Civil Code, the Criminal Code, the Federal Welfare Law and the Work Support Law. In addition there are a number of laws which are concerned exclusively with the special problems of children and youth. The most important are:

- The **Kinder- und Jugendhilfegesetz** (KJHG; Law for Children and Youth Welfare), which distinguishes the following age-groups:
 

Child	those under 14
Youth	over 14, but not yet 18
Young adult	over 18, but not yet 27
Young person	those under 27
- The **Gesetz zur Verbreitung jugendgefährdender Schriften und Medieninhalte** (Law against Distribution of Documents and Media Content harmful to Young People) guarantees the protection of minors from negative media
- The **Gesetz zum Schutze der Jugend in der Öffentlichkeit** (Law for the Protection of Youth in Public) (JÖSchG) is applicable only in public, and regulates, among other things, questions like the hours teenagers may go to restaurants and pubs, or alcohol consumption in public, etc
- The **Jugendarbeitsschutzgesetz** (Law for Youth Work Safety) provides for protection against risks and an overly heavy work load at the workplace
- The **Arbeitsförderungsgesetz** (Work Support Law) defines the tasks of the *Arbeitsamt* (Federal Employment Office) with respect to the support of teenagers in vocational training.
- The **Gesetz über Zivildienst** (Law on Alternative Service): Changes from October 1, 2004 and shortening alternative service from ten to nine months (equivalent to military service). Those required to do military or alternative service will only be called up until the end of their 23<sup>rd</sup> year of life (before it was until the 25<sup>th</sup> year of life). Married men, those who live in registered partnerships or have custody of at least one child or those who have at least two brothers who have performed military or alternative service may be freed from military or alternative service on request

Further information on laws concerning children and youth at the homepage of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth: <http://www.bmfsfj.de> > Gesetze > Politikbereich Kinder und Jugend

### 2.2.2 Legal Rules for Specific Age Groups

Rules	Age
Beginning of compulsory school attendance	6
Movie ratings set for age groups as of age	6,12,16,18

Active and passive right to elect youth representatives in a business	14
Conditional age of criminal responsibility	14
Criminal offences of youths (14-18) are always heard in juvenile courts; this also applies to young adults (18-21) who, at the time of the act, had the moral and intellectual development of a youth.	14-20
Absolute criminal responsibility	21
Minimum age for obtaining a driving licence for different vehicles:	
Scooters up to a speed of 25 km/h	15
Mopeds up to 45 km/h (class M)	16
Light motorcycles up to 11 kW or 80 km/h (Class A1)	16
Three or four wheel light motor vehicles (Class S)	16
Passenger cars (B, BE) and medium-weight motorcycles up to 25 kW (limited Class A); two years after the Class A licence is obtained, all motorcycles may be driven.	18 25
Heavy-weight motorcycles over 25 kW (unlimited Class A)	18 (21)
Large goods vehicles (various classes)	
Permission to work full time (depending on the duration of compulsory school attendance in the federal states)	(15) 16
Permission to work on night shifts	18
Smoking in public	16
Buying alcoholic drinks, apart from liquor	16
Permission to attend public dance events (e.g. disco) until midnight	16
Possibility of marrying with the consent of the guardian court if the future partner is of legal age (18)	16
Duty to carry an identity card	16
Young men may report for military service with the consent of the parents	17
Earliest drafting age for military service	18
The right to join a labour union (as soon as an apprenticeship or an employment has begun)	15/16
End of the compulsory school attendance	18
Age of majority	18
Active and passive right to vote	18
Local elections	16

## 2.3 Children and Youth Policy Structures

### 2.3.1 Relevant Ministries and their Responsibilities

Competency at the federal level for children and youth policy rests with the **Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ)**. The BMFSJ

- assists national and federal organisations for children and youth work in all their range of orientations, content, methods and kinds of work.
- supports political, cultural and sports education for youth, the voluntary ecological year, the voluntary social year and international youth exchange.
- appoints independent experts to prepare the “Children and Youth Report” – on the situation of young people in Germany and the development of youth welfare.
- administers existing federal laws, e.g. the eighth book of the Social Welfare Law (Law and Welfare for Children and Young People).
- stays in close contact with other federal departments, the federal states and towns, as well as public youth welfare.

The following ministries deal, sometimes only in smaller areas, with children and youth support or are responsible for questions that could be relevant for children and young people:

Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	<a href="http://www.bmas.bund.de">http://www.bmas.bund.de</a>
Federal Ministry of Health	<a href="http://www.bmg.bund.de">http://www.bmg.bund.de</a>
Federal Ministry of Education and Research	<a href="http://www.bmbf.bund.de">http://www.bmbf.bund.de</a>

Foreign Office of the Federal German Govern-  
ment  
Federal Ministry of the Interior  
Federal Ministry of Justice  
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and  
Development

<http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de>

<http://www.bmi.bund.de>

<http://www.bmj.bund.de>

<http://www.bmz.bund.de>

The **Committee on Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth**, which operates under the umbrella of the German Bundestag, is active in the following areas, among others:

#### **Family policy**

- The expansion of childcare to suit individual needs, with a focus on quality, particularly for children under the age of three.
- Better infrastructures for families (multi-generational housing and early support for children).
- Financial support for families, specifically the introduction of child credit and the extension of the family allowance.
- Compatibility of family and professional life and family-friendly working conditions.

#### **Children and young people**

- Learning, education and care before and during the school years.
- Improving the involvement of children and young people.
- Equal opportunities in education.
- Growing up without violence, the evaluation of the child protection laws.
- Opportunities for disadvantaged young people, initiatives for professional integration.
- Commitment to tolerance and democracy.
- Child and youth welfare.

#### **Civilian service and voluntary service**

- Further development of civilian service.
- Extension of voluntary service for young people and inter-generational voluntary service

#### **Immigration and Integration**

- Immigration services for young people
- Integration
- The problem of forced marriage

The Children's Committee also comes under the umbrella of the German Bundestag. The programme of action for the 16<sup>th</sup> legislative period includes the following focal points: Children and sport / media / violence / health / disability / mobility / culture / everyday life / nutrition and consumer protection, as well as child poverty, the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the right of children to self and co-determination, child and youth welfare / social work, child neglect and social exclusion and elementary education – early childhood development.

### **2.3.2 National and Regional Children and Youth Councils**

The **German Federal Youth Council** (DBJR, <http://www.dbjr.de>) is a working group of 24 youth associations that are active throughout Germany, 16 regional youth councils and five affiliate associations providing advisory services. The council was founded in 1949 and spans a range of member organisations from church, environmental, recreational and social youth organisations to the scouts. For historical reasons, party political youth associations and student organisations do not participate in the DBJR.

The associations that are involved in the DBJR are independent and have no direct input from the State, although they do receive funding through Germany's children and youth plans. The 16 regional youth councils operate on a federal level, while numerous further district and town youth councils operate on a local level.

As party political youth organisations are not members of the German Federal Youth Council, the **German National Committee for International Youth Work** (DNK, <http://www.dbjr.de/dnk>) was created in 1963 in order to represent German youth organisations in European bodies. As well as the DBJR, the Council of Political Youth Organisations and – since 2004 – the members of German Sports Youth are also members of the committee. The DNK represents German youth organisations in the multilateral sphere. One of its functions is therefore to serve as a national youth council in the European Youth Forum (<http://www.youthforum.org>) and it also works closely with international institutions such as the European Union, the Council of Europe and the United Nations.

