

Election of the Immigrants and Integration Advisory Council for the city of Bamberg (MIB)

Every 6 years, the MIB is re-elected. In 2018, the time has come again and immigrants can vote or be elected. A strong representation of interests needs a strong turnout.

Your choice, your right: Do not miss it!

What is the MIB?

The Immigrant and Integration Advisory Council (MIB) for the city of Bamberg represents the interests of immigrants and people with migrant backgrounds, with regard to issues concerning the city and the public. We bring the experience and perspective of migrants from over 133 countries to community level integration policies. The members are volunteers. The MIB was founded in 1994.

What does the MIB want to achieve?

- More democracy! Active participation of migrants in municipal policy
- Equal coexistence of non-Germans and Germans
- Respect and tolerance between different cultures
- Improve livelihood of migrants, e.g. at school, at work, or within the housing market
- Fight against racism and discrimination
- Highlight integration problems and help pursue solutions together
- Better communication between the administrators and migrants

What can the MIB do?

- Advise the city through proposals and recommendations
- Encourage or carry out events and projects for the above mentioned goals.
- Participate in public discussions and give a voice to migrants
- Assist and advise on problems from migrants

Who may vote?

All foreign residents,

- who are at least 18 years old on 6 July 2018,
- who have a valid residence permit, residency authorization or a settlement permit according to the Residence Act of the Federal Republic of Germany
- who, on 8 May 2018, have been registered in Bamberg as their main residence for at least the last 6 consecutive months..

Those meeting these requirements are automatically entered in the electoral register.

Naturalized citizens as well as citizens who have several nationalities from birth may also vote. You must **apply** to the City of Bamberg for admission to the electoral roll by 7 May 2018. The form can be found at www.mib.stadt.bamberg.de

How do I vote?

1. If you are eligible to vote you will receive your postal ballot delivered to your home address.
2. Fill out the ballot at home. You have a maximum of 5 votes, which you can cast for 5 different candidates. Each candidate can receive only one of your votes.

Information on all candidates will be available at the end of May at

www.mib.stadt.bamberg.de

3. Your ballot should be cast no later than July 6th. You can **mail it in free of charge**, or cast it in the ballot box at the Town Hall or in the MIB office.

Who is allowed to run?

Each person entitled to vote may also run for the advisory council (see eligibility above under “*Who may vote?*”).

Potential candidates must complete the form “*Wahlvorschlag*” and hand it in to the City of Bamberg, together with a minimum of 10 signatures of eligible voters by 16:00 on May 17, 2018.

All the necessary forms can be collected from the electoral office ‘Wahlamt’ in Rathaus Maxplatz, from the MIB office or online from www.mib.stadt.bamberg.de

If you are interested in a candidacy, please contact the MIB with your questions. We truly appreciate your interest and willingness to get involved and we will support you.

How is the MIB configured?

The number of seats in the Advisory Council is **based on the number of nationals of each individual nationality in Bamberg**. The new advisory council will have a maximum of 22 seats.

The following nations have 201-800 citizens in Bamberg and therefore receive **one** representative seat.

Albania | China | Eritrea | Georgia | Greece | Italy | Kosovo | Poland | Romania | Russia | Serbia | Ukraine | USA

The following nations have 801 to 1500 citizens in Bamberg and therefore receive **two** representative seats.

Syria | Turkey

All other nationalities which have 1 to 200 nationals can run for the Collective Representatives. The Collective Reps. represent more than 2,900 nationals and have **5 seats** in total.

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

28 APRIL 2018

An Information Event about the MIB Election

16:00 in the *collegium oecumenicum*, Josef-Kindshoven-Straße 5, Bamberg

7 MAY 2018

Last chance for naturalized citizens to be included in the electoral roll

17 MAY 2018

Submission deadline for candidate nominations

16 JUNE 2018

By this date you should have received your postal ballot delivered to your home. **If you are eligible to vote and have not received these documents by this date, please contact the Town Hall**

18 JUNE to 6 JULY 2018

Submission of completed voting documents by free mail-in ballot or in the Town Hall

30 JUNE 2018

Your chance to meet the candidate at the **“Fest der Vielfalt”** (Diversity Festival) on Bamberg’s Maxplatz

7 JULY 2018

Counting and announcing the election results

Contact and Information

www.mib.stadt.bamberg.de

mib@stadt.bamberg.de

Tel.: 0951/871290 (Electoral office, ‘Wahlamt’)

If you would like more information about the work and structure of the MIB, please visit us during our consultation hours, 10-12:00 or 16-18:00 on Mondays, in Room 11, Geyerswörthstraße 1, 96047 Bamberg.