



What is the Integration Commission?

In accordance with the regulation of Section 84 Paragraph 1 Sentence 1 Clause 1 of the Hessian Municipal Code (HGO), a foreigners' advisory board must be set up in municipalities with more than 1,000 registered foreign residents. The Foreigners' Advisory Council elections took place in Hesse together with the local elections in March 2021. More than 1,000 registered foreign residents live in Eppstein. There was no response to the announcement for the submission of nominations for the election to the Foreigners' Advisory Council in Eppstein, which is why no voting action was necessary. Since there had been no election proposals in the past, such an advisory board has not yet been set up in Eppstein. Alternatively, the Integration Commission was founded to represent foreign citizens in Eppstein.

Tasks of the Integration Commission

1. It represents the interests of the foreign population of the municipality/city or district (similar to a foreigners' advisory board).
2. Advocates for integration and equality between foreign and German residents at the local level.
3. Advises city bodies on all matters affecting foreign residents.
4. Is heard by both the magistrate and the city council.
5. Submits applications to the city council regarding all foreign matters.

FIRST CITY COUNCILLOR SABINE BERGOLD

The full-time first city councillor, Sabine Bergold, supports the mayor as his deputy in conducting official business.

The first city councillor is elected by the city council for a 6 year term.

Ms. Bergold was elected for the first time in 2014 and was confirmed in office by re-election in 2019

- Administrative control and culture
- Finance
- Social
- Security and order

The focus of her work is on personnel and organization, budget management and, in the area of social affairs, particularly childcare, youth work and senior citizens' work.

In addition, Sabine Bergold is deputy chairwoman of the supervisory board of the City Development and Economic Promotion Ltd, Eppstein, deputy chairwoman of the advisory board of the Eppstein Community Foundation, a board

member of the Hofheim water procurement association and a member of the district council of the Main-Taunus district.

Sabine Bergold completed her training at the Wiesbaden city administration and, after receiving her master's degree (MPA), moved to Eppstein in 2005. There she headed the treasury until her election as a full-time first city councillor.

Last name, first name: Saligheh, Sara

Age: 41 years

Nationality: German-Iranian

Languages spoken: Farsi, German, English

Motivation: About 20 years ago I fled with my family from Iran to Germany. I would like to contribute the experiences I have gained as a refugee, the challenges - on both sides - associated with successful integration into German society and culture, as well as the hurdles I have experienced in everyday life, to the work of the Integration Commission. My goal is to improve the framework conditions to make it easier for people in our city to integrate quickly and successfully.

Last name, first name: Keller, Peter

Age: 75 years

Nationality German

Languages spoken: German, French, English, Bangla

Motivation: I have lived and worked in many developing countries and different cultures for half of my professional life. I did not take for granted that settling in and interacting in new cultures would be easy. With perseverance, effort and learning from experience this can be achieved; favorable conditions help, together with commitment from the individuals involved. As a member of the Integration Commission, I want to continue to be personally involved and initiate and support the setting up of framework conditions so that arrival and living together are successful.

Last name, first name: Dr. Lütgens, Malke

Age: 70

Nationality German

Languages spoken: German, English, French

Motivation: From my support of refugees from different countries and my own experience of living and working abroad, I have a clear idea of the diverse issues that people face when trying to integrate into our society. It is particularly important to me to support this work.

Last name, first name: Dr. Cason, David

Age: 66

Nationality; German-British

Languages spoken: German, English, Afrikaans, French

Motivation: The vast majority of my life I have lived outside my country of birth. I spent my childhood, teenage years and twenties living in Africa, thereafter I have lived in several European countries, of which German is one. I am acutely aware of what it takes to integrate as an outsider into a new community, how different cultures interact, a role I have had to play many times in my life. Now that I am retired, I feel it is time to give back to the community and based on my experience support the efforts of the Integration Commission in their efforts to better integrate foreigners into Eppstein.

Last name, first name: Uzun, Recep

Age: 63

Nationality German

Languages spoken: German, Turkish, English

Motivation: The aim of integration is to strengthen cohesion in society. Not only do newcomers who come to us benefit from the fastest and most sustainable integration possible, but we all benefit. The need for integration is to learn the German language and understand how democracy functions, equality as well as tolerance and religious freedom. I would like to offer my experience, and support the important work of the Integration Commission and its activities.

PROJECTS 2023

The "Integration Commission introduces itself" at the Eppstein Weekly Market in September 2023

2. Participation in the Intercultural Week 2023
3. Continuous translation of the contents of this website
4. Painting course offered in cooperation with Caritas

Do you have questions, suggestions or criticism for the members of the Integration Commission? Please send an email to: integrationskommission@eppstein.de