

# ***What to Do about Racist and Anti-Semitic Attacks***



# ***What to Do about Racist and Anti-Semitic Attacks***

**Possible Steps and Legal Tips**



Mobile counselling centre  
for victims of right-wing, racist  
and anti-Semitic violence

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## Right-Wing and Racist Violence

*This guide is aimed at people affected by right-wing and racist acts of violence, their relatives and friends – as well as witnesses of an attack.*

*The first part of the guide is to clarify who could be affected by right-wing violence and outlines the offer of support of our counselling centres as well as the policy of our work.*

*Moreover, you can find important aspects concerning social positioning and political intervention. In the second section, you can find explanations concerning possible psychological consequences of an attack, which also includes the perspective of the affected people – as well as their environment.*

*The third part is devoted to the complexities of legal reconstruction of the attack. Important questions concerning criminal proceedings and compensation will be explained in more detail. The following section is addressed to affected persons who have no German citizenship and what they are entitled to in terms of medical treatment after a racist attack.*

*We want to emphasise an issue that is still unfulfilled by politicians: the right of residence for affected persons after a right-wing, racist attack must finally become a fact.*

*The guide serves as a brief introduction for important questions and decisions, although it cannot replace a personal conversation or in-depth counselling. If you, or a person you know, have been attacked, please contact us!*

## ***Who are the Affected People?***

Affected people, their relatives, friends and witnesses of criminal and violent acts of group-based hostile motives can be persons who are being attacked because of

- racist or anti-Semitic motives of the perpetrators,
- their alternative appearance and/or their not right-wing attitude,
- their sexual orientation as well as identity,
- their disability,
- their social disadvantage/exclusion
- their religion,
- their activity against right-wing attitudes and activities.

As well as

- you and me

In our environment, people are confronted with violence because they do not correspond to the neo-Nazi ideas of a homogeneous society. That is an attack against the equality of all people and thereby against our democratic and humanistic basic understanding.

## **ezra**

### ***Mobile counselling centre for victims of right-wing, racist and anti-Semitic violence***

We work

- at no charge
- independently from governmental or other social institutions,
- with interpreters if requested,
- mobile – the conversations can take place in the environment of the affected persons,
- independently of any report, residential or social status.

We support affected people, relatives, friends and witnesses of right-wing attacks with counselling in relation to

- decisions after an attack; for example, reporting the crime, the necessity of moving or therapist support,
- legal issues and rights,
- legal peculiarities associated with not holding German citizenship,
- claims for compensation and financial benefits,
- the possibilities of social intervention.

We support you with

- help obtaining a lawyer and other counselling organisations,
- the reconstruction of the events / experiences,



- the organisation and implementation of public relations and
- we accompany you to court and any authorities you might need to deal with.

The extent and steps of support will be determined by the affected people themselves.

Our team records

- racist, homo-/transphobic and anti-Semitic attacks,
- attacks against people who are not right-wing, alternative, socially disadvantaged, the homeless, and people who are politically engaged against right-wing activity,
- attacks against disabled people.

If you have been attacked or threatened, or know of an attack, we would like to know how you perceive the motive of the crime.

### **ezra**

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## ***Right-Wing and Racist Violence Affects All of Us ...***

... and is not just the problem of the affected people

### ***What you can do***

As friends, relatives or neighbours, politicians, religious groups, teachers, members of sporting associations, cultural or other initiatives:

#### *Taking the person's feelings seriously*

It is important to try to understand how you would feel if you are the person affected and to show unity with them. Anxieties that have been caused by the attack can be massively reinforced by a lack of empathy in the person's environment. In particular, others reproaching the person ("Why do you dress like that?!") or showing an understanding of the acts of the perpetrators, makes it much more difficult to overcome the attack.

#### *Support the affected person*

In particular, close relationships have a crucial influence whether the violent experience can be overcome or not. Interest, trust and time set aside for common activities are a support for affected people which can only be provided through a close personal environment.

#### *Support and counselling*

In terms of compensation, rights and options after an attack or for processing the experience of violence, professional counselling for the injured party, relatives or witnesses can be helpful. Therefore, support the affected person to visit professional counselling or contact us yourself.

*Name the motive  
of the crime*

Right-wing or racist attacks are no normal types of crime. The misanthropic and antidemocratic character of the action must be recognised. Right-wing violence will not decrease when we get used to it or categorise it as “violence between teenagers” and as “beer tent or disco fights”. As well as social discourse, understanding the specific motive for the crime can increase the chance of psychological healing on the part of the affected person.

Mayors, community leaders, teachers or religious leaders have the opportunity to expose an attack in public. Important public figures and people active in the community can emphasise, in public statements, that the community is not willing to accept right-wing violence. In doing this, they can highlight the features which indicate misanthropic motives for a crime and state clearly that people have been attacked as a result of these reasons.

In order to categorise the motivation that underlies the attack (racism, anti-Semitism, Social Darwinism etc.) the following circumstances can be considered:

- The attacked people belong to a target group of right-wing violence (for example non right-wing teenagers, people of colour, migrants, disabled people, homosexuals)
- Discriminating utterances such as “Zecke” or “Deutschland den Deutschen” were shouted.
- The perpetrators wore clothes that are typical for right-wing people. If you know about it you, can also mention the membership of the perpetrators in right-wing parties, other organisations or their participation in neo-Nazi activities

*Look at the whole of society rather than at the individual case*

Even though right-wing acts of violence are obvious manifestations of misanthropy and exclusion, they are only the tip of the iceberg. To really change the situation, we should avoid focussing solely on the attack. In addition, a description of the environment is necessary. As such, other right-wing attacks and attitudes in society as a whole, such as racist resentments have to be included; we must look beyond the actual attacks.

Therefore:

- Describe right-wing activities in the area such as graffiti, stickers, concerts, assemblies, and/or protests of right-wing parties or organisations.
- Describe the appearance of people in typical right-wing clothes in the local area or of (for example) anti-Semitic or racist comments at the football ground, village festivals, in school etc.

*Take a democratic stand*

You can take a clear stand against neo-Nazism, racism and for democracy in the area:

- Openly declare your solidarity with people affected by right-wing violence.
- Organise events or charity support against right-wing activities. Obtain the support of local leaders.
- Report right-wing attacks at our counselling centres and take part in counteracting the normalisation of right-wing violence.
- Position yourself against racist and right-wing opinions, slogans and activities in your everyday life.

Right-wing and racist violence takes various forms. We are pleased to help with consulting and to help with options for coping with the individual situation together with you and/or supportive partners.

