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Central Return Counselling (ZRB) South Bavaria

Counselling on voluntary return

Have you applied for asylum? Do you want to return to your home country before the BAMF has decided on your asylum application? You don't know what you need to do?

Then contact the Central Return Counselling Service (ZRB).

- The Central Return Counselling Service (ZRB) South Bavaria is a counselling centre.
- It helps if you are thinking about the possibility of voluntarily and permanently returning to your country of origin.
- The ZRB will help you with this process.
- The counselling is open-ended.
- Counselling can be anonymous if you wish.
- Interpreters for most languages are available for the counselling session.

How can you contact ZRB?


- If you have come to Germany as an asylum seeker and would like to find out about voluntary return to your country of origin.
- If you know or look after someone who is interested in voluntary return.
- If you know or look after someone who is obliged to leave the country.


Let's arrange a counselling appointment. You can discuss your situation at the appointment. You will receive information about your options. You can then decide what you would like to do.

 **The counselling is free of charge.**


Contact us

Zentrale Rückkehrberatung (ZRB) Südbayern

 [Lange Gasse 4, 86152 Augsburg](#)

 [08215089632](tel:08215089632)

 info@zrb-suedbayern.de

 You can find more information [here](#).

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Voluntary return - information for interested parties

What is meant by "voluntary return"?

Sometimes people who have sought asylum in Germany no longer want to or are unable to stay in Germany. It is then possible to return voluntarily to the country of origin. The return counselling service (ZRB Südbayern) helps if you are thinking about returning to your country of origin or moving on to another third country. The staff will advise and support you in all important steps.

What is the difference between a "voluntary return" and a "deportation"?

Voluntary departure is very different from deportation. In the case of voluntary departure, you prepare your return together with the advice centre. You can often apply for financial support. It is also possible to take part in vocational training programmes. Deportation, on the other hand, is carried out unannounced. There is no financial support for this. Deportation is (usually) accompanied by the police.

When can I voluntarily return to my country of origin?

You can return to your country of origin voluntarily during or after your asylum procedure. Support for onward migration to another third country is also possible. However, not everyone can receive financial support for voluntary departure. Contact the ZRB Südbayern. The staff will talk to you about your personal situation

How quickly is it possible to leave the country?

It can take just a few days or several months to organise your departure. Important for the preparation is:

- Do you have a travel document or do you still need to apply for one?
- Is there a suitable flight soon?
- Are you ill and need additional support?

Talk to the counsellor about this at your first appointment. During the consultation, you will find out approximately how long it will take to prepare for your departure.

Where can I find counselling and support?

In Bavaria, counselling and assistance with voluntary return is offered by various agencies. The ZRB Südbayern is a non-governmental counselling centre. This means that this advice centre is not part of the government or authorities. Counselling is voluntary. You can also just get information. The aim is to help you make a decision.

The ZRB Südbayern has offices in these 4 cities:

- Augsburg
- Deggendorf
- Kempten
- Mühldorf

What help is available?

This varies greatly and depends (among other things) on which country you come from and how long you have already been in Germany. It is possible, for example, to organise your departure and cover travel costs, one-off financial support or participation in vocational training measures. The staff will therefore ask you many questions during the counselling session. You will then find out how the advice centre can support you and what financial assistance is available.

Can I receive counselling anonymously?

Yes, you can also receive counselling anonymously. In an anonymous counselling session, you do not give your name. You also do not give any other details. However, if you decide to leave the country voluntarily, the counselling centre will need some information about you, for example to book your flight. The counselling can therefore take place anonymously, but your departure cannot.

Do I have to come to the counselling centre alone?

No. You can bring your family or a friend, for example.

Do I have protection against deportation?

If you are already obliged to leave the country, deportation is legally possible after the deadline set for you has expired. However, the foreigners authority often agrees to the organisation of voluntary departure even after this and allows you time to obtain all the necessary documents and prepare for your departure. Sometimes there is not enough time in such cases to make use of all available programmes. Your co-operation is always crucial for the success of a voluntary departure.

Are there interpreters for the counselling sessions?

Yes, the counselling centre has contacts with people who can interpret for you in many languages.

Steps on the path to voluntary return:

If you decide to return voluntarily, you will normally have three personal appointments at the counselling centre (ZRB).

Step 1: Contact a counselling centre near you

- If you would like more information about voluntary return, contact the counselling centre. You can call them or send them an e-mail.

Step 2: Initial information meeting

- You will receive all the important information about the voluntary return process in the first information meeting. If you wish, the interview can be conducted anonymously. In special cases, the interview can also take place at a different location.

Step 3: Make a decision

- The decision for or against return is often very difficult. The counsellors are there for you if you have any questions. In the end, you alone make the decision.

Step 4: Prepare your return together

- If you decide in favour of voluntary return, make a new appointment. The counsellors will plan your departure together with you. They will fill out all the forms with you and discuss important questions. For example: Do you have travel documents? What do you need for the trip? How much luggage do you want to take with you?

Step 5: Book your flight

- As soon as everything has been finalised, the advisors will look for a suitable flight. You will usually know at least one week before the flight when it will take place.

Step 6: Final meeting

- A few days before your departure, you will meet with your counsellor again. At this meeting, you will receive all the important documents for your return. The counsellor will also explain to you what you need to look out for when you leave the country.

Step 7: Travelling to the airport


- You will travel to the airport by public transport (bus or train). After check-in, you will go through security to the aircraft.

Step 8: Aftercare

- The counsellors are also there for you after your return. In some countries, for example, they can put you in touch with organisations in your home country that can help you with your reintegration.


Contact us

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