Call for applications for active membership of the Treptow-Köpenick District Advisory Board for Participation and Integration

Dear fellow citizens,

Treptow-Köpenick is a diverse neighbourhood. Just over 28 per cent of residents have a background of migration or displacement. This means that they or their families have themselves immigrated to or fled to Germany, or have been affected by the consequences of racial discrimination. This social diversity is often not reflected in politics and public administration. Many residents of Treptow-Köpenick with a migration background are not eligible to vote, and when they are, it is often only at district level. To ensure that the interests of all residents can be heard and taken into account, Treptow-Köpenick has an Advisory Board for Participation and Integration. It consists of residents of Treptow-Köpenick who themselves have a history of migration or displacement and/or people who live, work, are undergoing vocational training, do voluntary work or study in the borough. Representatives from community and advisory projects involved in integration work may also be part of the advisory board.

The Migration Advisory Board advises and supports the District Office (Bezirksamt) on all matters relating to participation, integration and equal involvement of people with a history of migration or displacement. The Migration Advisory Board may send representatives to the public meetings of the committees of the District Assembly (BVV for short) and regularly seeks dialogue with the State Advisory Board as well as the advisory boards of the other city districts. The Advisory Board for Participation and Integration offers the opportunity to contribute to the district's initiatives in an advisory capacity and to bring about concrete changes - locally, within and for the district. To ensure this can be achieved, we are calling on interested individuals to apply to become members.

The requirements are:

Do you live in Treptow-Köpenick, or are you involved here in a full-time and/or voluntary capacity, studying in Treptow-Köpenick, or undertaking vocational training in the borough? Do you have a background of migration or displacement? If so, please apply by 22 November 2026 using the online form and feel free to include a few words about your motivation:
https://www.berlin.de/ba-treptow-koepenick/politik-und-verwaltung/beauftragte/integration/migrationsbeirat-beteiligung/formular.1726280.php

Alternatively, you can also apply by post or email, providing details of yourself and your motivation:

Bezirksamt Treptow-Köpenick von Berlin
Büro des Bezirksbürgermeisters, Integrationsbüro
Alt Köpenick 21
12555 柏林

integration@ba-tk.berlin.de

We strongly encourage FLINTA*, Black people, people of colour, queer*LGBTIQA people and people with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses to apply.

Gregor Postler, Participation and Integration Officer for the Treptow-Köpenick District
Katharina Stökl, Coordinator for Refugee Affairs and Public Relations and contact person for the Migration Advisory Board in the Office for Participation and Integration at the Treptow-Köpenick District Office

*Women, lesbians, inter, non-binary, trans or agender people.

FAQs on the Advisory Board for Participation and Integration (Migration Advisory Board for short)

What is the Migration Advisory Board?

In accordance with Section 19 of the PartMigG, the Migration Advisory Board advises and supports the District Office on all matters relating to participation, integration and equal involvement of people with a history of migration or displacement. The Migration Advisory Board may send representatives to the public meetings of the committees of the District Assembly (BVV for short) and regularly seeks dialogue with the State Advisory Board as well as the Migration Advisory Boards in the other city districts.

How is the Migration Advisory Board composed?

In Treptow-Köpenick, the Migration Advisory Board consists, on the one hand, of people who have a personal history of migration or displacement and who live, work, are undergoing vocational training, do voluntary work or are studying here. In addition, representatives from civil society are admitted who, due to their expertise in matters of participation, integration and equal involvement of people with a history of migration or displacement, can contribute to the Advisory Board's work. Members with a background of migration or displacement form the majority. A deputy is elected for each member. The District Office's Department for Participation and Integration attends the advisory board's meetings in an advisory capacity and provides technical and organisational support.

How is the Migration Advisory Board convened?

The inaugural meeting of the Migration Advisory Board will take place in early 2027. Interested parties can apply to become members until 22 November 2026. The selection process will take place in December/January. The selected members will draw up their own rules of procedure and determine how the Migration Advisory Board will meet, as well as when and how new members will be elected in future.

Who can become a member of the Treptow-Köpenick Migration Advisory Board?

People with a background of migration or displacement who live in Treptow-Köpenick, work here, are undertaking vocational training, do voluntary work or are studying. In addition, representatives of civil society may become members if they have in-depth knowledge of issues relating to participation, integration and equal involvement of people with a background of migration or displacement.

What does 'migration or refugee background' mean?

A background of migration or displacement means that a person has either

- have immigrated or fled to Germany themselves: many migrants and refugees suffer losses because they are sometimes forced to leave behind their families, friends, networks and personal belongings. A great many of them are unable to transfer their professional qualifications, educational achievements and vocational training directly into the local system. There are problems with recognition, or with having to learn the German language first. Added to this, for many, is a precarious residence status and the associated reduced access to education, work, housing and political participation.
- People with a 'migration background': Often, these disadvantages are so severe that they also affect the children or even grandchildren of immigrants. Many young people and children do not have a migration background according to the current definition. Yet they are disadvantaged by the effects of migration and the associated discrimination and exclusion.
- People subjected to racial discrimination. This includes, for example, non-white Germans or people identified as Muslims, Jews, Sinti and Roma. They are often assumed to have a migrant background on the basis of their name, appearance, religion or language. Whether they experience such assumptions and/or racial discrimination is to be assessed and stated by the individuals themselves.

What are my responsibilities as a member?

Your responsibilities include regular attendance at the Migration Advisory Board's meetings (currently around 10 meetings a year; excluding the summer holidays, these are usually held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm at rotating venues and online), preparing the content for the topics addressed by the Migration Advisory Board, and networking. If you take on a specific role, further responsibilities may be added: for example, participating in the BVV's specialist committees, inviting members and organising Advisory Board meetings, managing finances, public relations, or chairing the Advisory Board.

Volunteer allowance and travel and attendance allowances

As with members of the BVV and citizen representatives, there is an expense allowance for attending meetings. The current rate is €20.00 per meeting.