### ***A Stand against Victimisation***

Many people who have been attacked do not see themselves as “victims”, which is a good thing. Amongst others, criminology and social science are concerned with the terminology of the word “victim”. In doing so, both professions describe “victimisation” as the process of “becoming a victim” or of “being made a victim” in two steps:

The primary victimisation includes both the violent act itself and also the further implications. It can lead to a second victimisation if the affected people are confronted with inappropriate behaviour in their environment – such as reproaches of them being partly to blame for the attack, a lack of the police and justice system being effective, a denial of the motive for the crime or belittlement; but also extreme overprotection and paternalism.

The second stage, “becoming a victim” means negative, mental, social and economic consequences which do not emerge in the immediate aftermath of the criminal act itself. Rather, they result from actions and comments of people who are concerned with the affected people after the attack (parents, teachers, police, courts etc.).

The description of the aggrieved party as a “victim” suggests a strong passivity, a weakened position, the feeling of total sub-

jection and the sole responsibility of processing the experience. In order to not reinforce this, it is advisable to avoid the term, “victim” and to use “affected person”, “attacked” or “aggrieved person” instead.

The ability to process a right-wing violent act is dependent on several factors, including the individual skills of the affected person, a geographical distance from the perpetrator, the legal reconstruction and personal life situation or economic factors; however, it is particularly based on

- the reactions of the person’s social environment (relatives, colleagues, neighbourhood, religious and community groups),
- the skills of the professionals (police, justice, media, doctors),
- the reactions of public and institutional persons (of politics, administration, sports, culture and social work).

# Possible Psychological Reactions after an Attack

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*Dependent on external influences and previous experience, affected people develop different ways to process the attack. The duration and intensity of consequences after a violent experience differ substantially. Physical and mental issues can not only arise just after the incident but also some time later. The following section outlines psychological reactions which can appear for the "victims".*

## ***How You Might Feel after Being Attacked***

*Think about the experience*

Some people cannot get the attack out of their heads. Their thoughts revolve around it frequently. Sometimes the memories come back suddenly and the affected person feels thrown back into the situation. Individual pictures can appear in the mind again, which can be very unpleasant and burdensome.

*Avoiding places and situations that relate to what you have experienced*

Some affected people describe that it is almost unbearable going to places, hearing noises, meeting people who remind them of the attack. They suddenly feel that they cannot “see them anymore” and avoid going to certain places, for example, a particular street or house – sometimes even making huge detours to get to places. This can have a very real effect on day to day activities with some people being unable to handle the shopping and other purchases or struggling to get to school. Their daily routine is therefore put on hold and life can become very restricted.

*Suffering from inner restlessness and anxiety*

Affected people can become deeply nervous when thoughts and memories revolve around the event. Inner restlessness and anxiety are possible effects, particularly in darkness or crowds of people. Affected people can easily bristle or react angrily. Some people have difficulty falling asleep at night or wake up in the middle of the night and struggle to find rest.

If the case goes to trial, often affected people are afraid of direct confrontation with the perpetrator. Insecurity, rage or desires for vengeance can arise.



It is also possible that affected people feel hopeless, helpless or sad, for a long period after the attack. Some completely retreat socially, don't accept invitations, give up hobbies and commitments. A few also consume more alcohol or seek medication in order to fall asleep or suppress the memories of the attack.

All these reactions represent individual processing mechanisms of the attack – which take time. The person can feel overwhelmed after a traumatic incident. It is important that they take their feelings seriously and do not feel ashamed or blame themselves. If the mentioned symptoms continue for a longer period of time, clinical conditions can develop.

## ***What You as an Affected Person Can Do***

To reduce the impact of an attack, there are a couple of things that other people have had positive experiences with, which might help you to get back to feeling yourself and your vitality. It is important that you realise: you are not guilty.

Conversations and activities with friends or family members can be helpful to regain feeling safe and psychological well-being. Don't be afraid of seeking professional help. Our counselling centres can support you in legal, financial, therapeutic and practical decisions after the attack.

You have the opportunity to speak to us about the attack and the consequences in a safe and trusting environment.

### *Possibilities for psychological support*

In the same way that physical injuries take time and professional treatment, so does psychological well-being. Therefore, it is recommended that you see a doctor or therapist for enduring psychological distress.

If you seek psychological therapy, you will need a medical referral from your family doctor. Your health insurance will cover the costs. A session at the psychologist usually lasts 45 minutes. The first five sessions are 'taster' sessions to see whether you feel comfortable with the psychologist or not. If this is not the case, you have the option to change to a different therapist. If you have decided on psychological therapy, a request will be submitted to your health insurance, where the duration of the therapy will also be determined.

You will find more information on the different forms of therapy on the internet:

[www.psychotherapiesuche.de](http://www.psychotherapiesuche.de)

## ***What You as a Related Person Can Do***

As a friend or relative you can help if you

- take the individual needs of the affected person seriously,
- listen to them without putting pressure on them to talk about certain things or make decisions,
- provide practical support if requested,
- make it clear that you are on the side of the affected person

If you feel compelled to talk about the situation or want information, you can contact our counselling centres.

## Legal Reconstruction of the Crime

*Only few affected people have taken action through the German legal system in the past, although, most people know that the attack is a crime that should be investigated by the police. Many are uncertain exactly what that means to them and which role they play in these proceedings. Terms like witness summons, criminal complaint, criminal charge, incidental action, legal aid, compensation etc., which can all become relevant for affected people and witnesses during the trial, will be explained in the following section.*

## ***Important Immediate Actions***

If you have been hurt in an attack, it is important for both your healing process and for the possible pending proceedings that you see a doctor. This will determine the severity of the injuries and will provide a medical certificate about the physical and psychological consequences. Later on, this is often the foundation for the identification of the injuries and for the amount of compensation claimed. External wounds, such as bruises or injured parts of the body should be documented by taking a photograph.

*Medical certificates*

Ripped clothes, broken windowpanes, smeared expressions of hate on the house wall and much more are damages that have to be compensated by the perpetrators. They play an important role in the criminal procedure as well. Take a picture of them and make a list of all the property damages as well as the repair costs (if applicable with the related documents). Family members and friends or employees of our team can help you with the list.

*Documenting  
property damages*

Directly after the attack, the experience is on the mind of the affected person and the witnesses. Nevertheless, the memories fade away after a while, especially the details that are important for legal proceedings. Therefore, affected people and witnesses should – separately from each other – create a so called ‘verbatim’ from memory. This makes it possible to make detailed statements in trial, which often takes place months or years later. Even if reading out the ‘verbatim’ from memory in court is not allowed, it helps with your preparation of the statement in the run-up to the proceedings.

*Creating a »verbatim«  
from memory*

Take enough time and write down details about the attack; you can use the following guideline. It is not a problem if there are some questions you don't know the answer to.