The **Council of Political Youth Organisations** represents political youth organisations that are closely linked to the political parties that are active in the government or that are subdivisions of these parties. These organisations occupy the presidency of the organisation on a rotational basis.

The **German Sports Youth** (dsj, <http://www.dsj.de>) represents over 9.5 million children and young people who are members of sports clubs. It is an association of 53 youth organisations in the central association, 10 youth organisations of sports clubs with specific remits and the 16 federal youth sports associations.

### **2.3.3 Children and Youth Policy Facilities and their Competencies**

There are more than 90 supraregional youth organisations in which about one quarter of all young people are organized (also see the chapter on Work of Youth Organisations). Accordingly, they have a strong influence and lobby in questions regarding youth policy.

The **Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kinder- und Jugendhilfe** (*Child and Youth Welfare Association*, AGJ, <http://www.agj.de>) could be called roof of roofs. The AGJ is the association of the federal youth organisations, leading organisations of charitable institutions, central professional organisations, the supreme youth authorities of the federal states (ministries), and the federal work group of the youth departments of the federal states. They are all active in the administration and practice of youth welfare either on a federal basis or with federal significance. The AGJ provides various informative materials for colleagues at institutions and associations in youth welfare.

### **2.3.4 Priorities of Children and Youth Policies**

The federal structure of Germany is reflected in the structure of youth policies and youth work, i.e. the Federal Government relies on organisations, associations, churches, foundations and other independent facilities when designing its youth work. It is aimed at keeping the functions at a citizen level, in towns, districts, and municipalities. The largest portion of the financial contributions comes from the federal states and local authorities.

Current main emphases of the new government are: child care, participation of young people in decision-making processes, improvement of media competence, integration of disadvantaged young people, activities in support of more democracy and tolerance.

More in the chapter on *Action Programmes*.

### **2.3.5 Action Programmes**

**National Action Plan „For a child friendly Germany 2005-2010“:** to implement the decisions of the World Children’s Summit of the United Nations of May 2002 in the areas of: 1. Equal opportunity through education, 2. Growing up without violence, 3. Promoting a healthy life and healthier environment, 4. Participation of children and youth, 5. Development of an adequate living standard for all children, 6. Observing international obligations. More information:

<http://www.bmfsfj.de/RedaktionBMFSFJ/Broschuerenstelle/Pdf-Anlagen/nap.property=pdf.pdf>, 2.05.05

To specifically improve the situation of disadvantaged children and young people: **Development and Chances of Young People in Social Problem Areas** (E&C, <http://www.eundc.de>).

This program represents a new attempt in youth policy. The keyword here is networking. A variety of youth policy measures and structures are combined in a complete package to close gaps in the offerings for socially disadvantaged youth. In this context measures from the children and youth plan are implemented together with bodies from all areas for the first time. The programme supports young people in social problem areas in cities and rural communities with a weak infrastructure. Additionally the programme receives other funds, e.g. from the European Social Fund, job centres, municipalities and from the children and youth plan of the Federal Government for social problem areas and disadvantaged youth.

Action programme against exclusion and discrimination in the labour market and in society: **Xenos – life and work in variety**, <http://www.xenos-de.de>

The programme is financed by the European Social Fund and aims to combine measures against exclusion and discrimination with action against xenophobia, intolerance and racism.

The national programme **VIELFALT TUT GUT, Diversity is Good - Young people for Diversity, Tolerance and Democracy**, beginning 2007-2010. For further information see <http://www.vielfalt-tut-gut.de>

Action plan for the **Protection of Children and Youth from Sexual Violence and Exploitation**. This action plan was passed in January 2003 and plans activities to fight child sexual abuse, child pornography (on the Internet), child trafficking and child prostitution.

Action program **Environment and Health** from the Federal Ministry for the Environment concentrates on the area of children and health. For more information: [http://www.apug.de/archiv/pdf/broschuere\\_kinder\\_suszept.pdf](http://www.apug.de/archiv/pdf/broschuere_kinder_suszept.pdf), 2.05.05

## 2.4 Financing Children and Youth Work

### 2.4.1 Federal Government Funds

The **Kinder- und Jugendplan des Bundes** (KJP; Children and Youth Plan of the Federal Government) was developed from the Federal Youth Plan in 1993. This is the main instrument of youth support of the Federal Government and the essential part of children and youth policy in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Children and Youth Plan of the Federal Government stimulates and promotes efforts of children and youth welfare, including youth work, when they go beyond the duties of the federal states and municipalities. It supports a variety of activities in fulfilling the needs and necessities of independent and public welfare for children and young people that has to meet broad out-of-school educational requirements. The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth as the top federal authority administers the distribution of the funds from the KJP as far as measures of children and youth welfare of supraregional importance are concerned.

For promotion within the framework of the Child and Youth Plan, 107,020 million Euros were available in 2007 (2006: 105,088 million Euros).

### 2.4.2 Private and Other Financial Sources

There are a number of public and private foundations in the Federal Republic of Germany supporting youth work either continuously or, mostly, project-related. This also applies to businesses that will sponsor concrete projects totally or partially. Here the following listings

are only representative of the many foundations, charitable organisations and businesses:

#### **Stiftung Deutsche Jugendmarke e.V.**

The Stiftung Deutsche Jugendmarke e.V. (Foundation for German Youth Stamps) is one of the most important youth foundations in Germany. It manages the funds available from the sale of special postage stamps with surcharges *For the Youth* issued by the Federal Treasurer and uses them, according to the statutes, for the welfare "of the German youth".

#### **Stiftung Demokratische Jugend** (<http://www.jugendstiftung.org>)

The Stiftung Demokratische Jugend (Foundation for Democratic Youth) is aimed at supporting projects in youth work and youth social work in the new federal states (former East Germany). The main emphasis here is: Improvement of leisure time offerings, education of disadvantaged young people, motivation to self-initiative, services etc.

#### **Shell Youth Study** (<http://www.shell.de/jugendstudie>).

The German Shell AG has been supporting a scientific study on the situation of children and young people in Germany for years.

#### **Stiftung Jugend forscht e.V.** (<http://www.jugend-forscht.de>)

The Stiftung Jugend forscht e.V. (Foundation for Youth and Research) was founded in 1965 and is a joint venture of the Federal Ministry for Education and Research, the magazine *Stern*, and numerous supporting companies on a regional level. The foundation supports the research of young people by arranging research competitions.

#### **SK Stiftung Jugend und Wirtschaft – Jugend-Computerschule** (<http://www.sk-jugend.de>)

The SK Stiftung Jugend und Wirtschaft – Jugend-Computerschule (Foundation for Youth and Economy – Youth Computer School) is one of the many regional initiatives providing financial means for young people at the local level. It was founded in 1972 and is a charitable foundation of the Savings Bank Cologne. The foundation was founded for young people in Cologne, offering them interesting educational projects in the field of economics and New Media.

### **3 Youth Work in Practice**

#### **3.1 Youth Association Work**

##### **3.1.1 Overview over the Structures of the Work of Youth Organisations**

The work of youth organisations is an area of social integration which stands out due to its voluntary nature, self organisation and self-determination. It is supposed to represent the interests of young people vis á vis the state and society, apart from education, offering leisure time activities, help and counselling. This means involvement with all issues and decisions that touch the interests of young people.

