



Demokratie und  
Vielfalt in der  
Kindertagesbetreuung



Democracy  
and Diversity  
in Day care  
for Children

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



## Democracy and Diversity in Day care for Children

Day care centres and professional childminders are becoming much more important as first educational and nurturing entities outside the family. These are places where children experience diversity and democracy. But against a backdrop of increased hostility towards democracy and humanity – also within day care for children sector – professionals are faced with challenging tasks.

### *Some of the questions that can be asked are:*

- How can democracy as a way of life be consistently implemented in day care for children?
- How can the appreciation of diversity be promoted and protection from discrimination assured?
- Which strategies are needed to combat hostility towards democracy and humanity?

This is where “Democracy and Diversity in Day care for Children” comes into play. The primary aim is to strengthen and further develop education in democracy and diversity in day care for children. Alongside the educational work of professionals in kindergartens and with childminders, the project focuses on the transition from kindergarten to primary school as well as the training of pre-school teachers. It thereby addresses decisive strategic levels to sustainably embed democracy and diversity in early childhood education.

“Democracy and Diversity in Day care for Children” is a joint project by the umbrella organisations of the independent charitable organisations in Germany and the working group for the aid of children and adolescents – AGJ. It is funded as an accompanying project within the framework of the federal programme “Demokratie leben!” (2020–2024). “Democracy and Diversity in Day care for Children” builds upon the successful partnership of the first project phase (2017–2019) and develops it further.

***The accompanying project has two strands:***

**1. Guidance and support for project sponsors from the federal programme “Demokratie leben!”:**

Needs-based exchange and networking programmes as well as consultations and qualification programmes focus on relevant early childhood project sponsors at federal, state and local level.

**2. Guidance and support for professionals and disseminators from the “day care for children” sector:**

Here the charitable organisations implement their own subprojects within their structures. The subprojects are presented below and at [www.duvk.de/ueber-uns/projekte](http://www.duvk.de/ueber-uns/projekte).

## The individual projects of the charitable organisations

***Arbeiterwohlfahrt Bundesverband***

***Demokratie stärken (Strengthen Democracy).  
Vielfalt gestalten (Create Diversity). (DEVI)***

– self-reflective and prejudice-sensitive interactions  
in day care for children

From the starting point of the AWO projects “Democracy, that’s all of us. Diversity, that’s all of us” and “Interacting with children in a prejudice-aware way”, the new project represents a consistent further development and connection to previous findings. A central element of the project is the further training curriculum, “What constitutes quality in day care for children”, which communicates the topics of attitude, prejudice-awareness, participation and diversity to disseminators in day care for children and thereby supports institutions, sponsors and professionals on site in implementing democracy and diversity in practice and sustainably.



Bundesverband e.V.

*Deutscher Caritasverband, represented by the KTK-Bundesverband*

### *Democracy in children's shoes*

*Codetermination and diversity in Catholic kindergartens*

With this project, the KTK-Bundesverband continues its intention to strengthen professionals and their sponsors in developing kindergartens as places of equally valued diversity, democratic participation and societal commitment against exclusion and inequality. In doing so, findings from the first funding phase are being sustainably implemented in the field during the project. The KTK-Bundesverband also focuses on the training system for educational professions and makes targeted suggestions for orientation towards democracy and expertise in diversity.



Verband Katholischer  
Tageseinrichtungen für Kinder (KTK)  
– Bundesverband e.V.

*Paritätischer Wohlfahrtsverband*

### *Participation and education in democracy in day care for children*

The project offers various information and further training programmes on topics such as participation of children, complaints procedure, children's rights or designing diversity, and is primarily focused on educational professionals, kindergarten staff and specialist consultants. Over the next five years, a blended learning programme will be developed that supports staff in taking their first steps in implementing democracy education in practice. Professional teams can select the most relevant theme themselves. At [www.kita.paritaet.org](http://www.kita.paritaet.org) there is already plenty of information, mini-documentaries, work aids and explanatory videos.

*Bundesverband für Kindertagespflege*

### *Democracy and participation in day care for children*

Building upon the findings of the first funding phase, the project of the BVKTP aims to promote the structural embedding of participation and of democracy skills of stakeholders into day care for children. The specialist consultations and experts play an important role as disseminators in the qualification and further training of people working as professional childminders. This target group will be empowered through training sessions, seminars and work aids. Federal associations and advice centres for childminders should also be addressed, in order to implement democracy and participation as quality dimensions throughout the entire day care sector.

in partnership with



## **Diakonie Deutschland**

### *Democracy education in Protestant kindergartens and family education institutions*

The aim of the project is to strengthen democratic expertise and enable an exchange of experiences in the democracy education processes practiced in Protestant kindergartens and family education centres. On the one hand, well-established and sought-after formats for specialist consultations (e.g. disseminator training courses) and for educational professionals (specialist seminars) are being further developed. And in a new funding phase, the awareness of stakeholders who work in the training of pre-school teachers and in family education centres is being raised and strengthened to establish and test participative structures and to promote democratic expertise.

**Diakonie**   
**Deutschland**

## **Deutsches Rotes Kreuz**

### *Living democracy – parental participation when transitioning from kindergarten to school*

#### Participation of parents and strengthening of democratic expertise

The transition from kindergarten to primary school is one of the first educational decisions that parents have to make. A collaborative partnership between kindergartens, after-school centres, primary schools and families can decisively influence the educational path of children. Positive participation experiences in the educational institutions can also strengthen the democratic expertise of children and their families. The aim of the project is to support educational professionals in the further development of diversity-sensitive and discrimination-critical educational practice and encourage the participation of families in designing the transition from kindergarten to primary school. This will take place at three locations using a model approach with the help of different participation formats and training courses.

 **Deutsches  
Rotes  
Kreuz**



**Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in  
Deutschland (ZWST)**

**ATID – Create Diversity**

Against the backdrop of the growth and changing structure of the Jewish community and the simultaneous increase in anti-Semitic incidents, the need for qualified support in the field of diversity-oriented early childhood education and nurturing is increasing. The primary aim of ATID is to support Jewish-sponsored kindergartens in dealing with these challenges. Together with the Competence Centre for Prevention and Empowerment (ZWST), the project is developing innovative concepts and offers professionals working in Jewish kindergartens advanced and further training.



**Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle  
der Juden in Deutschland e.V.**

in partnership with

**kompetenz  
zentrum**  
PRÄVENTION UND EMPOWERMENT.

*You can find more information about the projects  
of the charitable organisations at*

→ [www.duvk.de/ueber-uns/projekte](http://www.duvk.de/ueber-uns/projekte)



## *The coordinating office*

The coordinating office “Democracy and Diversity in Day care for Children”, located at the AGJ, is the central point of contact for the accompanying project. Its role includes offering specialist support and connecting the cooperation partners as well as external communication of the entire project. The coordinating office also organises its own specialist events and networking offers for professionals and sponsors via the federal programme “Demokratie leben!”.



### COORDINATING OFFICE

Demokratie und Vielfalt in der Kindertagesbetreuung  
c/o Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kinder- und Jugendhilfe – AGJ

Mühlendamm 3 • 10178 Berlin  
T 030,400 40 237 • F 030,400 40 232  
demokratie-vielfalt@agj.de • www.duvk.de

Funded by



Federal Ministry for  
Family Affairs, Senior Citizens,  
Women and Youth

as part of the federal programme

**Live Democracy!**