

Statutes of the Youth Parliament of the City of Monheim am Rhein

The City Council of Monheim am Rhein passed the following Statutes at its council meeting on March 3, 2019.

Legal basis:

Art. 7 and Art. 41 para. 1 letter f) of the Municipal Code for the State of North Rhine Westphalia (*Gemeindeordnung für das Land Nordrhein-Westfalen, GO NRW*) in the version of July 14, 1994 (GV NRW S. 666 / SGV.NRW 2023) and Art. 12 para. 3 of the Constituting Articles of the City of Monheim am Rhein, each in the version applicable from time to time.

Preamble

Young people should have a chance to share in shaping their environment, be given the opportunity to act on their own responsibility, and to be involved in municipal planning and decision-making.

The Youth Parliament shall

- speak and take action on behalf of all Monheim youth,
- enable and assure the involvement of young people in political and administrative planning and decision-making processes,
- draw attention to matters of interest to young citizens,
- promote better understanding between people of different nationalities, ethnicity, cultures, and religions,
- contribute to political enlightenment and education.

Article 1

Objectives and tasks

The objective of the Youth Parliament is to develop ideas for improving the situation of young citizens of Monheim and to put forward measures conducive to making Monheim am Rhein a child-friendly and youth-friendly city. Topics that feature may include:

- Schools
- Leisure, culture, and sports
- Transport
- Environment
- Residential environment
- Involvement of young people
- Gender equality
- Promotion of peaceful co-existence.

Article 2

Procedures and composition of the Youth Parliament

(1) The Youth Parliament shall develop and adopt Rules of Procedure.

(2) The Youth Parliament is made up of 16 elected young persons acting on an honorary basis. The Election Procedure of the Youth Parliament regulates the details.

(3) The city districts of Monheim and Baumberg must both be taken into consideration appropriately in the composition of the Youth Parliament.

(4) The Youth Parliament is made up of eight female and eight male youths.

Article 3

Co-operation with others

(1) The Youth Parliament receives ideas and requests from young citizens of Monheim. Possible solutions are developed in the Youth Parliament and its project groups and put into action in cooperation with local government bodies and sections of the municipal administration or, alternatively, presented to the city council as proposals or objections according to Art. 24 GO NRW.

(2) The Youth Parliament should be involved in measures put forward by the administrative, civic, and local government bodies if youth interests are affected. The respective administrative units and committee Chairpersons seek the involvement of the Youth Parliament by specific invitation of its representatives on topics and agenda items with relevance for young people. This must not restrict the timing of work performed by the Council, Committees, and administration.

(3) The Council and administrative bodies of the City of Monheim am Rhein support the Youth Parliament and its bodies to the best of their ability; in particular, the Youth Parliament shall receive all documents for the public part of the Youth Welfare Committee's meetings and all committee and council documents for the public parts of their meetings.

The City of Monheim am Rhein provides suitable space for the Youth Parliament without charge.

(4) The Youth Parliament shall have regular exchanges with other child and youth parliaments to plan shared activities for more child and youth-friendliness in Germany and to give assistance to one another.

Article 4

Conduct of office

The members of the Youth Parliament are under obligation to attend meetings of the Youth Parliament, to arrive on time and stay until the end of the meeting.

Article 5

Supervision

(1) The Mentor of the Youth Parliament is considered to be the interface between the Chairperson of the Youth Parliament, the City Council, its committees (in particular the Youth Welfare Committee) and the City Administration, particularly the Youth Welfare Service.

(2) It is the Mentor's duty, together with the Chairperson, to preside at Youth Parliament meetings. The Mentor assures the exchange of information between the various bodies and the administration. He/she helps the Chairperson of the Youth Parliament with the preparation for meetings and the execution of decisions.

(3) The Mentor is responsible for providing educational support.

This includes:

- building up the Youth Parliament
- mentoring the Youth Parliament

- sharing work on Youth Parliament projects
- organisation of programs for the further qualification of the young parliamentarians.

Article 6

Youth Parliament resolutions

(1) Youth Parliament resolutions are communicated in writing to the members of the Youth Welfare Committee or other appropriate bodies. The rights of the Youth Parliament Chairperson are regulated by Article 4 of the Statutes of the Youth Welfare Service of the City of Monheim am Rhein.

(2) Resolutions passed by the Youth Parliament in matters concerning a committee may be communicated to the chair of the respective committee by the Mentor. Resolutions passed by the Youth Parliament in matters concerning the City Council may be presented to the Council by the Mentor as proposals or objections according to Art. 24 GO NW for further processing.

Article. 7

Election of the Youth Parliament

(1) Elections for the Youth Parliament take place every two years.

(2) All young people who are between 13 and 19 years of age, up to their 20st birthday, and who are lawfully registered as residents of Monheim am Rhein have the right to vote and stand for election. In case of multiple residences, Monheim must be registered as their main residence.

(3) 16 boys or girls are to be elected as members of the Youth Parliament.

(4) The election procedure is regulated by an Order of Election.

Article 8

Voting

Proposals to change these Statutes require a two-thirds majority of the members of the Youth Parliament. The final decision on a change of Statute is made by the City Council of Monheim am Rhein.

Article 9

Budget and reimbursement of expenses

(1) Adequate funds necessary for the exercise of its work will be provided for the Youth Parliament.

(2) Management of the funding is the duty of the Youth Welfare Service.

(3) Members of the Youth Parliament receive meeting remuneration for attendance at Youth Parliament meetings obviated by their office, in accordance with Art. 14 of the Constituting Articles of the City of Monheim.

Article 10

Effective date

These Statutes take effect on April 1, 2019. The Statutes of the Youth Parliament of the City of Monheim am Rhein of January 1, 2015 cease to be effective at the same time.

Order of announcements

The present Statutes of the Youth Parliament of the City of Monheim am Rhein, adopted by the City Council at its meeting on May 25, 2010, are hereby publicly announced.

Notice is given that any complaint against procedural or formal breaches relating to these amendments under the provisions of the Municipal Code for the State of North Rhine Westphalia (GO-NRW) will lapse one year following the public announcement, unless

- a required approval has not been granted or a required notification has not been made,
- the amendment was not announced to the public in the proper way,
- the mayor had previously raised an objection to the council resolution

or

- the formal or procedural deficiency has previously been identified and a complaint made to the City, describing the infringed legal regulation and the fact giving rise to the deficiency.

Monheim am Rhein

Daniel Zimmermann
Mayor