

What to Do

as victim of Right-wing, Racist, and Anti-Semitic Attacks

*Action and Support options for victims,
Relatives, and Witnesses*



*Counselling for victims of right-wing, racist,
and anti-Semitic violence in Thuringia*

This manual is for victims of right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, and anti-Semitic violent crime, their relatives and friends as well as witnesses of such an attack. It is meant to help them find their way in an exceptional situation and to provide guidance on important questions and decisions.

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Introduction

Who is this manual for?

This manual is for victims of Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, and anti-Semitic violent crime, their relatives, and friends as well as witnesses of such an attack.

Those affected by such violent crime feel isolated from everyday life. They often feel hurt and anxious. When dealing with the police, victims are faced with many questions and must make decisions: Should I report the offence? What will happen after the report? Do I need a lawyer? What's the difference between criminal proceedings and civil action?

Many victims are only poorly or entirely unfamiliar with the legal and justice system. This manual aims to help victims find their way in an exceptional situation. Each chapter outlines what you must consider after being attacked. The manual also gives an overview of the course of the investigations and criminal proceedings. Apart from questions regarding the payment of damages, potential mental consequences are explained.

The manual is meant to provide guidance to victims, their relatives, and witnesses on important questions and decisions. It cannot, however, replace an in-person meeting and in-depth counselling.

Nobody should be left on their own after having survived an attack. Please contact our independent

counselling centre for victims of Right-wing, racist, and anti-Semitic violence if you or somebody you know has been attacked.

This manual refers to people affected by a Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani or anti-Semitic crime as “victims”. The term should be used with caution. On one hand the term ‘victim’ expresses that the crime is horrific and has serious consequences. It is used to capture and avoid trivialization of a hate crime. The word victim also serves as a status that provides certain rights under the law. Within the criminal justice system the term describes a person who has been subjected to a crime.

On the other hand being a victim is not a persons identity. In many languages the term has negative connotations in so far that it is associated with weakness, assume guilt, or assign blame. It can have a stigmatizing effect. Furthermore the term is static and does not capture the dimension of coping with the consequences of the crime. Many people affected by hate crimes will not identify themselves as a victim.

We point out that people affected of a hate crime are resilient and have the capacity to overcome the consequences of victimization.

What can victim counselling centres do for victims?

Victim counselling centres support you when you have been subject to Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, or anti-Semitic violence.

The counselling centre staff provides help with legal questions. They support victims, relatives, friends, and witnesses by providing information and counselling for:

- › decisions to be made after an attack, such as reporting the offence, conducting research on potential threats, and re-locating, if necessary,
- › legal questions,
- › special legal requirements in the event of non-German citizenship,
- › entitlement to compensation and financial benefits,
- › options for social intervention,
- › how to deal with media and raise awareness on the case.

The independent victim counselling centre also supports you in:

- finding lawyers,
- finding medical or psychological help,
- finding further counselling services and centres,
- coping with the experience,
- talking to the press and managing public relations,

and

- they accompany you to court trials and different authorities.

It is the victims and the clients that determine the scope of the support provided and all steps to be taken.

The counselling centres:

- are free of charge, keep all information confidential, and respect requests for anonymity,
- unequivocally stand by the victims side,
- are independent of state institutions,
- provide interpreters, if requested,
- offer counselling both in their offices and in the victims environment,
- support victims that choose not to report the offence,
- support victims, regardless of their status of residence.

The counselling centres also record the severity of Right-wing violence, particularly:

- Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, anti-Semitic attacks, or attacks against homosexuals or trans* people,
- attacks on refugees, non-Right-wing, alternative, socially disadvantaged, and homeless people as well as people that support refugees and fight against the Right,
- attacks on people with mental and physical impairments and disabilities.

The counselling centre staff are ready to visit you at home or meet you at a place of your choice.

What should you pay attention to after an attack?

Everybody reacts differently to sudden threats and potentially extreme violence involving physical and mental injury.

Ask for support

Immediately after an attack, it's most important to support the victim. Relatives and friends should not leave the victim alone and should offer support and take care of their physical and mental wellbeing. If you have been subject to violence, try not to isolate yourself and ask people you trust for support.

Record injuries

If you've been physically attacked, visit a doctor, even if the injuries seem to be insignificant at first. Ask for a medical certificate listing all injuries. Visible injuries should be photographed. In order to claim bodily injury compensation in court, it is important that all injuries are thoroughly recorded.

Record damage

That goes for all traces of the violence exerted. Keep damaged or contaminated clothing and other objects. The more thoroughly the damage is recorded, the better the incident can be reconstructed and substantiated in your interest later in court, when answering questions from your healthcare provider, and in public relations.

Write a record from memory of what happened

Both the victim and witnesses of an attack should write a record from memory of what happened as soon as possible. It is very important that the record contains only your own memories and that you do not talk to other witnesses or victims while writing it.

Take your time to write the record. Write down everything you remember in connection with the attack. Describe the exact course of the attack, including the time of day, light conditions, the physical appearance of the offender, and what was said by who, e.g., insults or threats. Pay attention to details that may seem insignificant to you at first. That will help you remember what happened when you testify before the prosecution office or in court, which may be months after the attack. You can write these records in a personal language or in your native language, as they are only meant to help you remember later.

Take enough time to write down details of the attack using the following guidelines. It's okay if you don't know the answer to some of the questions.

- How did the attack come about?
- How and where did it happen?
- How many attackers did you see?
- How did they look like (gender, size, clothes, face coverings, tattoos, piercings)?
- Did you recognise anyone?
- Which offender did what? (For example, who hit, who stood by, and who kept watch?)
- How often did they hit?
- What did they shout before, during, or after the attack?
- Where did the offenders escape to?
- Are there other witnesses?
- How did you act?
- What injuries did you suffer?
- Do you know if others were injured too?
- When did the police arrive and what did they do?

Potential consequences of an attack

Mental consequences

Physical injuries are usually clearly visible. Therefore, they are seen and treated. But even if the body has remained unharmed, the violence experienced may have other consequences. In most cases, an attack is unexpected. When the offenders stop hitting you, that doesn't mean that everything is over. Attacks continue to affect many people: They have suffered physical injury, and sometimes the soul has been injured too.

Avoidance

Some victims describe that it is almost unbearable for them to go places, hear sounds, or meet people that remind them of the attack. All of a sudden, they "can't bear to see them anymore" and avoid, for example, entering a certain street, building, or train station. For this reason, they might even make big detours. In the aftermath of an attack, some victims don't know how to go about their shopping and running errands or going to school. As a result, their daily routine is very much restricted.

Only the "tip of the iceberg"

Many people that have been subject to Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, or anti-Semitic violence have had other experiences with discrimination and ostracism. Violent crime is often only

the “tip of the iceberg” of the everyday experience of being exposed, rejected, and threatened in addition to facing legal hurdles and discrimination. All that makes it even harder to come to terms with an attack. It is common for prior experiences of violence or the experience of being a refugee to be brought back to mind by an attack. That makes it even harder to continue life normally.

Revolving thoughts

It is a completely normal reaction for victims of violent crime to have the feeling that they don’t recognise themselves anymore or that they are “going crazy”. These are steps in processing the violence experienced and in finding a way to better deal with it.

The thoughts and memories revolving around what happened may cause victims to become very nervous. Other potential consequences are inner restlessness and anxiety, for example in the dark or in larger gatherings. Victims may feel easily irritated or annoyed. Some face difficulties falling asleep at night or wake up in the middle of the night, suffer from panic attacks or headache, and struggle to find rest.

Victims might feel hopeless, helpless, or sad for a long period of time after the attack. Some isolate themselves, no longer accept invitations, give up commitments and hobbies, and feel disheartened and weak. Sometimes victims drink more alcohol, take medicine, or use drugs in order to be able to sleep or suppress memories of the attack.

If the case goes to trial, victims might be afraid to face the offenders again. Insecurity, rage, or the desire for vengeance may arise.

Feeling unsafe

The violent crime experienced considerably compromises the feeling of safety. The offenders send their victims a clear message. They want to intimidate them, make them move away, or give up. In worst cases, they deny them the right to live.

The victims, their social environment, and a larger group of other potential victims usually understand these messages clearly.

Talk about your feelings

Even if you want to forget what happened as soon as possible, it may still be important to talk about it. For many people, it is helpful to find someone to talk to about their situation. That might be friends or relatives. On the other hand, it might be easier to have someone to talk to that is not from one's own social environment in order to be able to speak openly about everything. The victim counselling centre staff is at your disposal.

Take as much time as you need

All reactions described above are individual ways of processing the attacks that need time. Distressing experiences may suddenly trigger a strong stress response. It is important that you take your symptoms seriously and to not feel ashamed or blame yourself. At the same time, you should consciously resume activities that used to be part of your life prior to the at-

tack and that you enjoyed doing. In most cases, memories of the attack recede after a few weeks. Everyday life comes to the forefront again, and the anxiety subsides.

Professional help provides relief

If you feel like the attack just happened even weeks later or if you notice that you have considerably changed, you should seek professional help in order to prevent longterm disorders. Everybody sees the physical consequences left by an attack. Mental injuries, however, are less visible but must also be treated and healed. The victim counselling centre can provide you with information on psychologists and therapists as well as other experts that can discuss ways and possibilities on how to deal with and overcome anxiety and other symptoms.