- How did the attack come about?
- How and where did it happen?
- How many attackers did you see?
- How did these look (gender, height, clothes, disguises)?
- Did you recognise anyone?
- Which perpetrator did what? (Who has for example hit you, who stood beside, who stood guard?)
- How often were you hit – or other form of attack?
- What was shouted before, during or after the attack?
- Where did the perpetrators escape to?
- Are there further witnesses?
- How did you act?
- What injuries have you suffered? Were others injured?
- When did the police arrive and what steps were taken?

## Reporting the Crime

### **Criminal Charge**

The criminal charge is the statement of an incident which constitutes an offence in the opinion of the affected person. You either state it to the police or the prosecution.

Often it says: "A criminal charge is senseless...". In addition, affected people cannot be sure whether the police, and later the court, believe them or the claims of the perpetrators to protect themselves.

Some affected people are afraid of a criminal charge as they

- fear vengeance from the right-wing scene,
- are sceptical towards the work of the police, prosecution and courts,
- have had bad experiences with government institutions,
- have no permit – or an uncertain one – in Germany,
- have been attacked several times and are resigned to the situation.

If there is one or more points that applies to you, don't be afraid of consulting one of our counselling centres. We accept whatever decision you make and support you, even if you have decided against pressing criminal charges. We work independently of government institutions, our work is completely confidential and, if you wish, we can work with you on an anonymous basis.

*What is a criminal charge?*

*Do I really have to file a report?*

*Reasons against a criminal charge*

### *Reasons for a criminal charge*

Despite the reality that investigations often fizzle out, or perpetrators are not identified or convicted, there are still good reasons to file a criminal report. It is important because

- it sends a clear signal towards right-wing perpetrators and their environment and shows that you will not be intimidated and do not accept such actions.
- in some cases, perpetrators file a complaint against the affected person and claim that they had provoked the attack. In this case, your own criminal complaint offers possible protection, as the police have to investigate as a result of your criminal complaint as well. With that, the real course of events can be shown.
- the state can take over the prosecution and a conviction through the justice system can follow.
- this can be the first step taken away from the passive “victim role”.
- without filing a report, the attack will not be included in police statistics of right-wing acts of violence.
- it helps with claiming financial compensation.
- from our experience, perpetrators are more likely to commit further acts of violence when they think that the attacked people are not defending themselves.

In our experience and to our knowledge, the perpetrators do not retaliate because of a criminal report being filed.



There is no time limit for filing a criminal report and it is not necessary to do it in a specific format. It is possible as

*How to file a report?*

- a personal visit
- a phone call
- a letter.

It can also take place anonymously and is possible

- at any police station,
- at the prosecution service, for example if the affected person or witness is afraid of contacting the police,
- at local courts.

It is advisable to clearly explain that you want to file a criminal report, in order to ensure that an investigation is opened. Once you have filed a criminal report it cannot be rescinded. Every complaint made will be given a journal number by the person that has taken the report. Ask for it. It is helpful for asking further questions, making requests or for the statement of further details. It is possible to be supported by friends, members of your family or our employees when you make the complaint.

You can find an example for a written criminal report on page 50 in this guide.

*What is a criminal complaint?*

### **Criminal Complaint**

A criminal complaint is the explicit will of a person affected by a crime that the crime will be prosecuted. It is only necessary for crimes that the police do not have to legally investigate anyway. Crimes that the police are not obliged to investigate include in particular the more 'minor' crimes such as theft, property damage or minor bodily injury. For offences involving bodily injury, a criminal complaint should always be made, as you often do not know which legal offence the crime will be categorised as. There are no disadvantages to the person filing a complaint, not even if an application has been made that is not necessary.

*Who can file a criminal complaint?*

Normally, affected people are eligible to make a complaint and, for minors that have been attacked, their parents are eligible.

*How to file a criminal complaint?*

As well as the criminal report, the criminal complaint can be made in writing or put on record with the police, the prosecution or the court. Mostly, the police provide an application for a criminal complaint to the affected person to sign. In contrast to the criminal report, this criminal complaint can be rescinded, but if done so, it can never be filed again.

You can find an example for a criminal complaint on page 50 in this guide.

*Until when has a criminal complaint to be filed?*

The application must be filed within three months of the crime. This term starts as soon as the affected person has information about the action and the perpetrators. This is the case when the police have investigated the perpetrators and have disclosed their identities to the affected person.

### ***Right of Information on the Result of the Procedure***

As the aggrieved party you have to be informed of the result of the procedure. However, this is only the case if you have made an application for information. This will normally be offered to you by the police or prosecution. If this is not the case or you decide later that you want to be informed about the result of the procedure, you should write a brief application.

You can find an example on page 53 in this guide.

### ***Possibilities with a Counter-Report***

Sometimes, right-wing perpetrators try to report the affected person to the police order to distract from their guilt. In those cases, it is important to try to remain calm: the police and prosecution are familiar with perpetrators trying to protect themselves and filing these types of counter-reports – and they will decide based on the evidence.

Affected people of an attack have the right to defend themselves (self-defence). Other people may also actively support the attacked person (emergency aid). If you have been reported by the perpetrators, you might be summoned to the police for a suspect hearing. Always look carefully whether your summons is a witness- or an accused hearing. If you are summoned as a witness, there is no investigation against you. If you are summoned as an accused person, the police are investigating you. If a complaint has been filed against you, contact our counselling centres or a lawyer as soon as possible.

## ***Police and Prosecution***

### ***Investigation Proceedings***

As soon as a file has been opened, or police or prosecution have discovered a crime, they are forced to initiate investigations.

#### *Unbiased*

The investigation proceedings must be led from an unbiased point of view. That means that, for solving a crime, police and prosecution have to consider incriminating and exonerating circumstances as part of their review of all circumstances of the crime. This sometimes means that affected people of a crime have to give several, critical statements to the police which can require a significant amount of time. You have the right to be treated fairly and appropriately.

#### *Procedure and duration of the investigation proceedings*

The investigation proceedings will be led until the prosecution can press charges or the proceedings have to be stopped. The police work for as long as a coherent overall picture is uncovered or until they feel that further investigations will not provide any additional information. Since investigation proceedings often take a long time, it can take several years from the crime until the trial.

#### *Status inquiry*

If you get the feeling that there is no progress after your report, as an affected person you can always make a so called “status inquiry” with the police or prosecution. For a quick response it is recommended that you note the daily journal number of the police or the file number of the prosecution.

You can find an example of a status inquiry on page 52 in this guide.

## ***Stopping of the Procedure***

If the perpetrators cannot be found, the evidence was insufficient or legal impediments exist, the prosecution has to stop the procedure.

