

How does democracy actually work in Germany?

Why is the political system so complex in Germany?

Whom does Mrs. Merkel have to ask before she takes a decision?

How can I make politicians listen to me?

MPs
2030

Why MPs 2030?

In Germany, there are many ways to engage actively in politics and civil society, and to exert influence. For voting in elections, you need the German citizenship. But there are also opportunities to engage actively, even without the German citizenship, in parties, civil society organizations, citizens' groups or advisory councils.

However, the political system, in Germany, is very complex. Those who have not grown up and gone to school in Germany, often have insufficient information about the system. Thus it is challenging for them to understand it, and to make use of the opportunities.

We find it important that such people, that have not have not grown up in Germany, also speak out and engage actively. They know how the people from their respective community think and what they need. They can give them a voice in the public sphere.

That is why we organize the project "MPs 2030". We want to support them in becoming active in Germany. Maybe some of them even succeeds in getting elected as a representative in the Bundestag, in a federal state parliament or in a local council. For this reason, we have called the project "MPs 2030". In English, "MP" is the abbreviation of "Member of Parliament".

What will happen in the framework of MPs 2030?

There will be eight workshops in Berlin, between February and July 2020. The workshops always take place in the weekend (Friday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday).

- In the framework of the workshops, the participant gets much information about how the political system works in Germany, and which influence civil society organizations, media and enterprises have.
- You meet people, who have not been born in Germany, but do now hold important positions and can tell you how they have made it.
- You learn how to collect information, analyze political texts, conduct interviews, give presentations and hold debates.
- In order to practice all these skills, you work on your own mini project where you choose a political issue, collect information about it and present your results in the end.

Who can participate?

You can apply if you

- are between 18 and 30 years old;
- have not grown up in the EU, the USA, Canada, Australia or New Zealand,
- have not been living in Germany for more than 10 years,
- live in Berlin, Brandenburg or a place not further than 200 kilometers away from Berlin,
- understand and speak, read and write German sufficiently well (at least B2)
- have already engaged actively for something or done voluntary work (no matter where),
or
are interested in politics and would like to help shaping the public discourse.

How many persons will participate in MPs 2030?

Around 20 persons will take part in MPs 2030.

How much time do I need if I want to participate?

You should have sufficient time for the workshops which take place approximately every third weekend.

Between the workshops you work on your own mini project, and do small exercises. You should plan around 2 or 3 hours per week for that.

What benefit do I get from the MPs 2030?

- You understand better how the political system in Germany works, and which opportunities you have to exert influence.
- You get to know other active people who would like to get involved.
- You get to know active people who already have experience and are ready to share it.
- You practice many skills which are useful not only in political life and civil society, but also for studies and professional life.
- In the end, of course, you receive a certificate about your participation in MPs 2030.

How much do I have to pay if I want to join?

You do not have to pay anything. If you do not live in Berlin, we will cover travel expenses and accommodation in Berlin for you.

How can I apply?

You find the application form online under

<https://www.impact-csr.org/MPs2030>

If you want to apply, you have to fill in the **application form** and upload your **CV** until **19 January 2020**.

Provided you fulfill the requirements, we will invite you for a small interview in January 2020, in order to get to know you personally.

What do I do if I have any questions?

You can find additional information about MPs 2030 on our website: <https://www.impact-csr.org/MPs2030>.

If you have additional questions, please send an email to MPs2030@impact-csr.org.

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