If you seek psychological therapy, you will need a referral for specialist treatment from your general practitioner. As a rule, your health insurance should cover the costs. A session with a psychologist usually lasts 45 minutes. The first five sessions are "tryout" sessions to see whether you feel comfortable with the psychologist. If this is not the case, you have the option to switch therapists. If you decide on therapy, the psychologist will submit, if necessary, a request to your health insurance that will determine the length of treatment.

For more information on the different forms of therapy please go to: www.psychotherapiesuche.de

For an overview of registered therapists and specialists please visit the website of the Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians Thuringia (Kassenärztliche Vereinigung Thüringen): www.kv-thueringen.de/

Would you like to inform others about what you went through?

Initiate discussion

Reporting offenders alone will not solve the problem of Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, and anti-Semitic violence. Many people refuse to acknowledge violence as a social problem at all. Public relations activities can raise awareness, create empathy and solidarity with you and other victims as well as initiate discussion.

Forms of public relations

All those involved should consciously decide on the form and timing of public relations activities to be done. There are different means and ways to reach out to the public. You can ask the counselling centre to share information via websites and other social networks or to draw up a press release or write a letter to the editor after discussing together. You can organise an information event, an information stand, or even an information event or a demonstration together with others or with the help of the counselling center. And you can post your own content in networks such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

If you decide to go public and the press covers your experiences, for example in (online) newspapers, on television, or on the

radio, you will have the chance to share your perspective on the attack and to object to the widely shared opinion that there is no racism, anti-Semitism, or Right-wing violence problem in your town or village.

The objective

It is up to you which form of public relations you feel comfortable with. Consider the following questions: What's your objective? Who do you want to address? Do you want to talk to journalists? Who do you want to work with (trade unions, refugee initiatives, Left-wing organisations, church groups or other religious communities, or the local anti-fascist coalition)?

We offer counselling

The victim counselling centres' staff provide support and counselling on public relations, including questions of safety when working with the media. You should consider seeking legal counselling too on when and in which way it makes sense to describe the attack to journalists and what risks this may entail.

Reporting an attack

Pros and cons of reporting an attack (Strafanzeige)

Cons of reporting the attack

Are you unsure whether to report a criminal offence? Many people feel this way. There are many reasons why victims and even witnesses refrain from filing a report of offence:

- Fear of further threats and potential retaliation by the offenders or their social environment.
- A distrustful or a negative attitude towards the authorities and the assumption or actual experience that the prosecuting authorities do not take such incidents seriously.
- Despair or indifference.
- No interest in having the offenders punished or no willingness to make the effort that reporting an offence entails (making a witness statement before the police or in court).

There are specific reasons for not reporting an offence. More often than not, it is due to negative experiences with similar incidents. If victims of racist violent crime have had to experience that the police at the crime scene treated them like the suspects, they may want to avoid contact with the police.

Pros of reporting the attack

There are, however, many reasons for reporting Right-wing violent crime:

- ▶ Clear limits should be set for offenders. It must not be accepted that they perceive other people as “inferior” and, as a result, hit and kick them.
- ▶ As a rule, refraining from reporting an offence in order to prevent further violence doesn’t work. If violent Right-wingers have found a victim that doesn’t fight back and doesn’t report the offence, they might feel encouraged to commit more violent crime.
- ▶ Reporting the offence is a clear message to the offenders and their environment. It shows them that victims won’t be intimidated. A conviction in court is another signal. It is even more effective if the crime is not only condemned by the criminal justice system, but by society as whole as well.
- ▶ Reporting the offence doesn’t solve the victims individual problems, nor does it address the social reasons for Right-wing, racist, or anti-Semitic violence. It is, however, a first step towards refusing the victim role and actively confronting the violence experienced.
- ▶ As a rule, reporting the offence is a prerequisite for obtaining financial compensation. Especially if you want to claim damages.
- ▶ Only when an offence has been reported will it be included in police statistics. It is important for violent crime

to be recorded. This is the only way for it to be acknowledged and taken seriously by the public.

Reporting the offence (Strafanzeige)

Reporting the offence to the police

Anybody can report an offence. Reporting an offence is simply a notification to a prosecuting authority that the reporting person considers that a criminal offence has been committed. It is possible to report the offence in writing or orally at any police station or prosecution office (see the template for reporting an offence in the appendix). As a rule, it is recommended to go to the nearest police station. You can also report the offence on the internet or have it done by a lawyer you trust.

Address where documents can be served (Iadungsfähige Anschrift)

When reporting the offence, you will usually first be asked for your personal data. This means: name, date and place of birth, residential address, and occupation. If you are afraid that your residential address will become known to the accused, you have the option to provide another address where documents can be served. This can be, for example, the address of your lawyer, your workplace, or the victim counselling centre. According to new legislation, your address can be removed from the file afterwards; however, this can be difficult to implement. To avoid this situation, we advise that you give another address right from the beginning. When you are interrogated, take your driving license or passport with you. This is enough to identify

yourself, and no official will be tempted to record your residential address in the files. All you have to do is ensure that the police and the justice system can reach you at any time via the address where documents can be served (see the template for an application for the limitation of information in the appendix).

Duty of investigation

After you've reported an offence, the police and prosecution office are obliged to open an investigation unless there is no obvious factual indication of a criminal offence. After you've reported an offence, the further course of the investigations is no longer in your hands. Now, it is the police and prosecution office that are responsible. A report of offence once filed cannot be withdrawn.

The request for prosecution (Strafantrag)

Always file a request for prosecution

Whereas reporting an offence is only a notification to the prosecuting authorities that a criminal offence may have happened, the request for prosecution means that victims personally task the authorities to prosecute the offender.

Whenever you report an offence, to be on the safe side, you should also file a request for prosecution. Filing a request won't disadvantage you. You should do so because there are some criminal offences that are only investigated if the victim not only reports the offence but also files a request for prosecution.

Certain offences are only investigated upon your request

You should be aware that there are certain criminal offences, such as trespass and insult, that will be only prosecuted if the victim has explicitly filed a request for prosecution. In such cases, you must not only just report the offence but also declare in writing that you want the police to investigate.

In principle, there is no time limit for reporting an offence. You should, however, try to do so as soon as possible.

Three-month time limit

The request for prosecution can be filed at the same time you report the offence. To do so, you only need to tick the “I hereby file the request for prosecution” checkbox on the police reporting form. You also can submit the request for prosecution in writing later. This, however, is only possible up to three months after the incident, as stipulated by section 77b of the German Criminal Code.

How to deal with the police

You have the right to assistance and interpretation

If you feel insecure when dealing with the police, you should ask a person you trust or a staff member of a victim counselling centre to assist you when reporting the offence. However, it's up to the interrogating officials to decide if your supporters are allowed to be present during the interrogation. If you don't feel completely confident communicating in German, you have the right to free interpretation when talking to the police (when reporting the offence and also during all follow-up interrogations) and when testifying in court. Insist on this!

Knowing the file number will be of use if you have things to ask the police later

It's recommended to always have it confirmed in writing that you reported an offence. The confirmation must be issued to you in a language that you understand. It has a file number on it. This is the entry number the responsible police station uses for your case. If you have this file number, it will be much easier for you to later ask questions regarding your offence report or the state of the investigations.

The police are obliged to record your offence report!

The police are obliged to record all offences reported to them. Nevertheless, sometimes police officers will suggest that victims should refrain from reporting an offence. If you feel like the police don't treat you adequately, or if they even send you home or refuse to issue you a written confirmation of your offence report, do not accept that. You can request to talk to their superiors, for example.

Disciplinary complaint

If talking to the superiors doesn't help and if the behaviour of the police is clearly inappropriate, it may make sense to file a disciplinary complaint (see the disciplinary complaint template in the appendix).

The role of the police and prosecution office during the investigation (Ermittlungsverfahren)

The prosecution office leads the investigation

As soon as the police or prosecution office are made aware of a criminal offence through a report, a request for prosecution, or some other means, they are obliged to investigate all facts in an unbiased manner. The investigation is led by the prosecution office. They open what is called in German an “Ermittlungsverfahren”.

There must be a clear initial suspicion

For investigations to be opened, “sufficient factual indications to show that a criminal offence has been committed” are required. Firstly, that means that mere personal suspicions or presumptions are not enough to justify state investigations. Secondly, behaviour that is not punishable by law will not be investigated. Therefore, it may happen that after examination of the offence report, the prosecution office decides not to open investigations.

Unbiased investigations

If, however, there are “sufficient factual indications to show that a criminal offence has been committed”, the prosecution office is required to investigate. In doing so, they must investigate both incriminating and exonerating circumstances. Therefore, you can’t expect the prosecution office to wholeheartedly stand on your side like a lawyer you’ve hired. During the investigations, they must thoroughly examine and assess the statement you gave as a witness. What you do can expect, however, is for the prosecution office to treat you fairly, take your situation as a victim of a criminal offence into account, and consider the fact that you perceive the offence to be Right-wing or racist.

Giving a statement to the police or the prosecution office

Being summoned to the police

During the investigation and criminal proceedings, you will generally take the witness role. The first interrogation is usually done by the police. Up until August 2017, you were not obliged to show up when being summoned to the police. Due to a change in the German Code of Criminal Procedure, witnesses may now be obliged to show up when summoned by the police. The police summons contains a highlighted note, that says: "This summons is based on an order by the prosecution office (auf Anordnung der Staatsanwaltschaft)." If the prosecution office has issued such an order, the note is marked with a cross. In this case, the police are expressly acting by order of the prosecution office, and it is mandatory that you show up. To seek advice, contact a lawyer you trust or one of the counselling centres.

