



Mission statement of DLRG-Youth

This mission statement aims to help develop and strengthen the common identity of the association. It is binding for entire staff at all levels of the association. It aims to provide clarity and transparency, simplify decisions, foster motivation and enhance identification with the association.

The youth within the Deutschen Lebens-Rettungs-Gesellschaft, referred to as DLRG-Youth in the following, consists of all members of the Deutschen Lebens-Rettungs-Gesellschaft up to and including the age of 26 and their elected representatives.

As DLRG-Youth, we are at the same time an integrated part of the overall association and independently an accredited children's and youth league. We set our own rules, elect our bodies independently and have own financial means at our disposal.

In our work for the association, society and international activities, we are committed to the principles of democracy, humanitarianism, solidarity, plurality, interculturalism, holism and mutual respect. We also respect human rights and those of children.

These principles mean that we lobby for the physical inviolability and mental integrity of all people and that we speak out against social exclusion, intolerance and discrimination and against any form of violence, sexual exploitation and behaviour that crosses boundaries. We advocate that every human has the right to free, comprehensive and all-round individual personal development. For this, we want to help create the required preconditions.

We think of our association, DLRG-Youth, as a form of self-organisation of children, adolescents and young adults. The primary, equal goals of DLRG-Youth are:

- to save lives;
- to help young people develop a self-determined, self-confident and responsible personality;
- to actively and effectively represent the interests of children, adolescents and young adults within the association and beyond;
- to call attention to problems of society and to actively contribute to their solution;
- to let children, adolescents and young adults participate equally in their respective lifestyles.

To reach these goals

- we promote – by means of child and adolescent-specific activities – all measures that save people from drowning;
- we deal with all questions of water rescue;
- we want to realise – in our work and that of the entire association – the principles and working methods that correspond to the interests, needs and the attitude towards life of children, adolescents and young adults;

- we create the preconditions for self-organised recreational activities;
- we pursue action-oriented, preventive and creative youth education;
- we make suggestions and offers in areas of youth politics, ecology and health promotion and in social, cultural and sports areas;
- we focus on swimming as our main sport activities;
- we are guided by the current technical standards of youth work and commit ourselves to conceptually and practically continue the association's youth work;
- we motivate and qualify children, adolescents and young adults to take on voluntary tasks and responsibility within DLRG-Youth, and create the necessary premises;
- we improve conditions for voluntary commitment and advocate its appreciation by society;
- we support the assignment of employees working on a regular basis;
- we have employees on a regular basis as well as volunteers working together equally and as partners among all levels of the DLRG-Youth association;
- we protect the continuous further education of honorary and full-time employees and female employees;
- we promote local activities, regional cooperation and national collaboration;
- we enhance the existing structures of our youth league;
- we know that an equal and partner-like collaboration between DLRG-Youth and the parent association is absolutely essential;
- we commit ourselves transparent decision-making processes within the everyday association work;
- we create an environment in which men and women, girls and boys can get equally involved according to their needs, regardless of existing type casting;
- we respect rules (of conduct) that have been agreed collectively and individual limits;
- we raise the awareness of children, adolescents and young adults and enable them to deal with their own health responsibly as well as recognising their own limits and those of others;
- we promote the inclusion of children, adolescents and young adults;
- we pursue the principle of peaceful agreement in everyday life;
- we advocate the preservation of our natural basis of life and develop action-oriented environmental activities;
- we measure and improve all activities of DLRG-Youth with regard to their environmental impact;
- we seek collaboration with other associations, organisations and initiatives.

This mission statement was passed by the 18th Federal Youth Day on 7 May 2016.