*Insufficient evidence*

The prosecution or court can stop the procedure if the guilt of the perpetrators is legally considered minor. This is only possible for crimes where the threat of punishment is a prison sentence under a year or less. This can include various typical right-wing motivated offences like property damage, insult and bodily injury.

*Insignificance*

If the perpetrators agree, the prosecution or court can stop the procedure, but other requirements have to be fulfilled instead. As such, perpetrators will be, for example, obliged to pay an amount of money as compensation or to fulfil community service work. This is again only possible for crimes where the punishment is less than a year in prison.

*After fulfilling other requirements*

If the attack is less serious, compared to other crimes of the perpetrators or they have already been sentenced because of a more serious crime, the prosecution can stop the procedure because of insignificance.

*Sentenced because of a more serious crime*

### *Complaint against the stop*

#### ***Rights of Affected People after a Procedure Has Been Stopped***

As an aggrieved person you will receive a detailed report about the discontinuation of the procedure and have the right to file a complaint to the prosecution within two weeks. In your complaint, you should clearly detail what you are dissatisfied with. If you have got new knowledge or evidence, you should give specific details. A complaint is also possible if the prosecution fails to take action or rejects initiating investigation proceedings.

You can find an example for a complaint against the stop on page 55 in this guide.

### *Who is a witness?*

#### ***Rights and Duties of Witnesses***

Witnesses give statements about their perceptions of the attack as part of the criminal procedure. According to German criminal law, affected people will only ever be treated as witnesses in an investigation procedure.

### *Witness statement*

In order to investigate the attack, the police will make enquiries with anyone that can help to identify the circumstances of the crime. The first inquiries often take place at the crime scene. However, witnesses will normally be asked to repeat their statement at a later point at the police station or in writing.

Witness statements are normally taken at the police station. If you agree, the officials can also come to your home or somewhere else. Take enough time to prepare for giving the statement. The police will ask you to describe the attack from your point of view and will ask questions afterwards. Details about – and an accurate account of – the attack are important. Therefore, it is helpful to go through the procedure of the attack and to read your verbatim from memory as well. If you have seen the perpetrators, the police might show you pictures or in some cases, they ask you to attend an identification parade (sometimes called a 'line-up').

*Procedure of the  
witness statement*

You don't have to wait for a witness summons from the police. It is up to you to speak out and this can be done in writing or by email mail to the police or prosecution. This could also be an option if the police do not contact you or you feel uncomfortable dealing with them. However, they may still contact you to ask questions to clarify the information you have provided.

*Written witness  
statement*

Nobody can be forced to give statements to the police. Remember that your statement – even if you feel that you cannot remember much – can give important clues.

*Do I have to follow the  
police summons?*

In some cases, investigating authorities will attach such importance to your statement that you will be summoned by the prosecution even if you have not been seen by the police. You are legally bound to follow this request. A violation of this request can lead to a fine and an arraignment by the police.

*Prosecution summons*

As an affected person and a witness to a crime, you have the right of protection of privacy from the perpetrators. This applies from the statement given to the police/prosecution until the appearance in court.

*Witness rights*

### *Protection of the residence*

Instead of giving your personal address another contact address can be given. In order for this to happen, a cause for concern must exist, for example, threats or damage to the property could result by mentioning where you live. This new regulation explicitly refers to the intimidation of witnesses by right-wing perpetrators. Alternatively, any address where you can be contacted by the authorities can count as your contact address (lawyer, place of work, P.O. box). If you are using a counselling centre, their address can also be used. Even if, as outlined by new laws, your personal address will be deleted from files immediately afterwards, knowing that others have your address can be difficult. To avoid this situation, we advise that you give an alternative address right from the beginning. When going to the police or prosecution, just take your driving license or passport with you. This is enough to identify you and no official is tempted to disclose your home address in the files.

### *Support of witnesses*

When giving your statements to the police or prosecution, and in court, you can ask a lawyer to support you; they will make sure that your rights are protected. If the investigator agrees, support from our counselling centre or another person of trust will be allowed. It is better ask at the beginning whether this is possible. If not, we will help you to find legal witness assistance.

### *Interpreter*

If German is not your first language, you can consult an interpreter at each stage of the procedure (police, prosecution, court). Many affected people prefer this, as a hearing can be an exhausting and emotionally upsetting experience. It is your legal right to express yourself in your first language (mother tongue). Insist on that.



As a witness of a crime, it is your duty to help in establishing the truth.

### *Witness duties*

You have to attend when summoned by the prosecution and later following a summons by the court at a given appointment. If you are ill or not available after a certain period of time, you must communicate this as soon as possible in order to change the appointment. If you cannot justify your absence, you may be subject to a fine and forced arraignment by the police.

### *Duty to testify*

As a witness, you are legally obliged to tell the truth. That means that you are not allowed to knowingly lie, add or leave out anything. If you are unsure or cannot remember something exactly, say it. A knowingly wrong statement in law is a crime.

### *Duty to tell the truth*

## ***Legal Proceedings***

Throughout the legal process, the attack will become a focus, even if the attack was some months or years ago. You might often feel uncertain and perceive giving the statement as uncomfortable. At this time, look for support and talk to friends or family members. Our team can help you to prepare you for your appearance in court and can explain the proceedings in detail to you. You can find a brief introduction in the following paragraphs.

### *Preparation*

On the day of your witness statement, you should be in court on time and bring your written summons with you. You have to wait outside of the courtroom until you are called in. This often takes some time, as the proceedings can run slowly.

### *Being on time*

### *Judicial cautioning*

In the courtroom, you take a seat at the witness table at first. Initially, the court cautions you about your duty to tell the truth. That does not mean that they mistrust you; the cautioning is required by law.

### *Witness statement and questioning*

The court asks you at first to explain what has happened. Report truthfully and say if there is something you cannot remember very well. After your statement you will be questioned by the court. This can be quite intense and sometimes it takes a lot of time, but it does not mean that the court does not believe what you are saying. Rather, the court is obliged to build a complete picture of what has happened. The questioning by the court can be intense, whereas fewer questions can be asked by the lawyer of the perpetrators. After the court questions you, the prosecution, the accessory prosecution and the defence can ask you questions. If you haven't understood anything properly, don't be afraid to say so.

### *Protection by the court*

The court is obliged to intervene if questions that are addressed to you are either unnecessary in relation to the issue or if the questions appear to be offensive towards you. If a lawyer of the accessory prosecution is in attendance, s/he also acts in protection of their witness. If you are unsure, you can also ask the court whether you have to answer the question. If you need a break, inform the court.

### *Maintaining*

Sometimes, the police report will be read out to you and you might be asked to confirm whether you remember. This is called "maintaining", which is a normal situation in court. "Maintaining" does not mean "accusing". It rather serves as refreshing your memory of a situation that happened a long time ago.

