

MAPPING EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER PATHS OF YOUTH WORKERS

**Formal and non-formal education for youth
workers in Germany**

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Introduction

1. FORMAL EDUCATION

- ▶ Specific fields of work for youth workers
- ▶ Various options of formal education for youth workers in Germany
- ▶ Current challenges for youth work in Germany

2. NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

- ▶ JuLeiCa: non-formal education for volunteers
- ▶ Current challenges for volunteers

3. PATHS FOR YOUTH WORKERS IN GERMANY

Fields of work for youth workers



Three models



UNIVERSITIES and UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES

- ▶ social work
- ▶ social pedagogy
- ▶ ...



VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

- ▶ educator
- ▶ child care worker
- ▶ youth worker



THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ christian youth worker
- ▶ youth pastor
- ▶ ...

Post-graduate level (B.A./M.A.)



Professional profile for youth workers // What do they need?

- ▶ B.A. social work/social pedagogy or early childhood pedagogy etc.
- ▶ B.A. religious education

Competences // What do they learn?

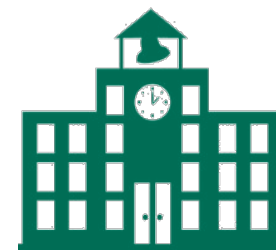
- ▶ specific qualification framework for social work ([DQR SArb Vol. 6](#))
- ▶ core curriculum in social work is referred to the [DGSA 2016](#)

Paths // Where do they go?

- ▶ youth work in youth associations, youth centers, churches, international youth work programmes, streetwork, schools

Accreditation // Who is validating the standards?

- ▶ german science council ([WR](#)) and private accreditation services ([AHPGS](#))



Vocational Training

Professional profile for youth workers // What do they need?

- ▶ educator
- ▶ child care worker

state-certified

Competences // What do they learn?

- ▶ national curriculum for vocational training as educator ([2012](#), [2017](#))
- ▶ Competence orientated education: interpersonal skills, social competence, self-reliance

Paths // Where do they go?

- ▶ youth work in youth associations, youth centers, churches, international youth work programmes, streetwork, schools, child-care & kindergarden

Accreditation // Who is validating the standards?

- ▶ Conference of German cultural ministers



Theological education institutes

Professional profile for youth workers // What do they need?

- ▶ christian youth worker & youth pastor & youth deacon

Competences // What do they learn?

- ▶ Wide range from practical knowledge and hands-on experience in christian youth work (churches, christian associations) to learn how to promote faith
- ▶ Theological background on Christianity

Paths // Where do they go?

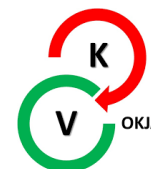
- ▶ faith-based youth associations, christian youth centers, churches, overseas-mission, ...

Accreditation // Who is validating the standards?

- ▶ the faith-based organisation itself

Current challenges

- ▶ **University of Applied Sciences Kempten:**
“Implementation of youth work and education in the B.A.-study course of social work” ([JuBImpSo](#))
- ▶ **Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration:**
“the tension between paid and volunteer youth workers in social work” starts 09/2018
- ▶ **Open Work with Children and young People:**
special interest group for open youth work a cooperative alliance (est. [2016](#))
- ▶ **Inclusion: Child an Youth Welfare Act**
How to [reform the SGB VIII](#) with “Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)” in mind



2. JuLeiCa: non-formal education

- ▶ **minimum age:** 16 years
- ▶ **min. 30 hours** of training and seminar for youth work (cf. [JuLeiCa Infos](#)) and a First-Aid-Training
- ▶ **Curricula** consists of
 - ▶ pedagogy and psychology of youth
 - ▶ social group work
 - ▶ child and youth welfare
 - ▶ participation
 - ▶ gender mainstreaming
- ▶ **Statistics** since [2015](#):
 - ▶ ca. 100.000 card holder (30.000 p.a.)



Additional issues:

- Sports
- Scouting
- Religion
- Technical issues
- ...



Current challenges for volunteers

► Limited time for volunteering

University of Dortmund: Study on how all-day school affects youth work ([2014](#))

► Social inclusion/exclusion and recognition

University of Gießen: Study on how socially disadvantaged youth do volunteer ([2015](#))

► Migration and intercultural youth work

Missing competences for intercultural and interreligious dialogue ([anthology 2015](#))

► Cooperation failed?

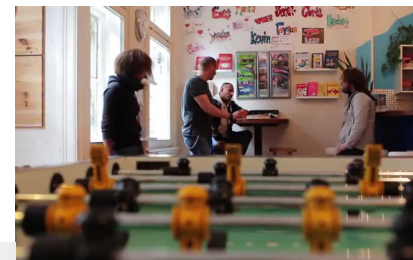
Volunteers and Professionals working together in the civil society ([BMFSFJ 2015](#))



3. Paths for paid youth workers

Determinations

1. Biography
2. Education
3. Ambitions and goals



THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION

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