In any case, please consider the following: In criminal proceedings, you are a particularly important witness as a victim. Even if you didn't see the offence or the offenders yourself, it is you who is most likely to be able to provide information on the damage caused by the offenders. The police and the prosecution office are therefore particularly dependent on you to help them during the investigations. The interrogation is recorded

in writing. The record must be presented to you and signed by you. Before signing, read it carefully and correct any errors.

Being summoned to the prosecution office

If you are summoned by the prosecution office, you must show up. If you don't do so, you risk being fined and brought in by the police. You have the right to bring a person of your trust to any interrogation. However, if you are of full legal age, the officials conducting the interrogation must consent, or in case they refuse, substantiate the refusal. To be on the safe side, ask them beforehand. Of course, you can also have a lawyer support you. Bring all documents to the interrogation that might play a role in this context (damage report, medical certificates, etc.).

What to do if the offenders report you?

Seek professional advice

If you are attacked, you have the right to use violence to the extent in order to defend yourself (§32 Abs. 2 Strafgesetzbuch).

However, if you are unsure whether your self-defence will be considered “appropriate”, contact a victim counselling centre or a lawyer beforehand.

Being summoned as an accused (Ladung/ Vernehmung als Beschuldigte*r)

If the offenders report you, even if this is only to divert the attention from themselves, and the police summon you as an accused, you do not need to show up for an interrogation with the police. In such a case it is best to wait whether the prosecution office summon you or terminate the proceedings against you. If you are summoned to the prosecution office, you must show up. At this point at the latest, you should hire a lawyer.

Have your status in the proceedings clarified

As a general rule: The police are required to make it clear as to you whether you are being interrogated as a victim or as a suspect of a criminal offence. If you have been subject to violent crime and decide to provide information to the police, you have the status of both a victim and a witness and are obliged to give a truthful statement. As an accused, you have the right to refuse to testify. If you're uncertain which role you have in the interrogation, you should tell the police officers and have them record it.

What will happen after that?

Course and duration of the investigations

The police are tasked with investigating until a coherent overall picture can be drawn or until they feel that further investigations will not lead to any new findings. Once the police have concluded the investigations, they hand over the files to the prosecution office, and they examine the results of the investigation. They can ask the police to investigate again. If the prosecution office considers the results to be sufficient, they will record the conclusion of the investigation in the files. After that, the prosecution office will decide whether the evidence is enough for public charges. As of August 1, 2015, a section has been included in the RiStBV guidelines for investigative work done by the police and prosecution office that calls on the investigating authorities to have their “investigations cover racist, xenophobic, or other inhuman motives insofar as there are indications for such circumstances”. If this is the case, the prosecution office must acknowledge that a “special interest” or even “particular public interest” in the prosecution is given.

As the investigations alone take a long time, it may be up to several years after the offence before the trial takes place and is concluded.

State of proceedings inquiry and inspection of files

Much time can pass until the court trial starts, sometimes up to two years, during which period you won't receive any notifications. In cases where a defendant is in pretrial detention, the court is obliged to open the trial six months after the offence at the latest. If you have the impression that nothing has happened after you reported an offence, you can contact the competent prosecution office at any time and file a state of proceedings inquiry, that is, ask about the state of the investigations and the proceedings (see the template for a state of proceedings inquiry in the appendix).

It is also possible to have your lawyer request to inspect the files. To have the request accepted, they must be able to show that they have a legitimate interest. This is the case if they want to examine the possibility of joining the proceedings as a private accessory prosecutor (see the requirements of private accessory prosecution on page 46) or for initiating adhesion proceedings.

Termination of the investigation and lodging a complaint

What is a terminating proceedings order (Einstellungsbescheid)?

At the end of the investigations, the prosecution office decides whether they want to prefer public charges or terminate the proceedings. If you, while reporting the offence, have clearly stated that you want to have the offenders punished, the prosecution office must explain to you in their order why they are terminating the proceedings.

Reasons for the termination of the proceedings

There can be several reasons for the proceedings to be terminated. Proceedings must be terminated if there is too little evidence (“for lack of evidence” pursuant to section 170 subsection 2 of the German Code of Criminal Procedure). Proceedings must also be terminated if the prosecution office considers the guilt of the accused to be minor (“termination of proceedings in view of negligibility” pursuant to section 153 of the German Code of Criminal Procedure). This is only possible for criminal offences that are punishable with a sentence of no more than one year imprisonment. Such offences include several typical Right-wing offences such as criminal damage, insult, and bodi-

ly harm. If the attack is “not particularly significant” compared to other criminal offences committed by the offenders, or if they have already been sentenced for a more serious crime, the prosecution office can terminate the proceedings in view of negligibility (section 154 of the German Code of Criminal Procedure). Termination of proceedings may depend on the payment of a regulatory fine or what is called a victim-offender mediation (Täter-Opfer-Ausgleich – see page 54).

Making a complaint

If you believe that the prosecution office has overlooked or not appropriately weighed certain facts, you can file a written complaint against the terminating proceedings (see the order terminating proceedings complaint template in the appendix). Explain why you don’t agree by providing facts. If you know of further facts and evidence, you should mention them specifically in the complaint. You can do that yourself or have your lawyer do it.

Giving a witness statement in court

The bill of indictment contains all the results of the investigations

If the prosecution office decides to prefer public charges in court, they must draw up a bill of indictment. In the indictment, the prosecution office will summarise all the results of the investigations and specify the sections of the German Criminal Code under which the offenders shall be charged. After that, the responsible court decides on the admission of the indictment. Only then can the main hearing that you will be summoned to start.

What awaits you in the witness examination

A witness examination in a court hearing tends to be more formal than an interrogation by the police or the prosecution office. While it is usually only one official and you that are present with the police, as a rule, in a main hearing before a criminal court it is all parties to the proceedings that are present, that is, the court, the accused, the prosecution office, and the private accessory prosecutors. If you feel uncomfortable in your role as a witness, it can help to see the courtroom in advance. That can make you feel safer. When preparing for your statement, you should go through your own record of what happened.

Parties to the proceedings

On one side of the courtroom, the defendants will sit with their counsel. The prosecution office will sit on the opposite side. If you have decided to act as a private accessory prosecutor, your lawyers will sit next to the prosecution office. The judges will sit in the front. Depending on the severity of the offence, there will be one to three professional and lay judges. Apart from that, there is one more person that is in charge of the record. In the back of the courtroom, the audience can attend the hearing.

Special rule: Juvenile criminal law

If the defendants are between 14 and 18 years of age, juvenile criminal law is applied. The public is always excluded as, unlike in adult criminal law, it is considered that juvenile defendants should be educated rather than punished. When adolescents, that is young people between 18 and 21 years of age, are indicted, the public may be permitted to attend. However, the court can decide on a case-by-case basis whether to apply juvenile criminal law and exclude the public depending on their assessment of the defendants' maturity.

Most trials are public

Criminal trials are public if the defendants are over 18 years of age. You can bring people you know to the hearing. This may create an a more comfortable atmosphere for you and give you a feeling of safety. You can also ask the counselling centres to inform sympathetic supporters about the proceedings, encouraging them to attend the trial.

Witness statement

You are not allowed to listen to the case before you make your statement as you are supposed to speak about what you remember in an unbiased manner. If you are summoned as a witness, you will be asked to wait outside the courtroom until you are called in. To give your statement, you will have to sit down on a chair behind a small table in the middle of the courtroom. Try to not let yourself be confused by the defendant next to you. It's best to focus on the judge. If you feel very unsafe, your lawyer, a person you trust, or a psychosocial assistant can sit next to you.

Judicial instructions

Your interrogation starts with the judge instructing you as to your rights and duties. This is part of the usual procedure which the judge is required to comply with before any witness statement. They will instruct you that you have the absolute duty to tell the truth. Giving false statements before the court is punishable. The judge will go on to ask you about your identity, that is your name, age, occupation, and place of residence and whether you are related to the defendant.

Examination as to subject matter

The judge will then ask you to speak coherently about what you remember about the incident. You should now speak about everything you remember so the court can gain their own impression of your understanding of what happened. You should definitely mention if you don't remember something exactly. After that, you will be asked further questions.

Reading out statements

Sections of the statement you gave to the police might be read out to you. This is done in order to refresh your memory or to clarify details.

Principle of orality

As a rule, the court can only consider facts that are uttered in the main hearing. This is called the principle of orality.

During the witness examination in court things might be repeatedly said or asked. This is normal and doesn't mean that you are not listened to or not believed. Often, details (In which hand did the offender hold the bottle? How many seconds passed between the clinking noise and the blow?) are important for the legal evaluation of the offence as the court must be able to get their own idea of what happened.

Who is allowed to ask questions?

Apart from the court, all parties to the proceedings have the right to ask questions, that is the prosecution office, the defendants' counsel, and your lawyer too.

Protection by the court

That might be uncomfortable for you, especially if the defence counsel tries to make you contradict yourself. Try to stay calm. If you feel you are being badly treated by the defence counsel or have the impression that you are being insulted, inform the judge. If you need a break, you can also say that. The court is

also there to protect you. If you have decided to act as private accessory prosecutor (see below), your lawyer can also intervene, if necessary.