After the completion of your hearing you will be let go as a witness and can file any claims, such as travelling costs or loss of earnings.

It is up to you whether you leave the court or take a seat in the audience.

Further witnesses will be heard, pictures and films might be shown, as well as experts that might be questioned. After that, the hearing of evidence will be closed. Now, representors of the prosecution, the accessory prosecution and the defence hold their pleadings. In doing so, they represent their point of view and can demand a penalty. The court then withdraws and, quite often, announces the verdict the same day.

Many affected people are disappointed about how long the procedure took and that they only briefly get to present their point of view about the motive for the crime.

Often the verdict seems too mild as well. At least for a private plaintiff, there is the option of inquiring about the verdict. It is possible to discuss the criminal procedure and the result in a mutual discussion with our counsellors and discuss possible further steps.

*Reimbursement*

*Further procedure of  
the negotiation*

*Possibilities after  
the verdict*

## ***Particularities with Penalty Order and Youth Penal Process***

### *Penalty order*

In some cases, the perpetrators do not appear before the court, but are still legally judged. These so called 'penalty order procedures' enable a faster and less complicated process for actions whose punishment are under a year in prison. Instead of a charge, the prosecution writes a penalty order which will be acted upon by the court afterwards.

### *Youth penal law*

If the perpetrators are between 14 and 18 years old, they count as teenagers in the eyes of the law and therefore, the youth penal law will be used. Those who are under the age of 14 are not of criminally responsible age and, therefore, cannot be put on trial. If the perpetrators are between 18 and 21 when the crime occurred, they are adolescents in front of the law. In such cases, the court has to decide whether youth penal law or the penal law for adults shall be used.

### *Features in youth penal law*

The youth penal law is more educationally-orientated; the idea of not reaching full maturity plays an important role here. As well as a youth (prison) punishment, plenty of more mild penalties are at the court's disposal.

These include other cautions, community service, compensation, the participation in social training courses and obligations to report to the authorities. This is intended to give young perpetrators the opportunity to change and should be less a punishment and rather educational. For youth penalty procedures, the public is excluded from court in order to protect the adolescent perpetrators.

## ***Rights for Damaged Persons***

### ***Rights of Information***

Through a lawyer, the damaged person can get access to the investigation files. A right of access to the files also exists if the procedure has been stopped, as the infringed party should be able to consider their legal options.

*Access to the  
investigation files*

The prosecution has – as far as possible – to inform you about your rights in the criminal procedure in writing and in a language that you understand.

*Duty of information*

### ***Accessory Prosecution***

As a damaged person of a crime, you can take an active role in a criminal procedure when you opt for accessory prosecution. In this case, a lawyer can represent you. As the private plaintiff, you have extensive rights in the procedure.

*What is an accessory  
prosecution?*

As the private plaintiff, you have the right but not the duty, to join the whole procedure, not only at your witness hearing. You don't have to sit in the audience as you have your own seat at the side of the prosecution. Your lawyer can put questions to the accused person, the expert or the witnesses and furthermore, can call for the hearing of evidence and hold a final 'summing up' speech. As a result, you can actively participate in the procedure. In the hearing of evidence, your perspective can be reinforced and additionally, the right-wing motivation of the attack might possibly be uncovered. Finally, the lawyer can represent their overall view in their pleading. Furthermore, you enjoy more

*What happens in an  
accessory prosecution?*

*Who is entitled to take part as a joint plaintiff?*

procedural rights. If you do not agree with the verdict you have the option to appeal or ask for a review and therefore to inquire about previous verdicts at a different court.

The entitlement to take part as a joint plaintiff is excluded from certain offences. These include, amongst others:

- all crimes against sexual self-determination
- manslaughter and murder,
- all malicious injury offences,
- serious cases of coercion.

For manslaughter, the closest family members are entitled to appear as joint plaintiffs.

Certain minor offences are limited to joint plaintiffs. These include, among others:

- all cases of offence
- bodily injury caused by negligence
- housebreaking theft
- all robbery- and blackmailing offences

For these actions the court has to be shown, that for specific reasons, especially because of the serious consequences of the crime, the accessory prosecution is attending to represent the interests of the affected person.

A representation by a lawyer is not deemed necessary by law. However, we strongly suggest it for various reasons:

- You, as a joint plaintiff, have a right to be present right from the beginning. Concerned people often decide to stay out of the court room until their witness hearing, though. Thus, their own statement will gain credence as you have not heard the previous details given by the perpetrators.
- Right from the start, your lawyer can represent you and your interests over the whole procedure.
- Lawyers are experienced in terms of dealing with witness hearings, pleadings and holding pleadings. Use their competences.
- Your participation in the procedure should lie less in the legal procedure than rather in representing your experiences.
- If you are represented by a lawyer, you do not have to be present for the whole procedure. However, your perspective and your rights will be presented before the court.

You should be represented by a lawyer who is an expert in penal law, as well as in right-wing motivated acts of violence. Our counselling centres can help you to choose someone.

The commissioning of a lawyer is always associated with costs. If the perpetrators are sentenced, they are obliged to carry all legal fees, as well as the fees of your lawyer. If the accused are acquitted, you might have to carry the costs yourself. The counselling centres will be happy to give you advice about alternative financing options.

*Do I need a lawyer?*

*Who carries the costs?*

### Legal aid

So called legal aid gives financing options for the joint plaintiff. In the case of acquittal, the state bears the costs. The following conditions have to be met:

- You cannot, or are only able to partly bear the costs, of a lawyer because of your personal financial situation.
- You cannot represent your own interests or it is not reasonable for you. This can particularly be relevant because of the psychological effect of infringed person.

The application for legal aid will be made by your lawyer. He should be given a declaration of your financial situation with relevant evidence.

### Legal advice

A legal consultation cheque is available at the “Weißer Ring e.V.”, which is a nationwide association for supporting victims of crime. With that, you can consult a lawyer of your choice for a free initial consultation. When you provide evidence of financial need, the same certificate is available at the legal application office and the local courts.

### Foundation of the “Deutschen Anwaltsverein”

Deutscher Anwaltsverein  
(DAV)

Stiftung contra Rechts-  
extremismus und Gewalt

Littenstraße 11  
10179 Berlin

Tel 030 – 7 26 15 20  
Fax 030 – 7 26 15 21 90  
dav@anwaltverein.de

www.anwaltverein.de

You can also remind your lawyer that the “DAV-Stiftung contra Rechtsextremismus und Gewalt” might accept partial costs. You will find more information on the internet:

[www.anwaltverein.de/downloads/stiftung/rat.pdf](http://www.anwaltverein.de/downloads/stiftung/rat.pdf)

The German association of lawyers (Deutscher Anwaltsverein – DAV) support you with requests about the procedure, accessory prosecution, cost absorption and compensation.