The youth associations see themselves as a team of children, youths, and young adults and work on their own authority without governmental influence. They are supported financially by public funds. The foundation of their work is in the voluntary positions of the members.

Their work is, according to their own understanding of it, mainly of an educational nature. However, this work is carried out on a voluntary basis without payment or the pressure of marks as in the schools. This is called *extracurricular youth work* or *extracurricular youth training*.

Presently there are more than 90 supraregional youth organisations, reflecting the complete spectrum of youth interests and activities. Their variety is extremely broad and the degree of

organisation of young people comparatively high. It is estimated that approximately a quarter of all young people are organized, a total of more than six million (not counting the German Sports Youth). Nevertheless there is a tendency in the Federal Republic for fewer teenagers (the sports clubs are an exception) to be willing to organize themselves into associations and to take on voluntary positions.

### 3.1.2 National Youth Organisations

There are currently more than 90 national youth organisations in the Federal Republic of Germany. Here are some representative examples.

#### **Deutsche Sport Jugend (dsj)**

German Sports Youth (youth department of the German Sports Federation, the youth organisation with the highest number of members in Germany)

<http://www.dsj.de>

#### **Deutscher Bundesjugendring (DBJR)**

German Federal Youth Council, a team of nationally active youth organisations (presently 22 youth organisations, 16 federal state youth associations and 5 connected associations).

<http://www.dbjr.de>

#### **Ring Politischer Jugend (RPJ)**

The Council of Political Youth Organisations is made up of political youth organisations from the political parties or subdivisions of the parties. They alternately take the chairmanship.

- German Young Democrats – Young Left
- Green Alternative Youth Alliance
- Young Liberals
- Young Socialists in the SPD
- Young Union of Germany

<http://www.jdjl.org>

<http://www.gruene-jugend.de>

<http://www.julis.de>

<http://www.jusos.de>

<http://www.junge-union.de>

## 3.2 Political Education

In the context of extracurricular youth education political youth education plays a great role in the Federal Republic of Germany. Political education is expected to teach young people in particular about the society and the nation, enable them to judge political events and conflicts, to make use of their own rights and interests, to fulfill their duties and obligations towards society, and to participate in a liberal democratic society.

There are various bodies responsible for political youth education in Germany. Some work together in a common initiative for political education (GEMINI, <http://www.bap-politischebildung.de>). Part of **GEMINI** are: Arbeitskreis deutscher Bildungsstätten (AdB), Bundesarbeitskreis Arbeit und Leben (AuL), Arbeitsgemeinschaft katholisch-sozialer Bildungswerke (AksB), Deutsche Volkshochschulverband, Evangelische Trägergruppe für gesellschaftspolitische Jugendbildung and Verband der Bildungszentren im ländlichen Raum e.V.

## 3.3 Cultural Education

Extracurricular cultural youth education is an essential part of a young person's development. For this reason the expert organisations of extracurricular cultural youth formation aim at extensively promoting the cultural education of young people in Germany.

This extracurricular cultural education plays an important role in the development of the personality and aims at enabling young people to participate in a society's cultural life. It enables a differentiated approach to arts and culture and encourages creative and aesthetic activities in the areas of music, dance, rhythm, acting, theatre, literature, fine arts, architecture, film, photography, video, media and computing. In addition, it promotes imagination

and creativity, develops judgment, critical faculties and tolerance towards one's own and other cultures in their social coherence, offers a meaningful organisation of leisure time and an active reflection on one's own situation. The list of the associations and institutions in the Federal Republic of Germany working in this area is as long as the description of the advantages of cultural education. A comprehensive overview is provided by the handbook **Kinder- und Jugendpolitik. Kinder- und Jugendhilfe in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland** (Child and Youth Policy. Child and Youth Services in the Federal Republic of Germany) that is edited by IJAB - International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany. For orders see website <http://www.ijab.de>.

The roof of a variety (presently 48) of nationwide expert associations, institutions and state organisations in cultural youth education is the **Bundesvereinigung Kulturelle Kinder- und Jugendbildung** (*Federal Organisation Cultural Child and Youth Education*), <http://www.bkj.de>.

The Children's Committee statement on the question of children and culture: [http://www.bundestag.de/ausschuesse/a13/kiko/Empfehlungen\\_und\\_Stellungnahmen/Kinder\\_und\\_Kultur.pdf](http://www.bundestag.de/ausschuesse/a13/kiko/Empfehlungen_und_Stellungnahmen/Kinder_und_Kultur.pdf) (7.4.08)

### 3.4 Sports

Sports still play a great role with young people in Germany. This is evidenced by the approximately nine million members of the **Germans Sports Youth**. More than one third of the German youth under 27 is organized in sports clubs.

The **Deutsche Sportjugend im Deutschen Sportbund** (German Sports Youth - dsj) works in youth and sports policy. It wants to contribute to the personality development of young people, to promote social behaviour, and to stimulate children and teenagers to social engagement. Youth work in the sports is educational work with young people. On this basis, the dsj offers many activities - beyond simply sports - that are open to all children and young people.

Extracurricular children's sports in clubs, in commercial establishments or in informal movements have for most children, besides school sports, the most significance for practicing social behaviour in a circle of friends. Children from the new federal states participate less in organized sports than do children in the old federal states.

There is no national data collection on the participation of children and young people from immigrant backgrounds in organized sports. Estimates based on surveys in individual states suggest that five to ten percent of these young people take part in organized sports.

Probably the most popular sport in Germany is **soccer**. Now it is increasingly played by girls and young women, too. Almost two million teenagers under 18 are registered in soccer clubs, of this some 180.000 girls in the age-group seven to 14.

Further popular sports are (in order of members in organisations) gymnastics, tennis, handball, swimming, athletics, table tennis, volleyball, basketball and badminton, and, especially in winter, skiing. Outside of organisations, German teenagers bicycle or inline-skate a lot.

Sports grounds equipment is (still) quite good. However, increasingly many towns and municipalities lack the money for the maintenance or modernization of the grounds. In the case of public sports locations like half-pipes for skaters, private sponsors increasingly participate in their construction.

### 3.5 Youth Social Work

Youth social work is the term used in the Federal Republic of Germany for all offerings, facilities, services, and events for young people that support them in finding a place as a rec-

ognized and responsible member of society. An effort is made to compensate for social disadvantages and individual impairments by counselling and social–educational help offers in the vocational field for young people.

Additionally youth social work supports and promotes young people’s schooling and vocational education, their integration into the working world and society, and their professional development.

Youth social work in Germany covers and connects services of the most various kinds. First of all it is children and youth welfare, and thus is mentioned in the children and youth welfare law. But beyond this it extends to other legal areas that partially finance it and which it influences at the same time. In this context the Work Support Law must be mentioned here.

The **Kooperationsverbund Jugendsozialarbeit** (Co-operation Network Youth Social Work, <http://www.jugendsozialarbeit.de>) is a nationwide association of organisations and institutions in the field of social work with young people. The network’s aim is to intensify specialist lobbying for the interests of disadvantaged young people in society and politics. The network aspires towards close collaboration with all those organisations and institutions in the field of social work with young people. Alongside youth welfare organisations, the central points of contact for the network’s future plans include employers, trade unions, the scientific community, government ministries and the state employment service.

