




KOOPERATION FÜR FLÜCHTLINGE IN BRANDENBURG
COOPERATION FOR REFUGEES IN BRANDENBURG

ENGLISH

Rights of asylum seekers at initial reception



Kooperation für Flüchtlinge in Brandenburg (KFB)
The network „Kooperation für Flüchtlinge in Brandenburg“ (KFB) has been offering advice and information for asylum seekers, volunteers and immigration consultants since 2018.

 www.kooperation-für-flüchtlinge-in-brandenburg.de

Project partners



Funded by



This flyer was produced as part of the project „Orientierung, Beratung und Akzeptanz für Asylsuchende in Brandenburg“.

This project is co-funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), the UN Refugee Aid Organisation (UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe) and the state of Brandenburg.



Contacts of counselling centres

Doberlug-Kirchhain
Neben der Kleiderkammer
Akazienweg 5b
03253 Doberlug Kirchhain

Office hours:
Tue & Thu 11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Tel.: +49 176 – 415 98154
doki@kommmitt.eu

Eisenhüttenstadt
Evangelische Friedenskirchgemeinde
Robert-Koch-Straße 37
15890 Eisenhüttenstadt

Office hours:
Tue & Thu 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Tel.: +49 176 – 45920207
eisen@kommmitt.eu

Cottbus
Straße der Jugend 33
4. Etage, Raum 420
03050 Cottbus

Office hours: Wed 10 a.m.– 3 p.m.

Tel.: +49 176 – 45920207
e.helm@kommmitt.eu

Berlin
Turmstraße 21
Haus M, Eingang O, 2. Stock
10559 Berlin

Office hours:
Only with appointment

Tel.: +49 30 – 98353731
l.schmidt@kommmittbbz.de



Which rights do asylum seekers have during the asylum procedure?

The personal interview at the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) is the most important appointment within the asylum procedure. In this interview, you have to elaborate on the reasons why you fled and the reasons behind your asylum application. The BAMF evaluates your asylum application and decides if you are granted asylum.

- You should go to a counselling centre before your personal interview. The consultants will help you prepare for the interview and will give you additional, important advice for the asylum procedure.
- Which is your language of choice at the interview? It should be the one that you speak fluently. Let the BAMF know as soon as possible which language you prefer to speak.
- You can bring a person of trust with you to the interview. Please let the BAMF know beforehand. This person is not allowed to answer any questions directed at you.
- The BAMF has specially-commissioned case-officers who are trained to work with:
 - children and adolescents
 - traumatised refugees
 - people who are prosecuted because they are lesbian, gay, queer, transgender or intersexual
 - people who are affected by human trafficking.

You are entitled to have a specially-commissioned case-officer to deal with your situation. Do you need such an officer? Do you want to speak to a female staff member? Let the BAMF know beforehand.

What can you do if your application was turned down?

Your application was refused? Then you can take legal action against the decision. There is not a lot of time to do so – sometimes only one week. It is advised to go to a counselling centre immediately. The consultant can forward you to a lawyer.

How long do asylum seekers have to reside at the initial reception centre?

Most asylum seekers have to reside up to 18 months at the initial reception centre. Families with children have to stay up to 6 months at the initial reception centre.

- Have you been living in the initial reception centre for more than 6 months with your children (under 18)?
- Have you been living in the initial reception centre for more than 18 months without children?
- Is the facility not suitable because:
 - you have a disability
 - you need special protection (e.g. against violence)?

→ Go to a counselling centre. The staff there can help you to apply to live in another accommodation that best suits your needs.

What benefits do asylum seekers get?

While you live in the initial reception centre you are entitled to payment in kind – accommodation, food, clothing, etc. Added to that you and your children get an allowance / pocket money.

Have your benefits (allowances) been cut? Do you get less or no allowance? Do you believe that the allowance has been miscalculated? If your allowance has been cut or you get too little money, then go to a counselling centre. Oftentimes, benefits are wrongfully cut. The staff at the counselling centre can help you take action.

Do you need special protection or support?

Some asylum seekers have the right to special support and care. For example:

- people with disabilities
- women, who are delivering a baby
- children and adolescents
- sick people
- traumatised people
- elderly
- people who were victims to excessive violence
- lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) asylum seekers.

And they may need special help, for example:

- treatment by a specialised doctor or a treatment beyond the basic treatment offered in the reception centre
- a therapy
- special medical care and a midwife during pregnancy
- a wheelchair/hearing device
- a personal room
- a barrier-free room (without having to climb stairs)
- more time for the asylum procedure.

If you need special support and special protection, go to a counselling centre. The staff can help you get the proper support.

Asylum procedure counselling – KommMit e.V

KommMit e.V. offers counselling in Eisenhüttenstadt, Doberlug-Kirchhain, Cottbus and Berlin concerning:

- the asylum procedure
- social law
- provision of healthcare
- preparation and follow up of the asylum interview
- support with finding specialised counselling centres and lawyers
- explanations of administrative notices.

Consultations are free of charge, confidential and independent. Please bring all documents with you, that are relevant. For example: Notices from the BAMF and the immigration authorities.



[www.kommmit.eu/
asylverfahrensberatung](http://www.kommmit.eu/asylverfahrensberatung)

Additional important addresses

Flüchtlingsrat Brandenburg

Rudolf-Breitscheid-Str. 164
14482 Potsdam

Telephone consultation hours:

Tue, Thu & Fri 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Tel.: +49 331 – 71 64 99

The refugee council Brandenburg (Flüchtlingsrat) is a non-governmental organisation offering telephone consultation and information, does lobbying and PR work.

info@fluechtlingsrat-brandenburg.de
[facebook @FlüchtlingsratBrandenburg](https://www.facebook.com/FluechtlingsratBrandenburg)



www.fluechtlingsrat-brandenburg.de

Asylum & Migration Information Network

Information about the asylum procedure in different languages



[www.asyl.net/view/
information-zur-anhoerung-im-asylverfahren](http://www.asyl.net/view/information-zur-anhoerung-im-asylverfahren)