



## What should you do after racist violence?

### Beratungsstellen für Betroffene rechtsextremer und rassistischer Gewalt in NRW

Dear ladies and gentlemen,  
Dear families,

You have arrived in Germany after long journeys. The route was certainly not easy for you. And, unfortunately, here too, everything is not easy. Many people in Germany will welcome you. But there are also people who have racist attitudes. There are attacks and discrimination, and often against refugees as well.

You will get help and support from us if you, your loved ones or friends have been attacked by neo-Nazis or for racist reasons. We will advise you free of charge, locally and, upon request, anonymously. We will accompany you when visiting the police, the authorities, the doctors and the court. We are able to organise interpreters, provide legal advice and assist in the search for lawyers or therapeutic counselling.

We have put together some brief yet important information for you here. Please forward this information to other people too!

You can reach us by phone or e-mail – please do not hesitate to contact us. We can then see what steps might help us cope with a difficult situation together. We are on your side and we'll support you – nobody has to be alone.

The victim advice teams in NRW

#### What you should know about after a racist attack

As a victim of an act of violence, you have the same rights as German citizens. If you opt to press charges with the police, you do not have to fear any negative effects regarding your asylum procedure. If you are acutely threatened by deportation, you can apply for exceptional leave to remain. You may have to testify against the attackers as a witness in a court case.

You are not obliged to answer the police – a testimony is your free decision! Even if, for example, the police come to the hospital directly after the attack and ask you to come along, you can refuse. This is different in the case of public prosecutors or the court: you have to go to the court or the public prosecutor's office if you are to make a statement.





# Infopaket Flucht und Asyl

You have the right to be accompanied by someone for police questioning. A 'person you trust' can come with you to the police, the public prosecutor's office or the court. The police must ensure that there is an interpreter present who can translate for you, so that there is no difficulty in understanding. This is an important right! You can and should insist on this. In this way, everything that you have seen/heard can be written down and recorded as precisely as possible. We are happy to advise you concerning any questions you might have about criminal charges. If you wish, we will also accompany you to the police questioning.

You should go to a doctor after a physical attack. This is where all injuries are recorded. You can and should point out all the injuries in detail. Such a 'medical certificate' is very important! Hospitals are obliged to treat you in an emergency! This is the case even if you haven't yet received a health insurance certificate from the social security office. Any person who has been hurt by a racist attack has the option to get financial compensation. For compensation, the perpetrators do not need to be known.

If your accommodation or apartment has been the target of an attack, do not touch or remove anything that is related to the attack (e.g. stones, bottles, adhesive labels) until the police arrive. However, it is good if you take pictures with a mobile phone.

If you have been injured, you have the right to consult a lawyer in criminal proceedings against perpetrators. This has many advantages. There are different ways to get help with the costs. We can answer your queries and find solutions together.

Quelle: <http://www.agg-ratgeber.de/checkliste.php> + <http://www.agg-ratgeber.de/unterstuetzung-durch-beratungsstellen.php>

---

In North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW), there are two information centres for those affected by right-wing extremist violence and racial violence: Back Up in Dortmund is responsible for the Westphalia-Lippe area (districts of Arnsberg, Detmold and Münster). Opferberatung Rheinland (OBR) in Düsseldorf is the contact point for affected persons in the Düsseldorf and Cologne areas.

## Information centres for those affected by right-wing extremist violence and racial violence in NRW

### Back Up - Beratung für Opfer rechtsextremer und rassistischer Gewalt

Königswall 36  
44137 Dortmund  
Tel: 0231 53200941  
Fax: 0231 53200944  
[backup-nrw.org](http://backup-nrw.org)

### Opferberatung Rheinland(OBR) – Beratung und Unterstützung für Betroffene rechtsextremer und rassistischer Gewalt c/o IDA-NRW

Volmerswertherstraße 20  
40221 Düsseldorf  
Tel: 0211 159255 66  
Fax: 0211 159255 69  
[www.opferberatung-rheinland.de](http://www.opferberatung-rheinland.de)

---