### 3.6 Religious Community Offerings for Children and Youth.

**Church-run youth work in Germany** sees itself as a specific offering oriented to a Christian image of man. Church youth work aims in this way to motivate and empower youth “through selfless service to live their Christian faith.” (Church Youth Plan of the Diocese of Würzburg). Its educational aim for young people is to present a Christian image of man and a relationship to God as the source for a successful life. In this context church youth work wants to encourage young people in their development as strong personalities and help them develop a positive attitude oriented to acting on the message of Jesus Christ.

The classic form of implementing these goals with children and youth is the work of a youth organization. **Catholic youth work** is organized largely by the umbrella organization of the Alliance of German Catholic Youth (BDKJ, <http://www.bdkj.de>) that tries to convey real community and Christian values in group meetings, camps and projects. Members of the BDKJ include the German St. George Scouts, the Christian Worker Youth (CAJ), the Catholic Rural Youth Movement (KLJB) and many others. The BDKJ sees itself as the body responsible for youth work in districts, dioceses, the federal states and nation-wide. Through its member organizations, the BDKJ works in parishes and at other sites where church youth work takes place.

The **Working Group of Evangelical Youth** in the Federal Republic of Germany (aej, <http://www.evangelische-jugend.de>) is a union of Evangelical youth in Germany. As an umbrella organization, the aej represents the interests of Evangelical youth at a national level in dealings with federal ministries, professional organizations and international partners. It has 36 members and represents more than 1.2 million young people. Among the members of the aej are the Youth Work of the National Churches of the EKD, the Youth Work of the Independent Evangelical Churches, the Youth Work of the Methodist Evangelical Church and many more.

Free church-run youth work is carried out by five organisations:

- The youth section of the Protestant-Methodist Church (EmK, <http://www.emk.de>),
- The youth office of the Federation of Free Protestant Churches (BFEG, <http://www.feg.de>),
- The church youth section of the Federation of Free Protestant Churches in Germany (GJW, <http://www.gjw.de>),
- The youth work section of Moravian Church (<http://www.ebu.de>) and

- The youth section of the Independent Protestant Lutheran Churches (SELK-Jugend, <http://www.selk-jugend.de>)

Of the current figure of some 3.2 million Muslims in Germany, around half are children and young people. Organisations within mosque communities provide services such as language courses for pre-school children, computer courses, sport courses, joint recreational activities etc. (Source: *Wie erreicht Familienbildung und -beratung muslimische Familien? Eine Handreichung*, How do Muslim families access family education and advisory services? A handbook. BMFSFJ, 2008, <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/generator/Kategorien/Publikationen/Publikationen.did=113808.html>, 4.11.08)

*Link*

[www.aagb.net](http://www.aagb.net) - Website of the Association of Alevi Youth in Germany (AAGB), a self-help organisation of young people aged between 16 and 27 who are members of the Alevi community and a member association of the German Federal Youth Council.

**Church and Youth – A Comparison of Church Youth Work in Germany and in the Czech Republic.** In: *Miteinander – Společně. Arbeitshilfe für deutsch-tschechische Jugendbegegnungen*, (With Each Other: Aid for German-Czech Youth Encounters Jugendhaus Düsseldorf 2000.

### **3.7 Integration of Children and Youth with Immigrant Backgrounds**

In the Federal Republic of Germany, a quarter (27%) of children and young people under the age of 25 are from immigrant families. (Source: <http://de.statista.org/statistik/daten/studie/1448/umfrage/anteil-der-familien-mit-migrationshintergrund-nach-kinderanzahl/>, 3.11.08)

The importance of language promotion for children has now been recognized. Government measures are directed primarily at promoting the German language among children. Within this framework, the Youth Ministry in North Rhine Westphalia has been supporting language courses in kindergarten for the last two years.

Children without a clear legal status and refugee children still have a hard time in the Federal Republic. At the end of 2003 around 76,000 children and youth with an uncertain residency status lived in Germany. Thousands are excluded from generally compulsory education because their parents are waiting for political asylum, the families are only tolerated in Germany or they have no residency status at all.

In Baden-Württemberg, Hesse, Rhineland-Palatinate, Saarland und Saxony-Anhalt refugee children with an uncertain residency status are not required to attend school. They merely have a right to go to school.

In order to improve the chances of young foreigners for an apprenticeship, the Federal Education Ministry (BMBF) has started ten professional qualifying networks (BQN). Trade chambers, unions, schools and businesses will work more closely together in the future to support young migrants and help them in their search for an apprenticeship. With this program, the Ministry wants to counteract the “growing discrimination against young migrants”. At present only 39% of youth with a migrant background complete their education in the dual system. According to the information from the BMBF this contrasts with more than 60% of German youth. For more information: <http://www.kompetenzen-foerdern.de> (Sources: *terre des hommes Deutschland e.V.*, <http://www.tdh.de/content/materialien/download/index.htm?&action=details&id=171>,

2.05.05; Deutscher Bundestag, [http://www.bundestag.de/bic/presse/2005/pz\\_050322.html](http://www.bundestag.de/bic/presse/2005/pz_050322.html), 2.05.05)

The Federal Government's integration representative has also called the poor educational levels of migrant children extremely alarming. Since the middle of the 1990's the percentage of foreign children in an apprenticeship has continually declined. Accordingly, the percentage of unskilled youth in this group is 40%. Among German youth it is only 12%. Altogether some 14 million people with an immigrant background live in Germany. Among them are foreigners, ethnic German emigrants, naturalized citizens and Germans who have returned from abroad. Every fourth newborn has one foreign parent; every fifth marriage is binational. (Source: [http://www.integrationsbeauftragte.de/download/Memorandum\\_Endfassung.pdf](http://www.integrationsbeauftragte.de/download/Memorandum_Endfassung.pdf), September 2005)

In the area of sports young "late repatriates" and other immigrants are supported through the federal program "Integration Through Sports" with integration measures in a broad-based leisure-time sport organizations (<http://www.integration-durch-sport.de>).

Children and young people who have exceptional leave to remain in Germany can take part in organised holidays for children and young people. At its AGM in September 2005 the German Federal Youth Council (DBJR) issued a unanimous statement concerning the situation of young refugees with respect to youth work. The DBJR notes in its statement that the issues of shaping a society with a high level of integration and encouraging intercultural openness are essential questions that often fail at the implementation stage due to the legal framework that affects them. For further information see <http://www.dbjr.de/index.php?m=4&pid=77&UID=77218fb1fa31502cfe52f08b87fc81e3>

Special counselling is offered through the **Youth Migration Services** (<http://www.jugendmigrationsdienste.de>) for new immigrants up to age 27. The Youth Migration Services advise and look after in particular those new immigrants who are beyond compulsory school age, before, during and after integration courses (language course and orientation to the country and people). Together with them, they determine their strengths and deficits and devise an integration plan for accessing the employment market or for attending a school of further education. The Youth Migration Services also establish contacts with local youth and with youth from immigrant backgrounds who have been in Germany for some time.

## 3.8 Youth Information

### 3.8.1 Information and Advice Centres for Children and Young People

In the late 60s youth Information centres took over the main role in municipal youth work, mainly providing information and advice. Founded with the intention of assisting in solving young people's personal problems and difficulties, they are open to teenagers, young adults and other specific groups and offer advice in various problem and conflict situations. They either provide information directly in the areas of drugs, alcohol, school, AIDS, culture, leisure time, travelling, etc., or they refer to other expert advice centres.

