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## Latest news

### Integration Committee election 2025

#### What is the 2025 Integration Committee election?

##### **Date of the election:**

The next election will take place on 14 September 2025 parallel to the local elections in Krefeld.

##### **Who can vote?**

All persons who are at least 16 years old on election day and fulfil one of the following conditions are eligible to vote

- are a foreign national,
- have been naturalised in the course of their lives, or
- have at least one foreign parent.

In addition, you must have been legally resident in Germany for at least one year and have been registered in Krefeld for at least 16 days before the election.

##### **Who can stand as a candidate?**

According to the regulations, all eligible voters who are at least 18 years old, have been legally resident in Germany for at least one year and have lived in Krefeld for at least three months before the election may stand as a candidate. People who are involved in voluntary or professional work for migrants often apply. Candidacy is possible as an individual or as part of a voter group or list.

##### **Application deadline:**

Applications must be submitted by Monday, 7 July 2025 at the latest. Time for this: 18:00.

##### **Postal voting for the election:**

The postal voting office opens in the Seidenweberhaus (Theaterplatz 1) on 11 August 2025.  
Opening hours:

Monday to Wednesday: 08:00-16:00

Thursday: 08:00-17:30

Friday: 08:00-12:30

Postal voting documents can be requested via:

- QR code on the election notification,
- online form (at [wahlen.krzn.de](https://wahlen.krzn.de)),
- by post, or
- e-mail (with name, date of birth and address)

##### **Information offers in advance:**

The city of Krefeld offers information for potential candidates, including

- an animated video explaining the election on YouTube: and Instagram,

- a simulation game on 27 May 2025 (from 4:30 pm), in which you can reenact a real committee meeting,
- a form help session on 12 June 2025 (14-17:30), digital and on site - free of charge, registration by email required

### **What is the Integration Committee for?**

It currently consists of 11 members elected by migrants and 9 representatives of the city council. The committee mainly acts in an advisory capacity, but can also forward its own topics or proposals to the city council.

### **Delay in delivery of eAT - Delay in the delivery of electronic residence permits from Bundesdruckerei**

The Krefeld Foreigners' Registration Office is currently waiting for the delivery of a large number of electronic residence permits (eATs). The reason is said to be an upcoming quality control by the Bundesdruckerei.

Essentially, all eATs ordered since 08.04.2025 are affected. A statement on the delivery date or production cannot be made at this time.

We therefore ask for your indulgence and understanding that we cannot answer questions about the delivery date with any certainty.

### **Introduction of digital photographs for eATs and passports**

### **Important change from 01.05.2025**

Only **digital biometric photos** may be used for residence permits and passports.

- We can no longer accept your own photos.
- Photos from mobile phones are also not permitted.

### **How to get a valid photo:**

- From a photo service provider that is registered with a certified cloud service.
- Directly from us at the Service Centre of the Krefeld Foreigners' Registration Office. We can take your photo there for a fee of €6.00.

💡 Legal basis: Law to strengthen the security of passports, ID cards and documents under immigration law (in force since 3 December 2020).


### **18.11.2024, places available in the professional language course (target B2, start 09.12.2024, LernArt)**

Are you authorised or obliged by the employment agency, the job centre or the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) to attend a vocational language course? (§45a Residence Act)

Then get in touch with 📍 [LernArt GmbH](#)!

There are still places available on the B2 vocational language course (certificate: telc Deutsch-Test für den Beruf B2), which starts on 9 December 2024. The course takes place Monday to Friday between 13:30 and 16:45 in presence.

Contact details LernArt:

 [02151/1546951](tel:021511546951)

[@info@lernart-krefeld.de](mailto:info@lernart-krefeld.de)

### **Neighbourhood party at the Neusser Straße municipal swimming pool**

The old municipal swimming pool in the city centre was closed for years. As part of "Stadtbad Open", it opens its doors for 4 weeks. Various events such as guided tours, workshops and information evenings take place. The city presents its plans for how it intends to utilise the large area again in the future.

All residents in the area are cordially invited to the neighbourhood party on Saturday, 14 September for a lunchtime snack. We would be delighted if everyone could also bring small samples of typical food from their country of origin.

There will be games for children.

No entrance fee

Duration: 14.09., 12-15h

Venue: Stadtbad entrance Gerberstr. 53-55

Website: [www.krefeld.de/Stadtbad](http://www.krefeld.de/Stadtbad)

E-mail: [stadtbad@krefeld.de](mailto:stadtbad@krefeld.de)

### **27.06.2024, Renewals in naturalisation law**

#### **Amendment to the law on naturalisation**

From 27.06.2024, the new law on naturalisation will apply. If you would like to be naturalised there are important changes.