## ***Compensation and Injury Award***

The perpetrators are obliged to compensate for any resulting damage (destroyed shop, broken windows, broken glasses, damaged clothes etc.) and to pay an injury award as well. However, it is often difficult and tedious to get this and is not always successful.

### ***Civil Action and Adhesion Claims***

Generally, compensation is claimed within the civil procedure. People are to resolve these claims against the other party before a civil court. Different rules from a criminal court apply.

In a civil action, you have to prove to the court that you have a demand of compensation and/or injury award. It is advisable, therefore, to wait for the verdict of the criminal procedure. If the perpetrators get sentenced by the civil court, you will receive a legal title. If the convicted person does not pay voluntarily, you have the right to appoint a court bailiff. However, if the convicted person is covered by the limit of exemption, you will not be paid.

*Civil action*

In the civil procedure, you carry the cost risk until the verdict. If the perpetrators are destitute after the verdict, you will have to bear the costs yourself. Therefore, we strongly recommend a prior consultation in one of our offices or with your lawyer.

*Cost risk*

If the following conditions exist, you can also apply for legal aid in the civil procedure:

*Legal aid in the civil  
procedur*

- if you cannot – or only partly – manage the costs because of your personal or financial situation.
- if the claim has sufficient likelihood of success.

*Adhesion claim*

An alternative way, which is also a lesser risk is the so called 'adhesion claim'. This allows you to claim your demands from the perpetrators within the civil procedure. The adhesion claim procedure is not possible against accused under 18 years.

*Apply for adhesion*

You have to apply for an adhesion claim procedure at court. It is independent of a possible accessory prosecution. This application can be made either by you or your lawyer. You should discuss the advantages and disadvantages with the employees of our counselling centres or with a lawyer.

***Further Options of Compensation****Compensations through the Federal Ministry of Justice*

Since 2001, people affected by right-wing violence are supported by voluntary payments from the Federal Republic of Germany. It is perceived as an act of solidarity between the state and its citizens, and a clear signal of zero tolerance for assaults like this.

*Entitled persons*

People that are affected by right-wing acts of violence and who have suffered damage to their health, can receive a one-time payment. This includes both the attacked themselves and the bereaved, as well as so called emergency helpers (people who have suffered an infringement in order to defend a third person from a right-wing attack). This payment is made regardless of nationality, age and background.

*Conditions for an application*

The infringement, which can also be psychological, has to be caused by a racial or right-wing action. It is important to let a doctor confirm mental infringements such as sleeping disorders, anxiety states, nervousness etc., as the payment only

follows if the infringement can be proven. It is not necessary to prove the right-wing background; it is actually enough that a high probability is shown. Even if there is no conviction or the perpetrators could not be investigated, an application is still possible. However, it is essential that the crime has been reported to the police.

A payment can be guaranteed for physical damages and for the general right of privacy, such as offences. Damages of maintenance and disadvantages in relation to professional advancement can be subject of the payment as well; all damages of property are excluded though.

### Payments

The application can be made by a form from the Federal Ministry of Justice, which can be found at

[www.bundesjustizamt.de/opferentschaedigung](http://www.bundesjustizamt.de/opferentschaedigung)

Precise descriptions of the incident – which includes crime scene, time of the crime and details of the right-wing attack, will be requested there. The injuries suffered should be represented precisely as well; confirmation from doctors and pictures of visible injuries can be added. The counselling centres can help you with your application.

With the authorisation of payment, it is not possible for you to take action against the perpetrators anymore. The Federal Ministry of Justice will try to reclaim the amount of money from the perpetrators, which has been paid to you.

### Application

**Bundesamt für Justiz**

Referat III 2

Opferentschädigung

53094 Bonn

Tel 0228–9 94 10 52 88

Fax 0228–9 94 10 55 91

[www.bundesjustizamt.de](http://www.bundesjustizamt.de)

### Waiver of injury award

### *Victims Compensation Law (Opferentschädigungsgesetz – OEG)*

#### *Entitled persons*

The Victims Compensation Law is a general law which guarantees rights to provide for those whose health has been damaged by a crime.

The demand especially includes treatments, income independent pension benefits due to the effect of permanent damages as well as wage-replacement benefits. In case of death, there might be an entitlement to demand provision for dependants, death benefits and funeral allowances. If your application is judged positively, all costs for the following years that come up with medical treatment will be borne. Included are, for example, a new pair of glasses, dental treatment or a stay in a rehabilitation clinic.

#### *Application*

However, this does not substitute an application for injury award. According to the Victims Compensation Law, there are no benefits for material damage.

In general, all Germans and not-illegalized migrants have the right of compensation benefits. Hereby, only Germans, members of the EU and migrants that have a residence permit for at least three years, are entitled to the whole service range. The regulations for people who have a different status of residence permit are very diverse and complicated. And in fact, it is considered within the discretionary powers of the authorities. Therefore, we recommend an application in all cases, which we will help you with.

The application has to be made at the Thuringian administration office. The form is extensive and demands detailed information on the events of the crime, on witnesses as well as on injuries, consequences, costs and benefits of the medical treatment. A criminal complaint is essential for making an application.

In case of authorisation, your demand towards the perpetrators regarding costs will automatically be passed over to the authorities.

**Thüringer  
Landesverwaltungsamt**

Weimarplatz 4  
99423 Weimar

Tel 0361-37 70-0  
Fax 0361-37 73-71 90

[www.thueringen.de/de/tlvwa](http://www.thueringen.de/de/tlvwa)

## ***Funds for Affected Persons of Right-Wing Violence***

### *CURA*

The Victim Support Fund CURA of the Amadeu-Antonio-Foundation supports affected people of right-wing violence with financial donations quickly and without excessive bureaucracy. They bear the treatment- and lawyer costs and provide help in emergency situations, as well as with property damage. It is possible to make an informal application. As the foundation's money comes from donations, their funds are limited.

### *Funds of Ezra*

Ezra has a small fund which is based on donations. In case of need, we try to help affected people directly and without obstacles (look on the last page for further information).

**CURA**  
**Opferfonds der**  
**Amadeu Antonio Stiftung**

Novalisstraße 12  
10115 Berlin

Tel 030 – 24 08 86 10  
Fax 030 – 24 08 86 22  
[cura@amadeu-antonio-stiftung.de](mailto:cura@amadeu-antonio-stiftung.de)

[www.opferfonds-cura.de](http://www.opferfonds-cura.de)

# Entitlement of Medical Treatment for Affected People without the German Citizenship

The entitlement of medical treatment for not-German citizens is based on different laws and depends on the individual status of legal residence.

