

Basic values in Germany

All people living in Germany must abide by the central principles of the political and legal order.

The most important legal basis for life in Germany is the **Basic Law**. It is the constitution of the Federal Republic of Germany. The Basic Law also lists the fundamental rights, which are above all other laws. The inviolability of human dignity, human rights and the freedom of the individual are fundamental principles of the Basic Law. The Basic Law is briefly explained in this film:

[German](#)

[Arabic](#)

[English Arabic](#)

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Germany is a federal state consisting of **16 federal states**.

Germany is a democratic state, which means that **all state power emanates from the people**.

Germany is a constitutional state. **The decisions of the state - the government - are bound by the law**. The actions of the state can be scrutinised by the courts.

Germany is a welfare state. This means that, in principle, every citizen should provide for their own livelihood by working. However, the state helps people who cannot or can only partially support themselves.

This booklet provides an introduction to basic rights in Germany in [German](#), [Arabic](#), [English](#), [Farsi](#), [Dari](#) and [French](#) (PDF document).