

German Association for Public and Private Welfare

Deutscher Verein für öffentliche und private Fürsorge e.V.

A forum of social affairs since 1880

The German Association for Public and Private Welfare (Deutscher Verein für öffentliche und private Fürsorge e.V.) is the joint forum of municipalities and non-statutory social welfare organisations and their social services in Germany, private commercial enterprises, the Länder (federal states) and academia in all fields of social work, social policy and social law. Through its experience and expertise, it monitors and shapes policy and legislation in relation to children, young people and families, the social insurance system, social assistance, assistance for the elderly, care and rehabilitation, social volunteering, the planning and management of social work and social services as well as international and European social policy and social legislation.



Deutscher Verein
für öffentliche
und private Fürsorge e.V.

The German Association – unique in Germany and in Europe

The German Association for Public and Private Welfare (German Association) is the joint forum of all actors in social work, social policy and social legislation in Germany.

Through our experience and expertise, we monitor and shape policy and legislation in relation to children, young people and families, the social insurance system, social assistance, assistance for the elderly, care and rehabilitation, social volunteering, the planning and management of social work and social services as well as international and European social policy and social legislation.

Our around 2,000 members are as diverse as the topics we cover. Since the foundation of the German Association in 1880, our membership has included municipalities, social welfare organisations, private commercial enterprises, academia, individuals, and many other actors from the social sector.

We are a neutral, non-party organisation and work in a consensual way, focusing on professionalism. Through our publications and events, we share information about current social developments.

Especially in these times of fast social and social policy changes, we need many people to shape the social sphere together, advocating with a strong voice. We offer a forum for everyone involved in social policy, social legislation and in social work.



Our members: diversity is our strength

Municipalities

Municipalities, counties, cities, towns, their social services as well as their regional and national umbrella organisations such as Deutscher Städtetag (Association of German Cities), Deutscher Landkreistag (German County Association), Deutscher Städte- und Gemeindebund (German Association of Towns and Municipalities)

Non-statutory social welfare organisations

Non-statutory social welfare organisations and their regional and national umbrella organisations such as Arbeiterwohlfahrt (Workers' Welfare Association), Deutscher Caritasverband (German Caritas Association), Deutsches Rotes Kreuz (German Red Cross), Deutscher Paritätischer Wohlfahrtsverband (Paritätische), Diakonie Deutschland (Diakonie Germany) and Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland (Central Board of Jewish Welfare in Germany)

Federal states

The 16 Länder (federal states), represented by their ministries of social affairs

Other actors from the social sector

Administrative and social courts, universities, colleges, educational institutions, associations, companies, private commercial enterprises and their associations, foundations and individuals from all areas of social policy, social legislation and social work



Our work: we combine theory and practice

On our committees, representatives of municipalities, non-statutory social welfare organisations, federal and regional state governments, private commercial enterprises, academia and other organisations and institutions identify and develop concepts together.

Our recommendations are science-based; they are practice-relevant and are developed through broad consensus. They offer orientation in the daily work of e.g. public servants in the youth and social services, social courts, institutions for people with disabilities and those in need of long-term care, and in social service planning.

The German Association provides expertise in reforms of social legislation; our opinions and recommendations are well-respected and referred to in the legislative process.

The Bundesverfassungsgericht (German Federal Constitutional Court) regularly calls on us as a technical expert in social legislation. We regularly hold expert discussions with the Bundestag (German Federal Parliament) and the regional state parliaments.

We offer to our members free-of-charge legal opinions on social legislation issues in unresolved or contentious legal questions that are of general interest.

Through our in-house publishing, we provide the public with orientation and support in all areas of social work, with currently around 100 publications. Our "Encyclopedia of Social Work" is a leading source.

Our monthly membership publication "NDV - Nachrichtendienst des Deutschen Vereins für öffentliche und private Fürsorge e.V." (News Service of the German Association for Public and Private Welfare) is a respected professional journal for all questions relating to social policy, social legislation and social work.

Our newsletter provides up-to-date information about the work of the German Association and our events.

Our events cover all areas of our expertise in social work, social policy and social legislation; they are open to our members and to interested members of the public.

Every three years, we hold the "Deutscher Fürsorgetag" (German Welfare Congress). With more than 2,000 visitors, this leading congress for the social sector is a highlight of our activities and expedites the development of social policy, social legislation and social work.

The "ASD-Bundeskongress" is a nationwide forum for expert discussion regarding the standards of General Social Services / Municipal Social Services (ASD/ KSD). It takes place every two to three years.



Our areas of activity: social policy, social legislation and social work

- **Childhood, youth and family**

Law and practice of social services for children and young people

Infrastructural and financial family support

- **Principles of social security, social assistance and social services**

Basic income support and social support

Support for people with specific social difficulties

- **Ageing and care**

Care for the elderly, policies for the elderly, legal guardianship

Long-term care insurance

- **Rehabilitation and health**

Reform of integration support

Prevention and patient rights

- **Planning and direction of social work and social services**

Social planning and social space

Quality standards in social work and development of social service professions

- **International and European social policy**

Social protection and equal opportunities in Europe

EU-funding policy and development of social services

- **German branch of International Social Service (ISS)**

Cross-border family conflicts

Consultation and intervention

- **Social volunteering**



We are happy to get in touch with you, please contact us at:

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