The oath is an exception

If you take an oath before court, you confirm once more and more strongly that you will tell only the truth. Giving a false statement is punishable in any case. Doing so on oath may, however, considerably increase the sentence.

As a rule, you are not placed under oath as a victim of a criminal offence. After you made your statement, you can sit in the audience or next to your lawyer. You can also leave the courtroom and later have your lawyer tell you how the hearing continued.

Reimbursement

After you gave your statement, you are dismissed and can have your expenses (travel costs, loss of earnings) reimbursed.

Further course of the hearing

Further witnesses will be examined, photographs and films may be shown, and experts may be heard. After that, the taking of evidence will be concluded. Now the prosecution office and the private accessory prosecution will give their closing arguments. They will put forward their views of things and may also demand a certain sentence. The court will retire to deliberate and, often on the same day, will render a judgment.

As of August 1, 2015, section 46 subsection 2 sentence 3 of the German Criminal Code expressly provides that racist, xenophobic, or other inhuman motives and objectives of the offender are to be considered when setting the sentence.

Your options after the judgment

Many victims are disappointed by the length of the proceedings, the short time they have to present their views, the little significance given to the motive for the offence, and the lenient sentence set by the judge. At the very least, private accessory prosecutors have the legal option to have the judgment reviewed by a court of higher instance. You can discuss the course and the outcome of the criminal proceedings with the staff of the counselling centres and/or a lawyer you trust. Together, you can consider any further steps to be taken.

Summary penalties (Strafbefehle) facilitate swift convictions

In some cases, the offenders do not show up in court but still receive a final sentence. In cases where the offences are punished with less than a year, summary penalties allow for swift and uncomplicated proceedings. Instead of an indictment, the prosecution office will draw up a summary penalty which then is issued by the court. The offenders have the possibility to object to the summary penalty which can lead to the proceedings to be terminated or a court hearing to take place.

What is private accessory prosecution (Nebenklage)?

Taking an active role as private accessory prosecutor

Victims of violent crime can take an active role in criminal proceedings. Victims of certain criminal offences can contribute to the indictment filed by the prosecution office. This gives them special rights, such as the right to be constantly present in the main hearing and the right to ask questions to the witnesses and defendants. Technically speaking, you can act as private accessory prosecutor on your own, but it is recommended that you hire a lawyer to represent you.

The court must decide on your request

You can file a request for private accessory prosecution to the responsible court at any time. The court will only decide on your request when it has decided on the opening of the main proceedings.

Extended right to information

If the request has been accepted, your lawyer can file requests concerning the investigations after having inspected the files. This way, you have more opportunities to learn about the police

investigation or the motives of the offenders. This also applies when they refuse to give a statement.

Right for your lawyer to be present

The private accessory prosecution representative represents your interests in the proceedings. During the court trial, your lawyer sits next to the prosecution office. The private accessory prosecution representative has the right to ask questions to the defendant, file an application to take evidence, and even to reject experts or judges. The representative can support you in giving your statement or protect you against inadmissible or insulting questions from the defence counsels of the defendants.

Right to be present in court

Usually, witnesses are only allowed into the courtroom after the defendants have been interrogated. As a private accessory prosecutor, you have the right to follow the hearing from the beginning. However, victims often decide to remain outside the courtroom until they give their own witness statement. Your statement can help gain credibility since you will have made it without knowledge of the offenders' statements. You should discuss this with your lawyer in advance.

Appellate remedies

At the end of the hearing, your representative can give their closing argument and, if you consider it to be useful, demand a certain sentence. If the defendant is not convicted of the offence subject to private accessory prosecution, you may file an

appellate remedy. You can also appeal if the court decides not to accept the indictment filed by the prosecution office.

Requirements for private accessory prosecution (Nebenklage)

Offences subject to private accessory prosecution

Private accessory prosecution is possible, in particular in cases of bodily harm, death, and offences against sexual self-determination. Private accessory prosecution is possible in cases of insult and robbery without severe injuries if, for specific reasons, in particular on account of the serious consequences of the act, this is deemed necessary to safeguard your interests (section 395 subsection 3 of the German Code of Criminal Procedure). It is not admissible in cases of coercion and threatening commission of a serious criminal offence.

Private accessory prosecution in juvenile proceedings

If the offenders were under 18 years of age, juvenile criminal law applies. Then, private accessory prosecution is only possible in those cases of offences with particularly serious consequences (section 80 subsection 3 of the German Juvenile Court Act). Proceedings against adolescents, that is, youth between 18 and 21 years of age, allow for private accessory prosecution

even though juvenile criminal law applies. This also applies to proceedings where both youth and adolescents are indicted. Then, the powers of the private accessory prosecution are, as a rule, limited to the part of the proceedings against the adolescents.

Representation by a lawyer is useful

To successfully act as private accessory prosecutor, you should hire a lawyer that has experience with private accessory prosecution and is familiar with Right-wing, racist, anti-Semitic, or anti-Romani criminal offences. They can emphasise the motive and ensure it is considered when the sentence is set (see section 46 subsection 2 of the German Criminal Code). Being represented by a lawyer not only helps you safeguard your interests during the court hearing: Your lawyer can assist you during the investigations, for example when you give your witness statement with the police.

Who bears the lawyer costs?

Costs arise only in case of acquittal

If defendants are convicted in criminal proceedings, they usually have to bear all the costs of the proceedings and lawyers. If the defendants are acquitted, you as a private accessory prosecutor may have to finance the costs of your lawyer yourself. Such costs arise during legal counselling and representation before the court hearing and in the main hearing.

No costs arise in case of appointment

In cases of criminal offences punishable with at least one year where serious injury has been caused or if the person injured is under 18 years of age and the offence has serious consequences, the court must appoint a private accessory prosecution representative upon request. In such cases, you will not incur any costs.

Expertise matters

In all other cases, you should choose a lawyer to conduct the private accessory prosecution that has the necessary expertise and is able to offer explanations in an understandable manner and calculate what costs you may incur. The victim counselling centres are ready to help you choose a lawyer.

Legal aid (Prozesskostenhilfe)

In criminal proceedings, you can receive financial aid to cover your costs, called legal aid,

- ▶ if, due to your personal and economic circumstances, you are unable to pay the costs or you can pay them only in part or only in instalments;
- ▶ if the factual or legal situation is complex;
- ▶ if you cannot safeguard your interests yourself in a sufficient manner or you cannot reasonably be expected to do so.

Legal aid might be reclaimed

Whether you are entitled to claim legal aid or not will be examined in advance. For this purpose, you need to complete a form that you can obtain from the victim counselling centres or a law firm.

The court can check whether your financial or personal situation has improved up to four years after the end of the proceedings. In this case, the court may reclaim the legal aid money from you.

Legal advice aid (Beratungshilfe)

In the event you have low income, you can apply for legal advice aid and be issued a cheque. With this cheque you can go to a lawyer of your choice. The lawyer, then, can charge you only 15 euros.

German Bar Association fund

You should also point out to your lawyer that the German Bar Association (Deutscher Anwaltverein, DAV) has a foundation, the Foundation against Right-wing Extremism and Violence, where you can apply for the costs of your lawyer to be covered. For more information, visit their website (in German): <https://anwaltverein.de/de/stiftung-contra-rechtsextremismus>.

The application, however, must be filed by the lawyer representing you. See the contact details in “Appendix: contact addresses”.

We support you: You can discuss all questions concerning the private accessory prosecution, the cost risk, and different ways to find support with the staff of the victim counselling centres.

Damages and bodily injury compensation

Civil proceedings (Zivilverfahren) and criminal proceedings (Strafverfahren): What's the difference?

In principle, a distinction is to be made between criminal and civil proceedings. In criminal proceedings, the state as represented by the prosecution office indicts the offenders, accusing them of violating the legal order.

In civil proceedings, citizens clarify their problems, e.g., claiming damages and bodily injury compensation.

Different courts are responsible for criminal and civil proceedings. The proceedings are subject to different laws with different rules of procedure and evidence.

Civil action

It is recommended to first wait for the outcome of the criminal proceedings before you bring a civil action, as the findings in the criminal court's judgment concerning the offence may help substantiate claims before a civil court.

Adhesion proceedings (Adhäsionsverfahren)

Victims of criminal offences and violent crime, however, have the option to make civil claims (payment of damages or bodily injury compensation) already during the criminal proceedings if the accused were at least 18 years of age at the time of the offence. This is called adhesion proceedings.

Only on request

For adhesion proceedings, a request must be filed to the court which, technically speaking, you can do yourself. In practice, you should discuss the pros and cons of adhesion proceedings with your lawyer and, if you decide to file a request, have them substantiate it.

Cost risk

Whether you should initiate civil proceedings after the end of the criminal proceedings is a question you should discuss and decide together with your lawyer. Civil proceedings may entail large costs.

Making claims

In principle, civil proceedings concern your claims by way of a civil action against the offenders.

If you win, you acquire a legal title through the judgment of the civil court that you must enforce against the convicted in case

they don't pay voluntarily. This also means that the costs of the proceedings and your lawyer must be paid by the offenders.

However, titles often can't be enforced when the opposing party isn't solvent. Therefore, after the civil proceedings you might have to pay not only the costs of your lawyer but also part of the costs of the proceedings (e.g., costs of an opinion) although you have a legal title.

Limited legal aid

In civil proceedings too, you have the possibility to request legal aid. For this purpose, it is required that your civil action has a chance of success and that you do not have sufficient financial resources to bring the action.

