



„Engagement-Stützpunkte“ // Engagement Support Centres

A project for migrant associations in Dresden

Our project supports small and newly established migrant associations. Many newly founded associations often have questions about what to consider when running an associations. Long-established associations may also need support after changes in their executive committee or following periods of inactivity. The Engagement Support Centres project aims to assist such associations with all aspects of their work during these challenging phases.

As members of the project, associations are provided with a workspace in an office—called an “Engagement Support Centre”—either at [Volkshochschule Dresden](#) in the city centre or at [Zentralwerk](#) in Dresden Pieschen.

In addition, two engagement consultants from Kulturbüro Dresden e.V. provide guidance a wide range of topics, such as:

- Developing the association and planning long-term goals
- Distributing tasks within the board
- Finding funding for projects
- Accounting and finances within the association
- Changes to statutes and holding general meetings

...and much more, depending on the association’s needs

Associations can participate in the Engagement Support Centres project for up to three years.

In summary, members of the project benefit from:

- Shared office space at Volkshochschule Dresden or Zentralwerk with up to four other associations (individual time slots are booked via an online calendar)
- Guidance from engagement consultants at Kulturbüro Dresden e.V. on all aspects of association work
- Opportunities to collaborate with other associations at the same location and with Volkshochschule Dresden/Zentralwerk
- Access to other rooms at Volkshochschule Dresden/Zentralwerk for courses and events (subject to availability)
- A 50% discount on rental fees for rooms at [Haus der Brücke](#) for events, meetings, courses, etc.

Participation requirements:

- Be a registered non-profit association

- Be a migrant organisation—meaning the association is run by people with their own or family migration background and carries out non-profit activities aimed, at least in part, at others with a similar background in Dresden (for more details, see below)
- Pay a monthly contribution of €10 to €50
- Have a third party liability insurance as an association
- Acknowledge the [guiding principles](#) of the project

The pilot project has been running since November 2020 in cooperation with the City of Dresden (Integration and Foreigners' Commissioner), Volkshochschule Dresden, Zentralwerk, and Kulturbüro Dresden e.V. It is funded by the state capital Dresden.

Important price change as of September 2025

We have received a grant from the [Abriporta Foundation](#) and a donation by the *Bündnis Zusammen für Demokratie*, which allows us to reduce the usage fees for associations. As of September 2025, the following prices apply:

- 1st–6th month: €10/month
- 7th–12th month: €25/month
- From the 13th month: €50/month

A fund will also be available to cover rental costs in emergencies for associations that have participated in the project for 13 months or longer.

If you are interested in the project, please contact our engagement consultants by email:

Irma Franz: irma.franz@kulturbuero-dresden.de
 Nora Zeising: nora.zeising@kulturbuero-dresden.de

or by phone: 0351 40766253

If you would like to apply directly, please fill out the [questionnaire](#) and send it to: auslaenderbeauftragte@dresden.de

--

Our project focuses on migrant organisations—non-profit groups primarily founded or supported by people with their own or family migration background. These organisations work on issues such as migration, transculturality, and supporting others with similar migration experiences. Our funding provider uses this same definition.

That said, the term “migrant organisation” comes with its challenges. On one hand, it helps make the role of these organisations in society more visible and highlights their call for participation. On the other hand, it can create divisions based on origin—something we actually aim to overcome. Some organisations are even labelled this way by others, even though they don't—or no longer—see themselves that way. So, the term carries significance not just theoretically, but also politically and practically, including for our project. If you'd like to talk about this with us, just let us know.