

KiJuBB at a Glance

The Brandenburg Competence Centre for Child and Youth Participation

KiJuBB is Brandenburg's state-wide specialist and service centre for child and youth participation. It supports municipalities, public authorities, political bodies, child and youth welfare providers, practitioners and youth representative structures in implementing participation rights. Its work is grounded in children's rights and in Brandenburg's legal and professional participation infrastructure.

Who KiJuBB is

The Brandenburg Competence Centre for Child and Youth Participation (Kompetenzzentrum Kinder- und Jugendbeteiligung Brandenburg - KiJuBB) provides permanent professional infrastructure across the state. Since 2026, it has been operated by the Paritätische Agentur für das Recht auf Teilhabe - PART gGmbH and funded by the State of Brandenburg through the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MBS). Its statutory specialist-centre mandate is anchored in Section 11(6) of the Brandenburg Children and Youth Act (BbgKJG).

What KiJuBB does

KiJuBB provides consultation and coaching, process guidance, training, networking, committee work, knowledge transfer, practical materials and the development of professional standards. Support starts by clarifying who is affected, what decision is involved, who holds responsibility, what influence is possible and how safeguarding, documentation and feedback will be organised. Services are provided across Brandenburg and, within the mandate and funding framework, free of charge.

The centre primarily strengthens the structures and people responsible for participation. It does not conduct participation on behalf of municipalities, public authorities, providers or institutions and does not replace their decision-making, feedback or documentation duties. Work involving young people takes place through supported representative bodies and clearly mandated projects or processes. KiJuBB is not a general legal advice service or an operational ombuds office.

Five connected areas of work

Municipal participation: procedures, strategies, main statutes, administrative practice and qualifications under Section 19 BbgKVerf.

Municipal representative structures: support for child and youth councils, commissioners, supporting professionals and the Academy for Child and Youth Parliaments.

Educational assistance (Hilfen zur Erziehung - HzE) and child and youth welfare: participation, help planning, complaints routes, safeguarding, annual state-wide dialogue forums and support for the KJLR.

Participation at state level: professional advice on transparent, accessible and accountable state-level processes with clear mandates and feedback.

Youth representative bodies: support for the DKJB, the KJLR and other self-organised groups with mandates, self-organisation, training and links to decision-making bodies.

Current projects

Three projects complement the statutory specialist-centre role: the Youth Forum for Sustainability Brandenburg (JuFoNa), child and youth participation in structural transformation in Lusatia, and the model project on inclusive child and youth participation in Cottbus. They develop approaches in specific fields and transfer experience into consultation, training, materials and professional standards.

The background to KiJuBB's work

KiJuBB understands participation as a right and as a transparent process linked to real decisions. Its professional framework is based on Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, German Social Code Book VIII - Child and Youth Welfare (SGB VIII), the BbgKJG and the Brandenburg Municipal Constitution (BbgKVerf). Together, these provisions address understandable information, early and appropriate involvement, due consideration, a reasoned response, documentation, self-organised representation, complaints and municipal participation duties.

Brandenburg's participation infrastructure has developed since the 1990s through municipalities, youth organisations, child and youth welfare providers and specialist networks. KiJuBB's roots go back to 2002. Municipal participation rights became binding in 2018 and now appear in Section 19 BbgKVerf. The BbgKJG, in force since 1 August 2024, strengthened the state framework and placed the specialist centre on a statutory footing. This development explains KiJuBB's present role: connecting legal requirements, professional knowledge and practical implementation across different fields.

Further information and contact

kontakt@kijubb.de

<https://kijubb.de/team-kontakte/>

<https://kijubb.de/english/>