Opportunities and benefits

It is recommended that you consult with a lawyer that has experience with civil law and weigh up opportunities and benefits.

Victim-offender mediation (Täter-Opfer-Ausgleich)

Out-of-court agreement

The victim-offender mediation is a form of an out-of-court agreement. A neutral mediator will try to mediate between victims and offenders for them to agree on reparations for damage, e.g., bodily injury compensation. In cases of criminal offences like insult, coercion, criminal damage, and bodily harm, the prosecution office may terminate investigations and refer the case to an arbitration agency.

Reparation agreement

If the prosecution office considers that an agreement has been reached, they will terminate the investigation in less serious cases. In serious cases, the agreement will have a mitigating effect on the sentence to be set. If the victim-offender mediation fails, the investigation will be reopened.

Course of the mediation

As a rule, the arbitration agency will hold separate talks with the victim and the accused in order to clarify their expectations and objectives and to prepare the mediation meeting. Victim-offender mediations are not possible without your consent.

Benefits

As a matter of course, the opposing party must be willing to clarify the conflict. You should thoroughly check whether you want to consent to such a procedure. In principle, victim-offender mediations can be positive for victims because they allow for a different way of dealing with the offenders than criminal proceedings. They also allow for a compensation for you to be swiftly and unbureaucratically decided.

Drawbacks

In practice, the victim-offender mediation has proven to be rather unsuitable in cases of Right-wing, racist, anti-Semitic, and anti-Romani violent crime. This is true in particular for cases in which the offenders show no regret the wrongs they have done, for example, because their attitude and convictions are supported by their Right-wing environment.

Thoroughly check the requirements

Therefore, as a victim of Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, or anti-Semitic criminal offences or violent crime, you should not hastily accept a victim-offender mediation offered but thoroughly check the special requirements for this procedure.

Talking to the staff of our counselling centre can help you take a decision.

Compensation by the Federal Office of Justice (Bundesamt für Justiz)

Fund for victims of Right-wing violence

There is another way to receive compensation. As of January 1, 2007, the Federal Office of Justice (Bundesamt für Justiz) has a fund financed by the German Bundestag for “victims of extremist attacks in cases of hardship” meant to compensate victims of Right-wing, racist, and anti-Semitic violence swiftly and unbureaucratically.

Who is entitled?

People whose health, including mental health, has been harmed as a result of anti-Semitic, racist, anti-Romani, or Right-wing violent crime are entitled. Relatives of victims who were killed as a result of such violent crime and what is called emergency situation helpers are also entitled. These are people that have been injured while trying to avert such an attack aimed at a third party.

Compensation payments are granted regardless of nationality, age, and place of origin. Attacks include not only bodily harm or similar offences but also cases of threatening that a serious criminal offence will occur and offences insulting the dignity of the victim. Compensation payments cannot be granted for property damage.

Requirements

For an application to be successful, it is required that it is highly likely that the criminal offence has been committed due to Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, or anti-Semitic motives. It is not required that the offenders have been identified. The attack, however, must have been reported to the prosecuting authorities.

The application

The application must contain a precise description of the incident, indicating the place and time of crime and evidence of the Right-wing motive for the offence. You should also clearly describe the injuries you suffered. The compensation is only paid if you provide evidence of the injuries. Therefore, it is important that you also have mental injuries like sleeping disorders, anxiety, nervousness, and others attested to by a doctor. You must attach to the application such medical certificates and, if there are, also medical bills and photographs of visible injuries.

Waiver of entitlement to bodily injury compensation

By filing the application, you as the victim give your consent that the Federal Office of Justice may inspect the files with the police, prosecution office, or in court in order to check the information you provided. You also waive your entitlement to bodily injury compensation from the offenders in the amount of the sum granted by the Federal Office of Justice. In other words: If your application is accepted and you receive a certain amount of money from the Federal Office of Justice, they, in turn, will sue the offenders for this amount of money.

Civil action is possible

In principle, it is possible for you to claim bodily injury compensation by way of a civil action even after you have been granted a compensation by the Federal Office of Justice. That only makes sense if you have good reason to consider that you may obtain a higher sum and are willing to bear the cost risk.

When to file the application?

You can file an application to the Federal Office of Justice immediately after the offence. It may be recommended to wait for the end of court proceedings. This is the case in particular if the offenders' motives can be expected to be identified in court. You should discuss when to file the application with the staff of the victim counselling centre. They are ready to help you file the application. See the address of the Federal Office of Justice in "Appendix: contact addresses".

Fund for Victims of Right-wing Violence

CURA

The CURA Fund for Victims of Right-wing Violence of the Amadeu Antonio Foundation provides swift and unbureaucratic help. You can apply for this help by filing an informal written application. The fund covers costs of lawyers not yet covered, necessary medical treatment, or situations of financial distress caused by the attack. However, the fund's resources are limited. See the address of the CURA Fund for Victims of Right-wing Violence in "Appendix: contact addresses".

ezra Fund

ezra also has a small fund financed through donations. It is meant to directly and unbureaucratically support victims in case of need.

Act on Compensation to Victims of Violent Crime (Opferentschädigungsgesetz)

Covering costs of doctors

If you have suffered injuries from the attack that will continue to require medical care in the future, you can file an application under the Act on Compensation to Victims of Violent Crime to the competent Office of Social Affairs and Care Provision (Amt für Soziales und Versorgung). This makes sense if, for example, your teeth or glasses have been damaged or if you have been suffering from physical impairment since the attack that is likely to persist over the next few years.

Covering costs of medical treatments

If your application has been accepted, the Office of Social Affairs and Care Provision will cover all costs of medical treatments in the next years, for example, new glasses or an inpatient stay in a rehabilitation clinic. However, the application filed under the Act on Compensation to Victims of Violent Crime doesn't replace applications for bodily injury or property damage compensation.

Who is entitled?

Any victims of bodily harm, arson, or bomb attacks or that have been intentionally poisoned can file an application. People who have suffered the injury while helping to avert an attack are also entitled. In principle, all German citizens and non-illegalized migrants have the right to compensation.

However, only German and EU citizens and immigrants that have a residence permit for at least three years have access to all benefits. The rules for people that have a different status of residence are inconsistent and complicated. The office has the power of discretion.

Therefore, the counselling centre recommends all victims to file an application and also supports them in doing so.

Special rules for refugees

In some cases, refugees are excluded from claiming benefits because of their status of residence. However, the responsible officials have a certain margin of discretion. Therefore, you should always file an application. The staff of the victim counselling centres can help you do so.

Entitlement to medical treatment for victims without German citizenship

The entitlement to medical treatment for non-German citizens is based on several laws and depends on the individual's status of residence.

If you are denied treatment or are required to pay for the treatment, you should definitely contact a counselling centre.

Any person without a residence permit can benefit from initial care or emergency care in a hospital. Hospital staff are not required to report people without residence permit to the Immigration Office. However, illegalised people often don't have access to regular medical care without fearing deportation because it's not common to have one's treatment costs covered without revealing one's identity. For this reason, associations and non-governmental organisations formed the Medinetz network to offer (anonymous) medical counselling to people without access to regular medical care and find them doctors and specialists. (For addresses see appendix, p. 86)

Right of residence after surviving a Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, or anti-Semitic attack

There is not yet an explicit permanent right of residence for victims of Right-wing violent crime and their relatives in Germany although strong protests have been staged to raise this demand. Rather, if there is no other way of obtaining a residence permit before a court or through the petitions committee, the individual cases must be presented to the commission for cases of hardship of the respective federated state.

As there are several difficulties and reasons for rejection when presenting a case to the commission for cases of hardship, we recommend you contact the counselling centre or the Refugee Council of Thuringia in order to discuss your options. See appendix, addresses on p. 86)

Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, and anti-Semitic violence concerns us all

... and is not just the victims problem.

There is a lot you can do as friends, relatives and neighbours, politicians, church communities, teachers, volunteers of local initiatives and associations, members of sports clubs, cultural or other institutions:

Take the victims perspective seriously

It is important that you acknowledge the victims descriptions and help them sharing their experiences and perspective. The environment's lack of empathy can reinforce anxiety caused by the attack. Therefore, don't play down their experiences or voice doubts about the description made by the victims. Victim blaming ("Why do you walk around like this?!" "Why didn't you avoid the train station underpass?") or expressing understanding for the actions of the offenders make it difficult for the victims to process their experiences and deal with the consequences of the offence.

In particular, close friends and relatives of the victims have a crucial influence on whether and how the violence experienced

can be processed. Victims need others to show interest, trust them, and set aside time for common activities. This can be done, however, almost always only by their friends and relatives.

Find support

Professional counselling on compensation, rights, and options after an attack or about processing experiences of violence can be helpful for victims, friends, relatives, and witnesses.

Therefore, support the victims in seeking professional counselling or contact us yourself.

Talk about the Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, and anti-Semitic motive for the offence

Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, and anti-Semitic attacks aren't regular forms of crime. The character of the offence must be talked about. Right-wing violence will not decline if we get used to it or trivialise it as allegedly apolitical "violence among teenagers" and "bar and disco fights". Telling the truth about the motive for the offence will help the victims process their experiences as you acknowledge their perspective. This is also important to prevent the victims perspective(s) from being suppressed and to end the offenders' monopoly on interpretation. If you want to confront racism, anti-Semitism, hatred against Romanies, and the ideologies of inequality of the extreme right, you must consider and appreciate the victims perspective.