We recommend that affected people consult a counselling centre, if you are refused treatment or a payment is demanded. Additionally, you can find detailed information on rights of medical treatment for all non-German citizens on our homepage at

[www.ezra.de](http://www.ezra.de)

People without a legal residence permit can use the initial care or an emergency department, as they have no duty to tell the Aliens Department. However, people without legal status often do not have access to normal medical care, without fearing deportation, because of a lack of anonymous cost reimbursement. In this case, medinet-associations offer anonymous medical counselling and referral to a medical specialist.

**MediNetz Jena e.V.**

c/o Fachschaft Medizin  
Universitätsklinikum  
07740 Jena

Tel 0157–87 62 37 64  
(16 bis 22 Uhr)

[kontakt@medinetz-jena.de](mailto:kontakt@medinetz-jena.de)

[www.medinetz-jena.de](http://www.medinetz-jena.de)

## Right of Residence after a Right-Wing, Racist Attack

Despite strong protests, there is not yet an explicit permanent right of residence for those affected by right-wing acts of violence and their families in Germany. Rather, the individual cases have to be requested by a hardship commission, if no other residence permit is granted or could have been fought at the Committee of Petition.

As there are various reasons for exclusion and difficulties associated with presenting a case at the Committee of Petition, we ask you to talk to one of our counselling centres or the Refugee Council for Thuringia in order to discuss the options for an application.

### Flüchtlingsrat Thüringen e. V.

Schillerstraße 44  
99096 Erfurt

Tel 0361–51 80 51 25  
Fax 0361–51 88 43 28  
[info@fluechtlingsrat-thr.de](mailto:info@fluechtlingsrat-thr.de)

### REFUGIO Thüringen Psychosoziales Zentrum für Flüchtlinge

Wagnergasse 25  
07743 Jena  
Tel 03641–22 62 81  
Fax 03641–23 81 98

Schillerstraße 44  
99096 Erfurt  
Tel 0361–60 26 80 79  
Fax 0361–74 42 95 66

[koordination@  
refugio-thueringen.de](mailto:koordination@refugio-thueringen.de)

[www.fluechtlingsrat-thr.de](http://www.fluechtlingsrat-thr.de)

[www.refugio-thueringen.de](http://www.refugio-thueringen.de)



# Form Templates

**49**  
*Right of Residence /  
Form Templates*

Sender with  
contactable address

place,  
date

Absender mit ladungsfähiger Anschrift

Ort, Datum

To the Prosecution/Police Department,  
Address

An die Staatsanwaltschaft/Polizeidirektion

**Criminal complaint against  
unknown/against XYZ**

Adresse

Dear Sir or Madam,

Hereby, I want to file a criminal complaint against unknown/against XYZ because of a crime on the...

On the ... around 10 pm, I attended at the takeaway on Musterstraße 13. While I was standing in the queue, two men from behind started talking to me and offended me by saying "Scheiß Ausländer. Geh dahin wo Du herkommst." I did not react to their words and only said that I was a student and that they should leave me alone. The started pushing me and one of them hit me with the flat of his flat hand against my face. Thereupon, they left the takeaway with friends, who had in the meantime got their food.

I can describe the men as follows: they were both between 20 and 30 years old. The one who hit me was around 180 cm high, well-built descendent and looked as if he often does sports. He had short hair, gelled up spiky hair. He wore a green and yellow striped polo shirt and a pair of jeans. He wore trainers on his feet. The other one was a bit taller and very lanky. He wore a black jacket and light blue jeans. The CCTV camera in the takeaway might have recorded the two of them. The shop assistant quickly recognised the situation, too. The slap was harmful and my cheek was swollen. My doctor determined a haematoma and I was signed off sick for two days.

With kind regards,  
Signature

Appendix: medical certificate,  
criminal charge

### Strafanzeige gegen Unbekannt / gegen XYZ

Sehr geehrte Damen, sehr geehrte Herren,

ich erstatte Strafanzeige gegen Unbekannt / gegen XYZ wegen der Straftat am ...

Am ... besuchte ich gegen 22.00 Uhr den Imbiss auf der Musterstraße 13. Während ich in der Schlange stand, sprachen mich zwei Männer von hinten an und beleidigten mich mit den Worten »Scheiß Ausländer. Geh dahin wo Du herkommst.« Ich ließ mich nicht auf den Wortwechsel ein und sagte nur, dass ich hier studiere und sie mich in Ruhe lassen sollten. Sie begannen mich zu schubsen und einer verpasste mir mehrere Schläge mit der flachen Hand ins Gesicht. Daraufhin verließen sie den Imbiss mit Freunden, die inzwischen ihr Essen erhalten hatten.

Die Männer kann ich folgendermaßen beschreiben: Beide waren zwischen 20 und 30 Jahre alt. Der, der mich geschlagen hat, war ca. 180 cm groß, stämmig gebaut und sah aus, als ob er oft Sport macht. Er trug kurze Haare, so einen Igel mit nach oben gegelten Haaren. Er hatte ein grün-gelb gestreiftes Polo-Shirt und eine Jeans an. Er trug Turnschuhe. Der andere war ein wenig größer und ziemlich schlaksig. Er hatte eine schwarze Jacke und hellblaue Jeans an. Die Videokamera im Schnellimbiss müsste die beiden aufgezeichnet haben. Auch der Verkäufer hat die Situation mitbekommen. Die Ohrfeige war äußerst schmerzhaft und meine Wange geschwollen. Mein Arzt stellte ein Hämatom fest und schrieb mich zwei Tage krank.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Unterschrift

Anlage: Ärztliches Attest, Strafantrag

Absender mit ladungsfähiger Anschrift

Ort, Datum

Sender with  
contactable address

place,  
date

An die Staatsanwaltschaft/Polizeidirektion  
Adresse

To the Prosecution/  
Police Department  
Address

**Strafantrag wegen der Straftat vom / Tagebuchnummer oder  
Aktenzeichen XXX**

**Criminal charge concerning the  
crime on the/journal number or  
reference number**

Sehr geehrte Damen,  
sehr geehrte Herren,

Dear Sir or Madam,

(Eine kurze Sachverhaltsschilderung ist möglich, muss aber insbesondere  
dann nicht sein, wenn man den Strafantrag der Anzeige anfügt)

(A brief description of the facts is  
possible but is not necessary, if the  
criminal report is attached to the  
criminal charge)

Hiermit stelle ich als Geschädigter (bzw. bei Minderjährigen als gesetzlicher  
Vertreter des/der Geschädigten) form- und fristgerecht Strafantrag wegen  
oben genannter Straftat.