The very first of these youth information centres was founded in Munich in 1967 (<http://www.jiz-m.de>); others were to follow soon. Now these information and advice centres can be found in many, mainly larger, towns and cities.

Naturally youth information is not limited to these locations, but takes place in many public offices, youth centres, and youth organisations, within self-help groups, in the youth press and in youth research.

Imparting information to young people in Germany is oriented to the decentralized and federal structure of the Federal Republic of Germany. The information offices are situated "on

location” on a local, municipal, regional, or federal state level across Germany, thus being readily available to every young person. The significance of youth information has increased enormously within recent years. The new media offer great possibilities for reaching many young people. The national youth portal Netzcheckers (<http://www.netzcheckers.de>) has been online since September 2004.

The portal for professionals in the field of child and youth welfare (<http://www.jugendhilfeportal.de>) is a platform for information, cooperation and communication for professionals in child and youth welfare. All those carrying out internet research in the area of child and youth welfare for professional or voluntary reasons, for training purposes, those from an academic background or those who are simply interested in the subject will find a structured, searchable database that is tailored to their needs. The information available ranges from a directory of relevant institutions on a state, regional and local level to documents and materials, lists of events and project descriptions on the subject, current news in the field of child and youth welfare and extensive employment listings. Information is not duplicated, but instead the user is simply redirected to the source of the information.

The youth information platform Jugendinfonetz.de (<http://www.jugendinfonetz.de>) was developed as a source of information for professionals in the field of youth information. Every institution in Germany that is involved in the subject of youth information has the option of making an active contribution to jugendinfonetz.

### **3.8.2 Children and Youth Media**

Youth media have always played a great role in Germany: An example is the magazine *Bravo*, originally established as a TV magazine in 1956 that is now a favourite with young readers. Other youth magazines like *Pop Rocky* and *Popcorn* long ago turned into media-dinosaurs.

In the 70s, the media escaped the old-fashioned educational thinking of the economic miracle time. Youth programmes like *direkt* were possible even on conservative stations like the ZDF, although vigorously discussed within the stations for their contents and their appearance.

The 80s saw a stagnation of youth media. Neither magazine nor radio editorials came up with anything new. Since the beginning of the nineties, however, the youth media market has again begun moving: Many new magazine titles have been successfully launched. In addition, the public broadcasting stations have rediscovered the target group *young people* due to the sudden appearance of private competition.

Typical of the youth media are speed and dynamism. Some magazines or papers suddenly arise from nowhere, accompany a new youth trend for a while and then disappear just as fast as they have come. Once a trend isn't en vogue, both young people and, importantly, the sponsors lose the interest.

It can be said, however, that, despite electronic media, young people still read magazines,. The fear that the youth print media had that stations like VIVA and MTV would take their customers seems to have been disproved: The music stations take sponsors from the print media but not the readers (this might not apply to special music papers). Another proof is the circulation of youth magazines since 1990: The 4.8 million circulation reported to IVW in 1995 was much higher than the 3.5 million in 1991 (about 14 million young people between 14 and 26 form the core target group for German youth media).

The so-called *girl magazines* have been particularly successful in recent years. *Bravo girl* started the trend for successful magazines in 1988. After that, titles like *Brigitte Young Miss*,

a magazine that began as a special edition of the women's magazine *Brigitte* became possible.

In the 90s it was not only the magazine market that began moving. Reacting to the founding of private radio stations and the music TV stations VIVA and MTV that were used like radio by the young public, public radio (the ARD radio stations) had to react to keep their young listeners. One program that has been particularly successful is *Eins Live* from the West German Broadcasting Station. Also the MDR's youth channel *Sputnik* that continues from the former East German youth transmitter *DT 64* is successful. Other successful stations with increasing numbers of listeners in the age group of 14 to 29 are or were *N-Joy* (NDR), *SWF3* and *Fritz* (RBB).

Of all media, the TV stations seem to have the biggest problems with the target group youth: Almost no show targeted at young audience survives for long. Young people are the most difficult group for TV stations: According to a WDR study, 14 to 16-year-olds only spend some 96 minutes a day watching TV, the lowest rate across Germany. A large number of them use MTV and VIVA regularly. In young peoples' eyes, these transmitters enjoy the reputation of being trend-setters. Neither station promotes single programmes; they go for the music, the language and the way of presenting that have become part of youth culture.

*(This text has partly been written by Ulrich Kalhöfer)*

The KidsVerbraucheranalyse 2004 noted that the love of reading has increased slightly among 6 to 13-year-olds. The 22 magazines listed in the study are read by 69% of girls and boys (64% in 2002). The magazine *Mickey Maus* has the widest circulation, with a 16.2% share of total readers, followed by the children's newspaper *Junior* (12.8%). Among boys, readers of *Mickey Maus* number slightly more than the average, with a share of 22.7% of total readers. Among girls, the pony magazine *Wendy* is favourite (11.2%), followed by *Junior* (10.2%) and *Mickey Maus* (9.3%). Other favourite magazines among this age group are *Disneys Lustiges Taschenbuch*, *Bibi Blocksberg*, *The Simpsons*, *Benjamin Blümchen* and *Löwenzahn*.

*(Source: KidsVerbraucherAnalyse 2004,*

[http://www.ehapa.de/ehapa/e7/e36/e37/e1539/index\\_ger.html](http://www.ehapa.de/ehapa/e7/e36/e37/e1539/index_ger.html), 28.04.05)

List of links by Jugendpresseclub e.V. on children and youth media in Germany:

<http://www.jugendpresseclub.de/links.html>

### **3.8.3 International Cooperation**

The Federal Republic of Germany is a member of **Eurodesk** (<http://www.eurodesk.org>), the European youth information network which provides information on the subjects of youth, vocational training, education, European mobility and support programmes. The existing database is expanded with national figures by each network partner. In Germany, Eurodesk comes under the umbrella of IJAB – the International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany.

IJAB is a member of **ERYICA** (the *European Youth Information and Counselling Agency*, <http://www.eryica.org>), an organisation working towards the coordination of youth information on a European level.

## **3.9 Children and Youth Journeys**

### **3.9.1 Attitudes of Children and Young People towards Travelling**

Adolescents in Germany can choose from a large number of offerings. Young people prefer to organize their own trips. About three quarters of the 14-19 year olds take a long vacation trip ever year. Spain and France are at the top of the list as vacation goals. Young people's spontaneous wish to travel is frequently satisfied by bargain last-minute flights. Trip deci-

sions are made after consulting travel and youth magazines or following discussions with friends. Above all young people want to have fun, to experience something and meet new people on holiday.

Young people either travel alone, with friends or with the family or they book a holiday through clubs that promise youth-appropriate wish-fulfilment. Commercial organizers put on youth programs supported by market research and thus have been able to show high rates of increase among German youth.

Increased demand is happening in connection with the huge pressure on the employment market with respect to travel and stays abroad, which have a practical or further education-relevant connection. Particularly Gymnasium graduates who want to go to university hope to improve their chances through experience abroad. There are more and more companies offering Au-pair trips, language trips, internships and jobs abroad. Nation-wide only 5% of all pupils at secondary level II spend a school year abroad. In Hamburg the percentage of exchange pupils is significantly higher and in some schools it reaches double-digit values. One of the states with limited numbers of exchange pupils is Bavaria. Because the Abitur there is done after 12 years of school (which is already possible in some states and will be introduced in the others), it is expected that there will be a limited interest in the future in spending a school year abroad. This can be explained by the fact that the school year will have to be repeated in any case since the subjects completed abroad are mostly not recognized in Germany.