Take accountability

Mayors, community councillors, teachers, or religious leaders have the opportunity to publicly condemn an attack. Community leaders and activists can make public statements emphasising that their community is not willing to accept Right-wing violence.

You should, therefore, mention the facts that show the inhuman motive for the offence and clearly state that people are being attacked in your community or neighbourhood based on these motives.

In order to identify the motives behind the attack (racism, anti-Semitism, hatred against Romanies, social Darwinism), you should consider the following circumstances:

- ▶ Those subject to the attack belong to one of the typical target groups of Right-wing violence (e.g., refugees, non-Right-wing youth, people of colour, migrants, Romanies, people with impairments and disabilities, homeless, homosexuals).
- ▶ The offenders screamed discriminating, degrading, racist, anti-Romani, or anti-Semitic abuse.
- ▶ The offenders wore clothes and insignias typical of the Right-wing scene. If you know that the offenders are members of Right-wing parties or organisations, publish Right-wing content in social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, etc., or participate in neo-Nazi activities and extremist groups, you can mention it.

Right-wing violent crime is the most obvious manifestation of disrespect of human rights and ostracism. It is, however, only the tip of the iceberg. To really change the situation, you should avoid focussing solely on the attack. Rather, you should provide a comprehensive description of the local circumstances, including further Right-wing activities and social attitudes beyond the attack itself, such as racist rallies and cases of individual and institutional discrimination.

Therefore:

- Describe local Right-wing activities such as graffiti, stickers, concerts, rallies, and/or protests of Right-wing parties or organisations.
- Describe the appearance of locals wearing typical right-wing clothes or screaming anti-Semitic, racist, and other abuse during football matches and martial arts training, at village festivals, or in school.

You can take a clear stand against racist, anti-Semitic, anti-Romani sentiments, and the extreme right.

- Publicly support victims of Right-wing violence.
- Organise events, fundraisers, or anti-fascist actions.
- Demand that leaders make statements.
- Report Right-wing attacks to our counselling centres and help prevent the normalisation of Right-wing, racist, anti-Romani, and anti-Semitic violence.

- ▶ Take a stand in your everyday life against racist, anti-Semitic, and anti-Romani abuse, slogans, and activities.

There are many examples and possibilities for local intervention.

The counselling centre is ready to support you in doing that and to discuss together with you and/or cooperation partners how to deal with the situation.

An argument against victimisation

People that have been attacked or subject to violent crime often don't like to label themselves as "victims".

Criminologists, social scientists, and other scholars have been dealing with the "victim" concept. According to them, victimisation, meaning both becoming a victim and making someone a victim, encompasses two steps:

Primary victimisation means the violent crime and its direct consequences. Secondary victimisation may occur if the victims are subsequently confronted with inappropriate reactions from their immediate environment, such as victim blaming, the police and the justice system not doing their job, denying the motive of the offence, trivialising what happened as well as overprotecting and patronising. This second stage of becoming a victim entails negative mental, social, and economic consequences that are not the immediate result of the criminal offence itself. Rather, they result from the actions and statements of people dealing with the victims after the attack (parents, teachers, police, courts etc.).

Labelling the victims as "victims" makes them look helpless and weak and makes them feel very vulnerable and solely responsible for processing the attack. In order to avoid this dy-

namic, it is recommended not to label people as victims but rather as victims.

Processing Right-wing violent crime also depends on the victims personal skills, living conditions and economic situation, and physical distance to the offenders and legal proceedings. However, the most important factors are:

- the reactions from the social environment (friends, relatives, co-workers, neighbours, school, professional training, etc.),
- the way the police, the justice system, the media, and doctors act,
- the reactions from public figures and officials (politicians, state administration members, athletes, celebrities, cultural and social figures).

Appendix: templates

The report of offence (Strafanzeige)

(translated version of page 73)

Sender City, date
with an address where documents can be served

To the [place] prosecution office / police
[address]

Report of an offence committed by unknown offenders / committed by [name]

Dear Sir or Madam,

Hereby, I want to report an offence committed by unknown offenders / committed by [name] on [date].

EXAMPLE: On [date] at [time], I arrived in [city X] coming by train from [city Y]. On the platform, there were three men and one woman that I, based on their appearance, would identify as being part of the Right-wing scene. When the group saw me, two men from the group immediately approached me, insulting me with words like “[slur, Go back to your country!]. I walked faster to get away from the platform. Two men followed me and pushed me in the back causing me to fall down. Both men were screaming racist abuse and then ran away.

The men were between 25 and 40 years of age and approximately 1.80 m tall. One of the two, the one who pushed me, had sideburns and wore blue jeans and a black jacket. He was sturdily built and looked like he regularly does sports. The other man was a bit smaller and thinner and had very short, dark brown hair. He wore a dark t-shirt with white lettering on the front. The surveillance camera in the train station should have recorded the two of them and the whole group. The train guard could have seen the incident as he had got off the train before me and was standing on the platform. An older lady on the platform was also an eyewitness. She came up to me and asked whether she could help me. Unfortunately, I forgot to note her name because I wanted to get away from there as soon as possible.

On [date], my doctor found that I had broken my thumb in the fall.

With kind regards,
Signature

Appendix: medical certificate

Absender
mit ladungsfähiger Anschrift

Ort, Datum

An die Staatsanwaltschaft / Polizei XXX
Adresse

Strafanzeige gegen Unbekannt / gegen XYZ

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,

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

BEISPIEL: Am XX.XX.XXXX kam ich um XX.XX Uhr mit dem Zug aus X-Stadt in Y-Stadt an. Auf dem Bahnsteig standen drei Männer und eine Frau, die ich ihrem Aussehen nach der rechten Szene zuordnen würde. Als die Gruppe mich sah, kamen zwei Männer aus der Gruppe sofort auf mich zu und beschimpften mich mit Worten wie „XXX XXX. Geh zurück in dein Land“. Ich ging etwas schneller, um von dem Bahnsteig wegzukommen. Zwei Männer rannten mir hinterher und stießen mich in den Rücken, so dass ich stürzte. Beide Männer grölten dabei rassistische Parolen und rannten dann weg.

Die Männer waren zwischen 25 und 40 Jahre alt und ca. 175 bis 180 cm groß. Einer der beiden, der mich gestoßen hat, hatte einen Backenbart und trug Jeans und eine schwarze Jacke. Er

war stämmig gebaut und sah aus, als ob er oft Sport macht. Der andere Mann war etwas kleiner und dünner und hatte sehr kurzes dunkelbraunes Haar. Er trug ein dunkles T-Shirt mit einem weißen Schriftzug vorne. Die Videokamera am Bahnhof müsste die beiden und die Gruppe aufgezeichnet haben. Außerdem könnte der Zugbegleiter den Vorfall beobachtet haben, da er vor mir aus dem Zug gestiegen war und sich auf den Bahnsteig gestellt hatte. Auch eine ältere Frau auf dem Bahnsteig war Augenzeugin. Sie kam zu mir und fragte, ob sie mir helfen könne. Leider habe ich vergessen, mir ihren Namen zu notieren, da ich so schnell wie möglich weg wollte.

Mein Arzt stellte am XX.XX.XXXX fest, dass ich mir bei dem Sturz den rechten Daumen gebrochen habe.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Unterschrift

Anlage: Ärztliches Attest

Note: There are no statutory provisions for the form of a report of offence. You should just stick to the facts, describe what happened and provide evidence. As a rule of thumb, you should give the following information: Who? What? Where? How? Why?

Application for the limitation of information

(translated version of page 77)

Sender City, date
with an address where documents can be served

To the [place] prosecution office / police
[address]

Application for the limitation of information according to section 68 subsection 2 and 5 of the German Code of Criminal Procedure [entry number/file number]

It is requested that instead of the residential address, the following address where documents can be served

[first name, last name, street, postal code, city]

be entered in the files. This explicitly includes changing/overwriting/redacting the residential address in documents that have been included in the files such as the report of offence, witness examination, clinical reports etc.

Substantiation:

A witness shall be permitted to state an address other than his residential address where documents can be served if there is well-founded reason to fear that he or another person might be endangered or that witnesses or another person might be

improperly influenced (Section 68 Subsection 2 of the German Code of Criminal Procedure).

This right is also available after the end of the witness examination.

Such well-founded reason as defined in section 68 subsection 2 of the German Code of Criminal Procedure) is given because bodily harm has been committed with a Right-wing motive. The alleged offenders obviously belong to the Right-wing scene and insulted the victim shouting racist slogans. It cannot be ruled out that individuals belonging to the neo-Nazi scene may endanger the witness himself or attempt to influence him if it is possible for them to gain knowledge of his residential address.

Please notify me in writing whether the application has been accepted.

With kind regards,
Signature

Antrag auf Beschränkung der Angaben

Absender
mit Anschrift

Ort, Datum

An die Staatsanwaltschaft / Polizei XXX
Adresse

Antrag auf Beschränkung der Angaben gem. § 68 Abs. 2 und 5 StPO Vorgangsnummer/Aktenzeichen

Es wird beantragt, dass statt der Wohnanschrift die ladungsfähige Anschrift

eigener Vorname, Name
c/o
Vorname,Name/Institution
Straße, Hausnummer
Postleitzahl, Ort

zu den Akten genommen wird. Dies umfasst ausdrücklich die Änderung/Überschreibung/Schwärzung der Wohnanschrift in Schriftstücken, die bereits in der Akte sind, beispielsweise Strafanzeige, Zeugenvernehmung, Krankenhausbriefe etc.