The most important changes are:

Previously, you had to have lived in Germany for at least eight years with a residence permit. Now you can be naturalised after just five years. If you already speak German very well and do very good work, this can even happen after just three years. However, it is now even more important that you work and do not receive welfare benefits. There are only a few exceptions to this rule. There are special regulations for guest workers from the past. In certain cases, guest workers do not have to speak German so well. Feel free to ask us. If you are older, ill or disabled and therefore do not speak German very well, there may be exceptions.

For naturalisation, it is even more clearly required that the person shares Germany's most important values. There is no place for racism and contempt for humanity in Germany. Naturalisation is then also ruled out. This also means that the special significance of the relationship with Israel and Jewish life is part of the naturalisation process.

You no longer have to give up your citizenship. Germany has decided that every person may have several nationalities. You can also naturalise in another country. You will then retain your German citizenship.

If you have any further questions, please contact us.

### **18.06.2024, Multilingual flyer of the municipal enterprise Krefeld**

What to do with the lamp that no longer lights up? Are broken shoes simply ... rubbish? What belongs in which bin?

Kommunalbetrieb Krefeld AöR (KBK) has produced multilingual flyers for all people who ask themselves such questions in everyday life. They are available [here](#) (in Arabic, German, English, Farsi, French and Turkish) and [here](#) (in Bulgarian, German, Polish, Romanian, Russian and Ukrainian).

In Germany, waste separation is very important. By separating waste correctly, materials can be recycled and reused. This allows everyone to protect nature. If the citizens of Krefeld actively participate in waste separation, they promote an environmentally friendly society.

The KBK - Kommunalbetrieb Krefeld, based at [Ostwall 175](#) has a variety of tasks in the areas of waste, nature and roads.

If you have any questions, please call the customer centre on ☎ [02151 3660-3660](tel:0215136603660) or send an e-mail to [kbk@krefeld.de](mailto:kbk@krefeld.de).

The opening hours of the customer centre are from Monday to Thursday from 7:00 to 17:00 and on Friday from 7:00 to 14:00. Further information can be found on the website [www.kbk-krefeld.de](http://www.kbk-krefeld.de)

### **11.04.2024, New opening hours for residence registration (Foreigners' Registration Office)**

### **Improving residence registration: Successful first month and planned enhancements**

We are pleased to inform you that we have successfully tested the first month of "walk-in customers" in the area of residence registration. Compared to the previous months (analysed retroactively until 09/2023), we were able to register an average of 33% more people in February.

To make the process even more efficient, we have introduced consultation hours without appointments.

From 18 March 2024, we will extend the consultation hours for residence registration without an appointment as follows

Monday 08:30 - 12:00

14:00 - 15:30

Tuesday 08:30 am - 12:00 pm

Thursday 08:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

14:00 - 17:00

Friday 08:30 am - 12:00 pm

We are convinced that these extensions will help to further improve our service.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.

## **Laws explained in more detail**

The following chapters provide answers to frequently asked questions. We hope that this will alleviate some of your worries and make communication with the authorities and your everyday life easier. New information is regularly published here that may be useful for many users of the app.

## **Public transport**

### **Deutschland-Ticket Sozial**

With the Deutschland-Ticket Sozial, you can use many means of transport throughout Germany from December 2023 for 39 euros per month.

With the Deutschland-Ticket Sozial, you can travel on all local public transport. This includes buses, trams, underground and suburban trains and regional trains. The ticket is not valid for long-distance transport such as ICE, IC or EC.

The ticket is only available as a subscription, which can be cancelled monthly. It can be purchased online, via the app or directly at the GSAK ServiceCentre at Ostwall 148.

People who receive benefits can apply for the Deutschlandticket Sozial. Benefits include, for example, unemployment benefit II and social benefit (SGB II), housing benefit or benefits under the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act.

If you would like to know whether you are entitled to the DeutschlandTicket Sozial, you can contact a local authority directly, e.g. the Jobcentre [Bestellschein DeutschlandTicket Sozial.pdf](#) (vrr.de). There you will also receive a certificate of eligibility, also known as a carrier card. You also need this for the Deutschlandticket Sozial.

To apply for the ticket, you will need the carrier card from the job centre, an ID with your address and your bank card. If you have a joint account with your spouse, both of you must sign the contract. The amount of 39 will then be automatically debited from the account each month. You don't have to worry about anything else.

However, the ticket only belongs to the person who applied for it. You cannot take anyone else with you on the Deutschlandticket Sozial. The ticket is only valid for you.

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The validity of the entitlement card from the Job Centre is always valid for as long as it is stated in the grant notice. If the period expires, you must apply for a new card from the Job Centre. You can do this either by post or directly via the BA Mobil app. You can also convert existing tickets into a Deutschlandticket Sozial.