(Source: <http://www.schueleraustausch.de>)

### 3.9.2 Youth Hostels and other Youth Accommodations

There are 604 **youth hostels** in Germany at the moment. The houses of the German Youth Hostel Association are to be found in virtually all places of touristic interest. Most youth hostels are also suitable for families and offer sports facilities on their own grounds. Many houses are suitable for people with disabilities. Depending on the location and comfort level, Youth Hostels are classified into four categories; the average price for an overnight stay including breakfast is 15-25 Euros. For more information: <http://www.djh.de> or **German Youth Hostel Association** at <http://www.djh.org>.

A further possibility for reasonably priced stays is to make use of the more than 400 houses of the Naturfreundejugend Deutschlands (German Nature Friends' Youth). List of all houses as well as further information: <http://www.naturfreundejugend.de>.

The **Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Evangelischer Jugendferiendienste e.V.** (Federal Association of Protestant Holiday Services for the Young, <http://www.bej.de>) has published a CD-ROM in cooperation with **SOKEV** containing more than 5000 non-commercial and self-managed group accommodations in Germany. It certainly has something for everybody. The database is called **GrukiD**.

Another data base on group accommodations in Germany (German central list) is available from **Redaktion Vademecum** (Editorial Office Vademecum), <http://www.gruppenunterkuenfte.de>

### 3.9.3 Travel Tips and Information

The Federal Republic of Germany has a very good train system. The connections between large towns are particularly good, but smaller towns and villages are not serviced as often. The image of the Deutsche Bahn (German Train Service) has suffered due to savings and reorganizing over the last few years. The prices of German trains aren't always favourable to young people. But there are numerous reductions available that should be checked before travelling. This can be done at <http://www.bahn.de>. There also is a ticket ordering service there.

Further information: <http://www.germany-tourism.de>

Further information on Germany for young people on the **European Youth Portal**:  
[http://www.europa.eu.int/youth/travelling\\_europe/index\\_de\\_en.html](http://www.europa.eu.int/youth/travelling_europe/index_de_en.html)

## 3.10 International Youth Work

### 3.10.1 Central Facilities

Within youth work the following institutions and organisations are of particular importance on a national level:

- **Deutsch-Französisches Jugendwerk** (Franco-German Youth Office), <http://www.dfjw.org>
- **Deutsch-Polnisches Jugendwerk** (German-Polish Youth Office), <http://www.dpjw.org>
- **Ostseesekretariat für Jugendangelegenheiten** (Baltic Sea Secretariat for Youth Affairs), <http://www.balticsea-youth.org>
- **Koordinierungszentrum Deutsch-Tschechischer Jugendaustausch Tandem** (Coordination Centre German-Czech Youth Exchange Tandem), <http://www.tandem-org.de>
- **Koordinierungszentrum Deutsch-Israelischer Jugendaustausch ConAct** (Coordination Centre German-Israeli Youth Exchange ConAct) <http://www.ConAct-org.de>
- **Stiftung Deutsch-Russischer Jugendaustausch** (Foundation German-Russian Youth Exchange), <http://www.stiftung-drja.de>

The exchange of executives, employees and experts in youth work is aimed at the exchange of experiences. The responsibility lies with the respective organisation or with the **IJAB - International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany** (<http://www.ijab.de>).

The **German Office Youth for Europe** (<http://www.webforum-jugend.de>) is part of a network of European national agencies. It was appointed to support the European Commission and the Federal Youth Ministry in implementing the action programme **YOUTH IN ACTION**, which also covers the European Voluntary Service in Germany.

The German Federal Youth Council (DBJR), German Sports Youth (dsj) and the Council of Political Youth Organisations (RPJ) make up the **German National Committee for International Youth Work** (DNK). The DNK represents German youth organisation in the different structures involved in multilateral youth cooperation, such as in the European Youth Forum, and works with international institutions such as the European Union, the Council of Europe and the United Nations. For specific information on the DNK, see <http://www.dbjr.de/dnk>.

Since Europe has moved closer together politically and economically, the multilateral cooperation of youth organisations will be of increasing importance and the demand for suitable involvement structures for young people within the context of the European unification process carries more weight.

### 3.10.2 Cooperation with Germany

See chapter *International Cooperation* as well as the corresponding chapters in the other country reports.

### 3.10.3 International Cooperation

The **promotion and support of meeting programmes for young people and experts in youth work** is at the centre of the goals of international youth policy cooperation in Germany. Major tasks are to get to know other countries, peoples, and cultures, to contribute to international understanding, to build up understanding for others, and to improve the understanding of one's own position. Here, supporting European awareness and cooperation plays a central role.

The international youth work of the Federal Republic of Germany is implemented by the participation of the **Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women, and Youth** in bodies on European youth policy alliances on the level of member states of the European Union and the European Council, by existing bilateral agreements on youth policy cooperation, and by the work in the expert committees for bilateral cooperation between Germany and other countries.

Presently there are **government agreements and arrangements with around 30 countries** on bilateral committees responsible for the guidelines, the kinds, and the extent of bilateral exchange programmes. Besides the exchange and meeting programmes there are special programmes for education and training as well some on special topics. As a rule, the programmes are carried out by independent bodies, especially by youth and training organisations, as well as other organisations and institutions of youth education and youth social work, by committees of international youth associations and social services (work camps), and also by municipal authorities.

In the past, special emphasis was given to France, the European Union countries and, after 1989, Central and Eastern Europe, with Germany's neighbour Poland standing out. There also are good contacts to countries overseas (Japan) as well as some countries in Latin America (Chile, Colombia). The collaboration with China is a new development.

## 4 Further Information

### 4.1 Texts

As an example for the numerous bilateral agreements that the Federal Republic of Germany has signed, the official agreement on cooperation in the field of youth services between the German Ministry for Youth (BMFSFJ) and the All-China Youth Federation signed in 2006 should be mentioned here ([http://www.ijab.de/downloads/news/Vereinbarung-D\\_CH.pdf](http://www.ijab.de/downloads/news/Vereinbarung-D_CH.pdf)).

As a rule, all additional agreements of the Federal Republic of Germany are found in the chapter *Texts* in the other country reports.