Begründung:

Jedem Zeugen ist es gestattet, eine von seiner Wohnanschrift abweichende ladungsfähige Anschrift anzugeben, wenn ein begründeter Anlass zu der Besorgnis besteht, dass er selbst

oder Personen seines Umfeldes gefährdet sind oder dass auf Zeugen oder eine andere Person in unlauterer Weise eingewirkt wird (§68 Abs. 2 StPO).

Dieses Recht besteht auch nach Abschluss der Zeugenvernehmung.

Ein begründeter Anlass zur Sorge im Sinne von § 68 Abs. 2 StPO besteht insofern, als es sich bei der Körperverletzung um eine rechts motivierte Tat handelte. Die mutmaßlichen Täter gehörten offenbar der rechten Szene an und beschimpften mich mit rassistischen Parolen. Es ist nicht auszuschließen, dass der organisierten Neonaziszene angehörige Personen mich als Zeugen selbst gefährden oder versuchen wird, auf mich einzuwirken, wenn die Möglichkeit durch Kenntnis der Wohnanschrift besteht.

Um eine schriftliche Mitteilung über die Bewilligung des Antrags wird gebeten.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Unterschrift

Disciplinary complaint

(translated version of page 80)

Sender City, date
with an address where documents can be served

To the [place] police
[address]

**Re: Complaint against police officers
at the police station [address]**

Dear Sir or Madam,

I hereby lodge a complaint against the police officers that were on duty at the aforementioned police station on [date] at [time]. I wanted to report an offence to them because I had been attacked by two members of the Right-wing scene on the train station platform. The police officers explained to me that they can't see any criminal offence as I had no visible injuries.

Therefore, I ask you to take disciplinary investigations and investigate the officers' behaviour and to inform me on the outcome of the investigations.

With kind regards,
Signature

Dienstaufsichtsbeschwerde

Absender
mit ladungsfähiger Anschrift

Ort, Datum

An die Polizei XXX
Adresse

**Betr.: Dienstaufsichtsbeschwerde gegen die Mitarbeiter
der Polizeiwache XXX-Straße, in XXX**

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,

hiermit lege ich Dienstaufsichtsbeschwerde gegen die Polizeibeamten, die am XX.XX.XXXX um XX Uhr Dienst in der oben genannten Polizeiwache hatten, ein.

Ich wollte dort eine Anzeige stellen, weil ich zuvor BEISPIEL: auf dem Bahnsteig von zwei Mitgliedern der rechten Szene angegriffen worden war. Die Polizeibeamten erklärten mir, dass sie keinen Straftatbestand erkennen könnten, da ich keine sichtbaren Verletzungen hätte.

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

Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Unterschrift

State of proceedings inquiry

(translated version of page 82)

Sender City, date
with an address where documents can be served

To the [place] prosecution office / police
[address]

**Re: State of proceedings inquiry concerning my report of
offence against an unknown individual of [date], entry
number or file number [entry/file number]**

Dear Sir or Madam,

On [date], I filed an offence report against an unknown individual. Unfortunately, I haven't received any information on the course of the proceedings to date.

Therefore, I ask you to inform me on the state of the proceedings.

With kind regards,
Signature

Sachstandsanfrage

Absender
mit ladungsfähiger Anschrift

Ort, Datum

An die Staatsanwaltschaft / Polizei XXX
Adresse

**Betr.: Sachstandsanfrage zu meiner Anzeige gegen Un-
bekannt vom XX.XX.XXXX Tagebuchnummer oder Akten-
zeichen XXX**

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,

ich habe am XX.XX.XXXX eine Anzeige gegen Unbekannt gestellt. Leider habe ich bis heute nichts vom Fortgang des Verfahrens gehört.

Ich möchte Sie bitten, mir den Stand der Ermittlungen mitzuteilen.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Unterschrift

Complaint against termination of proceedings

(translated version of page 84)

Sender City, date
with an address where documents can be served

To the [place] prosecution office
[address]

Re: Complaint against order terminating proceedings of [date], file number [file number]

Dear Sir or Madam,

I want to lodge a complaint against the order terminating the proceedings against an unknown individual. Example case and substantiation: On my regular train rides, I saw the two offenders that had attacked me on the train station platform twice near the train station. They seem to be there often.

I also met the train guard again on the train. He confirmed that he can testify regarding the attack on me. To date, the police haven't reached out to him.

With his consent, I am providing you his name and his address:
[name and address].

With kind regards,
Signature

Beschwerde gegen Verfahrenseinstellung

Absender
mit ladungsfähiger Anschrift

Ort, Datum

An die Staatsanwaltschaft XXX
Adresse

Betr.: Beschwerde gegen Verfahrenseinstellung vom XXX / Aktenzeichen XXX

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,

gegen die Einstellung des Ermittlungsverfahrens gegen Unbekannt lege ich Beschwerde ein. Beispielfall und Begründung: Ich habe die beiden Täter, die mich am Bahnsteig angegriffen hatten, bei meinen regelmäßigen Bahnfahrten noch zweimal in der Nähe des Bahnhofs gesehen. Sie scheinen sich dort öfter aufzuhalten.

Außerdem habe ich den Zugbegleiter der Bahn erneut getroffen. Er hat mir bestätigt, dass er den Angriff gegen mich bezeugen kann. Die Polizei hat sich bis heute nicht bei ihm gemeldet.

Mit seinem Einverständnis teile ich Ihnen seinen Namen und seine Adresse mit: XXX.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Unterschrift

Note: A complaint against an order terminating proceedings doesn't need to fulfil any form requirements. You usually have a time limit of two weeks to lodge the complaint. As the prosecution office has examined your report of offence, you needn't reiterate the facts. Rather, you should present new facts or evidence.

Contact addresses

Counselling centers for victims of Right-wing, racist, and anti-Semitic violence

Thuringia

ezra – Beratungsstelle für Betroffene rechter, rassistischer und antisemitischer Gewalt in Thüringen

Juri-Gagarin-Ring 96/98

99084 Erfurt

Telephone: 0361 – 218 651 33

E-Mail: info@ezra.de

Website: www.ezra.de

Baden-Württemberg

LEUCHTLINIE – Beratung für Betroffene von rechter Gewalt in Baden-Württemberg

Landesweite Fach- und Koordinierungsstelle

Reinsburgstraße 82

70178 Stuttgart

Telephone: 0711 – 888 999 30

E-Mail: info@leuchtlinie.de

Website: www.leuchtlinie.de

Bavaria

*B.U.D. e.V. – Beratung, Unterstützung, Dokumentation für Opfer
rechtsextremer Gewalt e.V.*

Postfach 44 01 53

90206 Nürnberg

Telephone: 0151 – 216 531 87

E-Mail: info@bud-bayern.de

Website: www.bud-bayern.de

*BEFORE – Beratung und Unterstützung bei Diskriminierung,
Rassismus und rechter Gewalt*

Mathildenstr. 3C

80336 München

Telephone: 089 – 462 246 70

E-Mail: kontakt@before-muenchen.de

Website: www.before-muenchen.de

Berlin

*ReachOut – Opferberatung und Bildung gegen Rechtsexremismus,
Rassismus und Antisemitismus*

Beusselstr. 35 (Hinterhaus)

10553 Berlin

Telephone: 030 – 695 683 39

E-Mail: info@reachoutberlin.de

Website: www.reachoutberlin.de

OPRA – Psychologische Beratung für Opfer rechter Gewalt
Beusselstr. 35 (Hinterhaus)
10553 Berlin
Telephone: 030 – 922 182 41
E-Mail: info@opra-gewalt.de
Website: www.opra-gewalt.de

Brandenburg

Opferperspektive e.V.
Rudolf-Breitscheid-Str. 164
14482 Potsdam
Telephone: 0331 – 817 000 0
E-Mail: info@opferperspektive.de
Website: www.opferperspektive.de

Bremen and Bremerhaven

Soliport – Betroffene rechter, rassistischer und antisemitischer Gewalt solidarisch beraten und unterstützen
Am Deich 60
28199 Bremen
Telephone: 0421 – 178 312 12
E-Mail: info@soliport.de
Website: www.soliport.de

Hamburg

empower – Beratung für Betroffene rechter, rassistischer und antisemitischer Gewalt

c/o Arbeit und Leben DGB/VHS Hamburg e.V.

Besenbinderhof 60

20097 Hamburg

Telephone: 040 – 284 016 67

E-Mail: empower@hamburg.arbeitundleben.de

Website: www.hamburg.arbeitundleben.de/empower

Hesse

Response. Beratung für Betroffene von rechter und rassistischer Gewalt

Frankfurt office

response.

Hansaallee 150

60320 Frankfurt

Telephone: 069 – 560 002 41

E-Mail: kontakt@response-hessen.de

Kassel office

response.

Kleine Rosenstr. 3

34117 Kassel

Telephone: 0561 – 729 897 00

E-Mail: kassel@response-hessen.de

Website: www.response-hessen.de

Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

LOBBI – Landesweite Opferberatung Beistand und Information für Betroffene rechter Gewalt in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern e.V.