Hereby, I want to file a charge as an  
affected person (for people under the  
age of 18 as the legal representor of  
the affected person), on time and in  
due form, referring to the crime already  
mentioned.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,  
Unterschrift

With kind regards,  
Signaturea

Sender with  
contactable address

place,  
date

Absender mit ladungsfähiger Anschrift

Ort, Datum

To the Prosecution/Police Department  
Address

An die Staatsanwaltschaft/Polizeidirektion  
Adresse

**Request for progress about the crime  
on the/journal number or reference  
number**

**Sachstandsanfrage wegen der Straftat vom / Tagebuchnummer oder  
Aktenzeichen XXX**

Dear Sir or Madam,

Sehr geehrte Damen,  
sehr geehrte Herren,

Three months ago, I filed a criminal  
complaint and a criminal charge  
as the damaged party. Unfortunately,  
I have not heard anything about it  
since. Therefore I ask you to update me  
referring to the state of the procedure.

vor drei Monaten, am ..., habe ich als Geschädigter Strafanzeige und Strafantrag gestellt. Leider habe ich bis heute nichts vom Fortgang des Verfahrens gehört. Ich bitte Sie daher, mir den Stand des Verfahrens mitzuteilen.

With kind regards,  
Signature

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,  
Unterschrift

Absender mit ladungsfähiger Anschrift

Ort, Datum

Sender with  
contactable address

place,  
date

An die Staatsanwaltschaft  
Adresse

To the Prosecution/  
Police Department  
Address

**Auskunftsantrag des Geschädigten wegen der Straftat  
vom / Tagebuchnummer oder Aktenzeichen**

***Request for information by the  
damaged party concerning the crime  
on the/journal number or file number***

Sehr geehrte Damen,  
sehr geehrte Herren,

*Dear Sir or Madam,*

als Geschädigter des oben bezeichneten Verfahrens beantrage ich nach  
dessen Abschluss Auskunft über den Ausgang.

*As a damaged of the crime termed  
before, I apply for information about its  
outcome after the completion.*

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,  
Unterschrift

*With kind regards,  
Signature*

Sender with  
contactable address

place,  
date

Absender mit ladungsfähiger Anschrift

Ort, Datum

To the Prosecution/Police Department  
Address

An die Polizeidirektion  
Adresse

**Disciplinary complaint concerning  
the incident on the**

**Dienstaufsichtsbeschwerde wegen des Vorfalls am ...**

Dear Sir or Madam,

Sehr geehrte Damen,  
sehr geehrte Herren,

*I want to make a disciplinary complaint  
against the policemen, who came  
to the incidents in the Musterstraße on  
the ... at 6:30 pm.*

ich stelle Dienstaufsichtsbeschwerde gegen die Polizeibeamten, die am ..., 18.30 Uhr zum Einsatz wegen einer Körperverletzung in die Musterstraße kamen.

*Although the perpetrators of the injury  
were on the opposite side of the road,  
the officers refused to investigate their  
identities, even though there were  
more police officers than perpetrators.  
Moreover, they pointed out they knew  
what they were doing. Due to the  
passivity of the officers, it was not  
possible to investigate the perpetrator.  
The procedure was stopped and I now  
cannot assert a compensation claim  
against the perpetrator.*

Obwohl der Täter der Körperverletzung sich auf der gegenüberliegenden Straßenseite befand, weigerten sich die Beamten, obwohl sie in der Überzahl waren, dessen Personalien festzustellen. Vielmehr verwiesen sie mich darauf, dass sie schon wüssten, was sie tun. Aufgrund der Untätigkeit der Beamten konnte der Täter nicht ermittelt werden. Das Verfahren wurde eingestellt und ich kann keine Schadensersatzansprüche gegen die Täter geltend machen.

*Therefore I ask you to investigate the  
behaviour of the officers pertaining to  
service law and to give information on  
the outcome of the investigation to me.*

Ich bitte Sie daher, das Verhalten der Beamten dienstrechtlich zu überprüfen und mir den Ausgang der Prüfung mitzuteilen.

With kind regards,  
Signature

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,  
Unterschrift

*Complaint against the Abatement of Action  
– die Beschwerde gegen Verfahrenseinstellung*

55

Form Templates

Absender mit ladungsfähiger Anschrift

Ort, Datum

Sender with  
contactable address

place,  
date

An die Staatsanwaltschaft

To the Prosecution/  
Police Department

Adresse

Address

**Beschwerde gegen Verfahrenseinstellung vom ...**

**Complaint against the abatement of  
action on the ...**

**Aktenzeichen:**

**File number: ...**

Sehr geehrte Damen,

Dear Sir or Madam,

sehr geehrte Herren,

gegen die Einstellung des Ermittlungsverfahrens gegen Unbekannt lege ich Beschwerde ein. Ich habe die beiden Täter, die mich im Imbiss angriffen, mehrfach an der Tankstelle XYZ gesehen. Die Kassiererin teilte mir mit, dass diese beinahe täglich ab 17.00 Uhr dort seien. Auch der Imbissangestellte sagte mir, dass er die beiden wiedererkennen würde und zu einer Aussage bereit ist.

I want to complain about the abatement of the investigation proceedings against unknown. I have seen the two perpetrators, who attacked me at the takeaway, several times at the petrol station XYZ. The cashier told me that the two of them are there every day from 5 p.m. onwards. Also, the shop assistant of the takeaway told me he would recognise them both and was prepared to make a statement.

Mit deren Einverständnis teile ich Ihnen die Namen der beiden Zeugen mit:

Rudolf Wurst, Zeugenstr. 1, 12345 Musterstadt (Imbissverkäufer)

Hanna Petrol, An der Tanke 4, 12345 Musterstadt (Tankstellenangestellte)

With their consent, I inform you of the names of the two witnesses:

Rudolf Wurst, Zeugenstraße 1, 12345

Musterstadt (takeaway assistant)

Hanna Petrol, An der Tanke 4, 12345

Musterstadt (petrol station employee)

Mit freundlichen Grüßen ,

Unterschrift

With kind regards,  
Signature

# Contact Persons

**Counselling Centres for Affected Persons  
of Right-Wing Violence in Germany**

## Thuringia

**ezra – Mobile Beratung  
für Opfer rechter, rassistischer  
und antisemitischer Gewalt**

Juri-Gagarin-Ring 96/98  
99084 Erfurt

Tel 0361–21 86 51 33  
Fax 0361–21 86 30 13  
[info@ezra.de](mailto:info@ezra.de)

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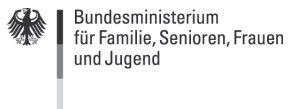
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