### 4.2 References

#### *Children and Youth*

- Kinderreport Deutschland (Child Report Germany). Regularly published by Deutsches Kinderhilfswerk e.V. (<http://www.dkhw.de>)
- IG-Metall-Jugendstudie (Youth Report). Attitudes of young employees. Published by IG Metall, Marburg 2002
- **Jugend in Deutschland. Opposition, Krisen und Radikalismus zwischen den Generationen** (Youth in Germany. Opposition, Crisis and Radicalism between the Generations). Ute und Wolfgang Benz. dtv, München 2003
- **Kinder- und Jugendpolitik. Kinder- und Jugendhilfe in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland. Strukturen. Institutionen. Organisationen.** (Child and Youth Policy. Child and Youth Services in the Federal Republic of Germany). In German, English and French. IJAB, Bonn 2008. To be ordered at [info\(at\)ijab.de](mailto:info(at)ijab.de). Internet: <http://www.kinder-jugendhilfe.info>
- **Gesundheit von Kindern und Jugendlichen.** (Health of children and youth). Berlin, 2004. Download: [http://www.apug.de/archiv/pdf/rki\\_gesundheit\\_kinder\\_2004.pdf](http://www.apug.de/archiv/pdf/rki_gesundheit_kinder_2004.pdf)
- **Wir bleiben draußen - Schulpflicht und Schulrecht von Flüchtlingskindern in Deutschland.** (We keep outside – school attendance and right to school for refugee children in Germany). terre des hommes Deutschland e.V., 2005, Download: <http://www.tdh.de/content/materialien/download/index.htm?&action=details&id=171>
- **Viele Welten leben - Lebenslagen von jungen Frauen mit griechischem, italienischem, jugoslawischem, türkischem und Aussiedlerhintergrund.** (Life in different worlds – Living situation of young women with greek, italian, yugoslavian, turkish and resettler's background). Berlin 2004. Download: <http://www.bmfsfj.de/RedaktionBMFSFJ/Abteilung5/Pdf-Anlagen/viele-welten.property=pdf.pdf>
- **Mädchen mit Migrationshintergrund und sportliches Engagement.** (Girls with migrant background and physical activity). Berlin 2004. Download: <http://www.bmfsfj.de/RedaktionBMFSFJ/Abteilung5/Pdf-Anlagen/maedchen-migrantinnen-sport.property=pdf.pdf>
- 15. Shell Jugendstudie „**Jugend 2006 – Eine pragmatische Generation unter Druck**“ (Youth 2006 – a down-to-earth generation under pressure). Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag, 2006
- 1. World Vision Kinderstudie. **Kinder in Deutschland 2007.** (Kids in Germany 2007). Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag, 2007

#### *Links*

[www.bmfsfj.de](http://www.bmfsfj.de) – Homepage of the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend, BMFSFJ)

[www.ijab.de](http://www.ijab.de) – Homepage of IJAB (IJAB – International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany) with publications, books and brochures on international youth work

[www.juventa.de](http://www.juventa.de) – Homepage of Juventa Edition (Juventa-Verlag) with publications on topics from the socio-scientific sector, amongst them youth research, childhood, child and youth services, youth work

[www.anders-cool.de](http://www.anders-cool.de) – Homepage of the travelling exhibition of the Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Evangelische Jugendsozialarbeit e.V. on the living conditions of non-native and native young people in Germany

*Information on books, the book trade and libraries in Germany*

- Association of the German Book Trade (<http://www.buchhandel.de>)
- German Library Association (<http://www.bdbibl.de/dbv/>)

## 4.3 Addresses

### Embassies, Consulates, Diplomatic Missions

**Foreign Office of the Federal German Government:** <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de>  
(with all addresses of German consulates and embassies in other countries and those of other countries in Germany)

### Ministries and other Public Bodies

#### **Bundeskanzleramt** (*Federal Chancellery*)

Willy-Brand-Str. 1, 10557 Berlin

Tel.: 01888 400-0, 030 400-0, Fax: 030 400-1818, -1819

E-Mail: internetpost(at)bundeskanzlerin.de, Internet: <http://www.bundeskanzlerin.de>

#### **Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend** (*Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth*)

Alexanderplatz 6, 10178 Berlin

Postanschrift: 11018 Berlin

Tel.: 030 20655-0, Fax: 030 20655-1145

Internet: <http://www.bmfsfj.de>

Bonn offices:

Rochusstr. 8–10, 53123 Bonn

Tel.: +49 228 930-0, Fax: +49 228 930-4913

#### **Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend** (*Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth*)

- Kinderredaktion -

Alexanderplatz 6, 10178 Berlin

E-Mail: redaktion.kinderzeitung(at)bmfsfj.de, Internet: <http://www.kinder-ministerium.de>

#### **Auswärtiges Amt** (*Foreign Office of the Federal German Government*)

Werderscher Markt 1, 10117 Berlin

P.O. Box: 11013 Berlin

Tel.: +49 1888 17-0, Fax: +49 1888 17-3402

E-Mail: poststelle(at)auswaertiges-amt.de; Internet: <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de>

Further addresses of Federal German Ministries: <http://www.bundesregierung.de>

#### **Bundesarchiv** (*Federal Archive*)

Potsdamer Str. 1, 56075 Koblenz

Tel.: +49 261 505-0, Fax: +49 261 505226

Internet: <http://www.bundesarchiv.de>

**Bundesamt für Statistik** (*Federal Office for Statistics*)

Gustav-Stresemann-Ring 11, 65189 Wiesbaden

Tel.: +49 611 75-1, Fax: +49 611 724000

E-Mail: info(at)destatis.de, Internet: <http://www.destatis.de>

Bonn offices:

Graurheindorfer Strasse 198, 53117 Bonn

Tel: +49 1888 644-1, Fax: +49-1888 643-8990,-8991

**Office of the Permanent Conference of the Ministers for Culture and Education of the Federal states in Germany (KMK)**

Lennéstr. 6, 53113 Bonn

Postfach 2240, 53012 Bonn

Tel.: +49 228 501-0, Fax: +49 228 501-777

Internet: <http://www.kmk.org>

This is also where the **Pädagogischer Austauschdienst** (*Educational Exchange Service*) is located.

Berlin offices:

Markgrafenstr. 37, 10117 Berlin, (Wissenschaftsforum am Gendarmenmarkt)

Tel.: +49 30 25418-400; Fax: +49 30 25418-450

**Cultural Service Institutions**

**Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst** (*German Academic Exchange Service*)

Kennedyallee 50, 53175 Bonn

Postfach 20 04 04, 53134 Bonn

Tel.: +49 228 882-0, Fax: +49 228 882444

E-Mail: postmaster(at)daad.de, Internet: <http://www.daad.de>

Berlin offices:

Berliner Künstlerprogramm

Markgrafenstraße 37, 10117 Berlin (Wissenschaftsforum am Gendarmenmarkt)

Tel.: +49 30 202208-0, Fax +49 30 2041-267

E-Mail: BKP.Berlin(at)daad.de

**Goethe Institutes:** <http://www.goethe.de>

**Haus der Kulturen der Welt** (*House of the Cultures of the World*)

John-Foster-Dulles-Allee 10, 10557 Berlin

Tel.: +49 30 397870, Fax: +49 30 3948679

E-Mail: info(at)hkw.de, Internet: <http://www.hkw.de>

**Youth and sport federations and associations**

**Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kinder- und Jugendhilfe (AGJ)** (*Child and Youth Welfare Association*)

