

The Saxony Democracy Center

The Democracy Center is the key entity in the Free State of Saxony coordinating between government and civil society stakeholders that work to strengthen and sustain democracy and against extremist tendencies and those at odds with human dignity and equality. The center offers professional advice in the realms of prevention and intervention, empowering individuals and organizations to tackle extremism and discrimination effectively and with confidence and thereby bolster social cohesion and cooperation as the foundations of a thriving culture of democratic values.

The center

- supports counseling services for victims and survivors, mobile outreach and advice on individual settings and how to leave extremist groups and structures, all free of charge throughout Saxony.
- acts as an interface between administrative agencies, nongovernmental practitioners and the federal, state and municipal levels.
- forms a network of organizations and initiatives working to strengthen democracy, celebrate diversity, prevent extremism and support education on democratic values.
- actively works within the state administration and strengthens the transfer of knowledge and practical experience from preventive educational practice into public administration and institutional structures.
- focuses primarily on the following areas: prevention and countering of extremism (in particular right-wing extremism and religiously motivated extremism), antisemitism, racism, antigypsyism, and hostility towards LGBTIQ* people.

Beratung, Unterstützung, Prävention.
gegen Extremismus für Demokratie

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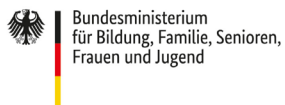
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Demokratie *leben!*

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SAXONY

Saxony Democracy Center

Countering Extremism, Defending
Democracy



VON MENSCH ZU MENSCH.

Advisory network



»Saxony benefits from committed and dedicated individuals, municipalities, institutions and organizations that work to strengthen and sustain democracy and social cohesion. The Saxony Democracy Center provides qualified, free support through its expertise and a professional advisory network in order to sustainably foster and structurally anchor democratic engagement. In doing so, we also

strengthen the capacity of institutional structures, such as schools, youth services, and public administration, to respond effectively to extremism and group-based hostility. Don't hesitate to reach out for support! Together, we can find effective solutions.«

Petra Köpping,

State Minister for Social Affairs, Health and Social Cohesion

The Democracy Center serves as an umbrella for an established network of specialized service providers, offering confidential professional advice, counseling, support and on-site assistance:

- to strengthen and sustain a culture of democratic values.
- in dealing with extremist and discriminatory incidents.
- following right-wing motivated, racist and/or antisemitic attacks.
- relatives, professionals, and individuals seeking to disengage in the context of extremist radicalization.
- in developing and implementing prevention and intervention strategies.

Services are available free of charge to schools, parents and other family members, municipalities, nonprofits, associations, businesses, religious communities and other individuals seeking advice throughout Saxony.

»At our school, racist and anti-queer remarks by students are becoming increasingly frequent. We urgently need practical guidance on how to respond effectively to this development.«

Mobile counselling

Anyone affected by incidents threatening human rights or democratic values can turn to the Mobile Counseling teams. The teams provide expert crisis support, as well as professional assistance with analysis, conflict resolution, intervention, and the development of action strategies. These services are available to individuals and institutions, including schools, municipalities, businesses, and recreational facilities.



»How can we promote social cohesion and strengthen democratic values in my city or town?«

Support and counseling for victims and survivors

People who have experienced threats, insults, or attacks motivated by far-right, racist, or anti-humanitarian ideologies can receive support here. Services include a safe space to discuss their experiences, legal counseling, assistance with police and government procedures, and support for the financial or material consequences of these incidents.

**RAA
SACHSEN**

REGIONALE ARBEITSSTELLEN
UND ANGBOTE FÜR BILDUNG,
BERATUNG UND DEMOKRATIE

»Because my Muslim friend wears a hijab, she was recently insulted and spat at by an older woman at a bus stop – right in front of me. I'm wondering how I can support her.«

Dissociation Assistance and Exit Counselling

Family members and professionals in the environment of individuals who are turning to extremist ideologies receive support. Early intervention can be particularly effective in the initial stages of radicalization processes. Individuals who wish to distance themselves from extremist scenes also receive assistance here.



»My friend has recently started hanging out with far-right guys and dressing like them. He says they care about him and that his opinion is being valued. I'm worried about him. What should I do?«

»My son is withdrawing, watches many videos of religious preachers, and says that many people are living »wrongly«. I can hardly reach him anymore. How and at what point should I seek support?«