LOBBI.north

Budapester Str. 7

18057 Rostock

Telephone: 0381 – 200 937 9 // 0170 - 732 698 4

E-Mail: nord@lobbi-mv.de

LOBBI.west

Budapester Str. 7

18057 Rostock

Telephone: 0381 - 200 937 7 // 0170 - 528 299 7

E-Mail: west@lobbi-mv.de

LOBBI.east

Tilly-Schanzen-Str. 2

17033 Neubrandenburg

Telephone: 0395 – 455 071 8 // 0160 - 844 218 9

E-Mail: ost@lobbi-mv.de

Website: www.lobbi-mv.de

Lower Saxony

Betroffenenberatung Niedersachsen

Region Northwest Lower Saxony

Exil e.V.

Möserstr. 34

49074 Osnabrück

Telephone: 0541 – 380 699 23 // 0157 – 379 672 72

E-Mail: nordwest@betroffenenberatung.de

Region Northeast Lower Saxony

CJD Nienburg

Zeisigweg 2

31582 Nienburg/ Weser

Telephone: 05021 – 971 111

E-Mail: betroffenenberatung.nds.nordost@cjd.de

Region South Lower Saxony

Asyl e.V.

Katharinenstr. 13

31135 Hildesheim

Telephone: 0179 – 125 533 3 // 0159 – 063 902 03

E-Mail: sued-nds@betroffenenberatung.de

Website: www.betroffenenberatung.de

North-Rhein-Westphalia

Opferberatung Rheinland (OBR)

c/o IDA-NRW

Volmerswerther Str. 20

40221 Düsseldorf

Telephone: 0211 – 157 605 266

E-Mail: info@opferberatung-rheinland.de

Website: www.opferberatung-rheinland.de

BackUp – Beratung für Opfer rechtsextremer, rassistischer
und antisemitischer Gewalt

Telephone: 0231 – 956 524 84 // 0172 – 104 543 2

E-Mail: contact@backup-nrw.org

Website: www.backup-nrw.org

Rhineland-Palatinate

*M*Power – Mobile Beratung für Betroffene rechter, rassistischer
und antisemitischer Gewalt in Rheinland-Pfalz*

Casinostr. 1b

56068 Koblenz

Telephone: 0261 – 550 011 40 // 0151 – 105 947 99

E-Mail: info@mpower-rlp.de

Website: www.mpower-rlp.de

Saarland

Bounce Back – Opferberatung Saarland

Universität des Saarlandes

Campus, Gebäude A 1.3, UG Raum – 1.14

66123 Saarbrücken

Telephone: 0681 – 302 710 36

E-Mail: info@bounceback.de

Website: www.bounceback.de

Saxonia

SUPPORT – Für Betroffene rechter Gewalt

RAA Sachsen e.V.

Plauen office

Henriettenstr. 5, 09112 Chemnitz

Office Plauen: Äußere Reichenbacher Str. 3, 08529 Plauen

Telephone: 0371 - 481 945 1 // 0172 - 974 367 4

E-Mail: opferberatung.chemnitz@raa-sachsen.de

Support Leipzig

Kochstr. 14, 04275 Leipzig

Telephone: 0341 - 225 495 7 // 0178 - 516 293 7

E-Mail: opferberatung.leipzig@raa-sachsen.de

Support Dresden

Bautzner Str. 45, 01099 Dresden

Telephone: 0351 - 889 417 4 // 0172 - 974 126 8

E-Mail: opferberatung.dresden@raa-sachsen.de

Support Görlitz

Augustastr. 35, 02826 Görlitz

Telephone: 03581 – 684 569 6 // 0174 – 330 567 8

E-Mail: opferberatung.goerlitz@raa-sachsen.de

Website: www.raa-sachsen.de

Saxonia-Anhalt

Mobile Beratung für Opfer rechter Gewalt des Miteinander e.V.

Counselling Center North

Chüdenstr. 4

29410 Salzwedel

Telephone: 03901 – 306 431 // 0170 – 290 411 2

E-Mail: opferberatung.nord@miteinander-ev.de

Middel Region Counseling Center

Erich-Weinert-Str. 30

39104 Magdeburg

Telephone: 0391 – 620 775 2 // 0170 – 294 835 2

E-Mail: opferberatung.mitte@miteinander-ev.de

Counselling Center South

Landsberger Str. 1

06112 Halle (Saale)

Telephone: 0345 – 226 710 0 // 0170 – 294 841 3

E-Mail: opferberatung.sued@miteinander-ev.de

Website: www.mobile-opferberatung.de

Counselling Centre for the region Anhalt/ Bitterfeld/ Wittenberg
Parkstr. 7
06846 Dessau-Roßlau
Telephone: 0340 – 661 239 5 // 0177 – 628 286 0
E-Mail: opferberatung@datel-dessau.de
Website: www.opferberatung-dessau.de

Schleswig-Holstein

Mobile Beratung für Opfer rechter Gewalt des Miteinander e.V.
Eckernförder Str. 87
24116 Kiel
Telephone: 0431 – 30 14 03 79
E-Mail: info@zebraev.de
Website: www.zebraev.de

OFEK e.V. – Beratungsstelle bei antisemitischer Diskriminierung und Gewalt
Telephone: 030 – 610 804 58 // 0176 – 458 755 32
E-Mail: kontakt@ofek-beratung.de

Material support

Federal Office of Justice (Bundesamt für Justiz)

Postal address:

Bundesamt für Justiz

Härteleistungen

53094 Bonn

Telephone: 0228 – 994 105 288

E-Mail: opferhilfe@bfj.bund.de

Application form:

https://www.bundesjustizamt.de/DE/SharedDocs/Publikationen/Haerteleistungen/Entschaedigungsantrag_de.pdf

Information sheet:

https://www.bundesjustizamt.de/DE/SharedDocs/Publikationen/Haerteleistungen/Merkblatt_Entschaedigungsleistung_en.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=7

CURA Fund for Victims of Right-wing Violence

Amadeu Antonio Stiftung

Novalisstraße 12

10115 Berlin

Telephone: 030 - 240 886 10

E-Mail: info@amadeu-antonio-stiftung.de

Website: <https://www.amadeu-antonio-stiftung.de/projekte/opferfonds-cura/>

German Bar Association (Deutscher Anwaltsverein e.V.)

Littenstraße 11

10179 Berlin

Telephone: 030 – 726 152 0

E-Mail: dav@anwaltverein.de

Website: <https://dav-international.eu/en/>

Specialised Counselling Centres in Thuringia

**MOBIT – Counselling Centre for democracy – against
right-wing-extremism (Mobile Beratung in Thüringen)**

Schillerstraße 44

99096 Erfurt

Telephone: 0361 – 219 269 4

E-Mail: mail@mobit.org

Website: www.mobit.org

thadine - Anti-Discrimination Counselling Centre Thuringia

c/ o Vielfalt Leben – QueerWeg Verein für Thüringen

Löbdergraben 25a

07743 Jena

Telephone: 01525 – 650 071 6

E-Mail: info@thadine.de

Website: www.thadine.de

Vielfalt Leben – QueerWeg Verein für Thüringen

Löbdergraben 25a

07743 Jena

Telephone: 03641 - 928 616 2

E-Mail: info@queerweg.de

Website: www.queerweg.de

Queeres Zentrum Erfurt

Johannesstraße 52

Eingang Waldenstraße

99084 Erfurt

Telephone: 0361 - 213 468 40

E-Mail: info@queeres-zentrum-erfurt.de

Counselling Centre for refugees, asylum seekers and for undocumented people (without residence permit status)**Refugee Council of Thuringia (Flüchtlingsrat Thüringen e.V.)**

Schillerstraße 44

99096 Erfurt

Telephone: 0361 – 518 051 25

E-Mail: info@fluechtlingsrat-thr.de

Website: www.fluechtlingsrat-thr.de

REFUGIO Thuringia - The Psychosocial Centre for Refugees

Jena Counselling Center

Lassallestraße 8

07743 Jena

Telephone: 03641 – 226 281

E-Mail: koordination@refugio-thueringen.de

Erfurt Counselling Center

Schillerstraße 44

99096 Erfurt

Telephone: 0361 – 602 680 79

E-Mail: pszf-erfurt@refugio-thueringen.de

Website: www.refugio-thueringen.de

Refugee Law Clinic - legal support for Refugees and Migrants

Unterm Markt 11

07743 Jena

E-Mail: rlc_jena@riseup.net

Website: <https://www.rlcjena.de>

Health Care and Counselling for people without health insurance

Medinetz Jena e.V. - Independent non-governmental health care service

MediNetz Jena e.V.
c/o Fachschaft Medizin
Universitätsklinikum
07740 Jena
Telefon: 0157 - 876 237 64
E-Mail: kontakt@medinetz-jena.de
Website: www.medinetz-jena.de

AKST e.V. - Medical treatment for people without health insurance

Westbahnhofstr. 2
07745 Jena
Telephone: 0157 - 370 352 96
E-Mail: lcs@aks-thueringen.de
Website: www.website.aks-thueringen.de/ausgabestellen/

Published by

ezra – counselling for victims of Right-wing, racist, and anti-Semitic violence in Thuringia

Juri-Gagarin-Ring 96/98

99084 Erfurt

Telephone: 0361 – 218 651 33

E-mail: info@ezra.de

Website: www.ezra.de

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We assume no liability for the accuracy, correctness, and completeness of the information.

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EVANGELISCHE KIRCHE
IN MITTELDEUTSCHLAND