Mühlendamm 3, 10178 Berlin

Tel.: +49 30 40040-210, Fax: +49 30 40040-232

E-Mail: agj(at)agj.de, Internet: <http://www.agj.de>

**Deutscher Bundesjugendring (DBJR)** (*German Federal Youth Council*)

Mühlendamm 3, 10178 Berlin

Tel.: +49 30 40040-400, Fax: +49 30 40040-422

E-Mail: info(at)dbjr.de, Internet: <http://www.dbjr.de>

**Jugendpresse Deutschland** (*Youth Press Germany*)

Wöhlerstraße 18, 10115 Berlin

Tel.: +49 30 450865-50, Fax: +49 30 450865-59

E-Mail: buero(at)jugendpresse.de, Internet: <http://www.jugendpresse.de>

**Pressenetzwerk für Jugendthemen e.V. (PNJ)** (*Press Network for Youth Issues*)

Beethovenstr. 38a, 53115 Bonn

Tel.: +49 228 217786, Fax: +49 228 213984

E-Mail: buero(at)pressenetzwerk.de, Internet: <http://www.pressenetzwerk.de>

**Deutsche Sportjugend im Deutschen Sportbund - dsj** (*German Sports Youth in the German Sports Organisation*)

Otto-Fleck-Schneise 12, 60528 Frankfurt am Main

Tel.: +49 69 6700-0, Fax: +49 69 6702-691

E-Mail: dsj(at)dsj.de, Internet: <http://www.dsj.de>

**Stiftung Deutsche Jugendmarke e.V.** (*Foundation German Youth Stamp*)

Kennedyallee 105-107, 53175 Bonn

Tel.: +49 228 9302864

**Stiftung Demokratische Jugend** (*Foundation Democratic Youth*)

Grünberger Straße 54, 10245 Berlin

Tel.: +49 30 2945280, Fax: +49 30 2945281

Internet: <http://www.jugendstiftung.org>

**Organisations and institutions of out-of school cultural education of the young, of political youth education and youth social work**

**Bundesvereinigung Kulturelle Kinder- und Jugendbildung e.V.** (*Federal Organisation Cultural Child and Youth Education*)

Küppelstein 34, 42857 Remscheid

Tel.: +49 2191 794390, Fax: +49 2191 794389

E-Mail: info(at)bkj.de, Internet: <http://www.bkj.de>

**Kooperationsverbund Jugendsozialarbeit**

Stabsstelle

Chausseestraße 128/129, 10115 Berlin

Tel.: 030 288789-538, Fax: 030 288789-55

E-Mail: kooperationsverbund(at)jugendsozialarbeit.de, Internet:

<http://www.jugendsozialarbeit.de>

**Youth information centres and youth travel agencies**

**Eurodesk**

c/o IJAB - Fachstelle für Internationale Jugendarbeit der Bundesrepublik Deutschland e.V.

Godesberger Allee 142-148, 53175 Bonn

Tel.: 0228 9506-0, Fax: 0228 9506-199

E-Mail: eurodeskde(at)eurodesk.org, Internet: <http://www.eurodesk.de>

List of decentralised offices: <http://www.rausvonzuhause.de/cgi-bin/showcontent.asp?ThemaID=16>

List of **Sta Travel travel agencies** which are specialised in youth travels:

[http://www.statravel.de/sta\\_travel\\_bueros/index.shtml](http://www.statravel.de/sta_travel_bueros/index.shtml)

## Youth hostels

### **Deutsches Jugendherbergswerk** (*German Youth Hostel Association*)

Bad Meinberger Str. 1, 32760 Detmold  
Tel.: +49 5231 9936-0, Fax: +49 5231 9936-63  
E-Mail: zdms(at)djh.org, Internet: <http://www.djh.org>

### **Naturfreundejugend Deutschlands** (*German Young Friends of Nature*)

Haus Humboldtstein, 53424 Remagen  
Tel.: +49 2228 9415-0, Fax: +49 2228 941522  
E-Mail: nfjd(at)naturfreundejugend.de, Internet: <http://www.naturfreundejugend.de>

### **Redaktion Vademecum**

Gerd Grützmacher  
Auf dem Dörnchen 6, 51580 Reichshof-Fahrenberg  
E-Mail: info(at)gruppenunterkuenfte.de, Internet: <http://www.gruppenunterkuenfte.de>

## Organisations in the field of international youth work

### **IJAB - Fachstelle für Internationale Jugendarbeit der Bundesrepublik Deutschland e.V.** (*IJAB - International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany*)

Godesberger Allee 142 - 148, 53175 Bonn  
Tel.: +49 228 9506-0, Fax: +49 228 9506-199  
E-Mail: info(at)ijab.de, Internet: <http://www.ijab.de>

### **Deutsches Nationalkomitee für internationale Jugendarbeit (DNK)** (*German National Committee for International Youth Work*)

c/o Deutscher Bundesjugendring  
Mühlendamm 3, 10178 Berlin  
Tel.: +49 30 40040-420, Fax: +49 30 40040-422  
Internet: <http://www.dbjr.de>

### **Deutsche Agentur für das EU-Programm JUGEND IN AKTION** (*YOUTH for Europe - German National Agency for the EU programme YOUTH IN ACTION*)

c/o IJAB  
Godesberger Allee 142 - 148, 53175 Bonn  
Tel.: +49 228 9506-0, Fax: +49 228 9506-222  
E-Mail: jfe(at)jffemail.de, Internet: <http://www.webforum-jugend.de>

### **Deutsch-Französisches Jugendwerk (DFJW)** (*Franco-German Youth Office*)

Molkenmarkt 1, 10179 Berlin  
Tel.: +49 30 288757-0, Fax: +49 30 288757-88  
E-Mail: info(at)dfjw.org, Internet: <http://www.dfjw.org>

### **Office franco-allemand pour la jeunesse (OFAJ)**

51, rue de l'Amiral-Mouchez, 75013 PARIS  
FRANKREICH  
Tel.: +33 1 40781818, Fax: +331 40781888

### **Deutsch-Polnisches Jugendwerk (DPJW)** (*German-Polish Youth Office*)

Friedhofsgasse 2, 14473 Potsdam  
Tel.: +49 331 28479-0, Fax: +49 331 27527  
E-Mail: buero(at)dpjw.org, Internet: <http://www.dpjw.org>

### **Koordinierungszentrum Deutsch-Tschechischer Jugendaustausch Tandem** (*Co-ordination Centre German-Czech Youth Exchange – Tandem*)

Dechbettener Str. 15, 93049 Regensburg  
Tel.: +49 941 585570, Fax: +49 941 58557-22  
E-Mail: tandem(at)tandem-org.de, Internet: <http://www.tandem-org.de>

**Koordinierungszentrum Deutsch-Israelischer Jugendaustausch ConAct** (*Co-ordination Centre German-Israeli Youth Exchange – ConAct*)  
Altes Rathaus, Markt 26, 06886 Lutherstadt Wittenberg  
Tel.: +49 3491 420260, Fax: +49 3491 420270  
E-Mail: info(at)ConAct-org.de, Internet: <http://www.ConAct-org.de>

**Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin** (*Japanese-German Centre Berlin*)  
Abteilung Deutsch-Japanischer Jugendaustausch (DJJA)  
Hitomi Makino, Nauka Miura  
Saargemünder Str. 2, 14195 Berlin  
Tel.: 030 83907193, Fax: 030 83907220  
E-Mail: hmakino(at)jdzb.de, nmiura(at)jdzb.de, Internet: <http://www.jdzb.de>

**Ostseesekretariat für Jugendangelegenheiten** (*Baltic Sea Secretariat for Youth Affairs*)  
c/o Landesjugendring Schleswig-Holstein  
Holtenauer Str. 99, 24105 Kiel  
Tel.: 0431 8009847, Fax: 0431 800 98 41  
E-Mail: info(at)balticsea-youth.org, Internet: <http://www.balticsea-youth.org>

**Stiftung Deutsch-Russischer Jugendaustausch** (*Foundation German-Russian Youth Exchange*)  
Mittelweg 117b, 20149 Hamburg  
Tel.: 040 8788679-0, Fax: 040 8788679-20  
E-Mail: info(at)stiftung-drja.de, Internet: <http://www.stiftung-drja.de>