

The YMCA triangle stands for the integral approach of serving young people simultaneously in body, mind and spirit and of supporting them.

Organisational structure of YMCA Germany

Executive board

Volunteer executive board,
12 members

Chairman

Steffen Waldminghaus

Treasurer

Ulrich Hanfstein

General Secretary

Hansjörg Kopp

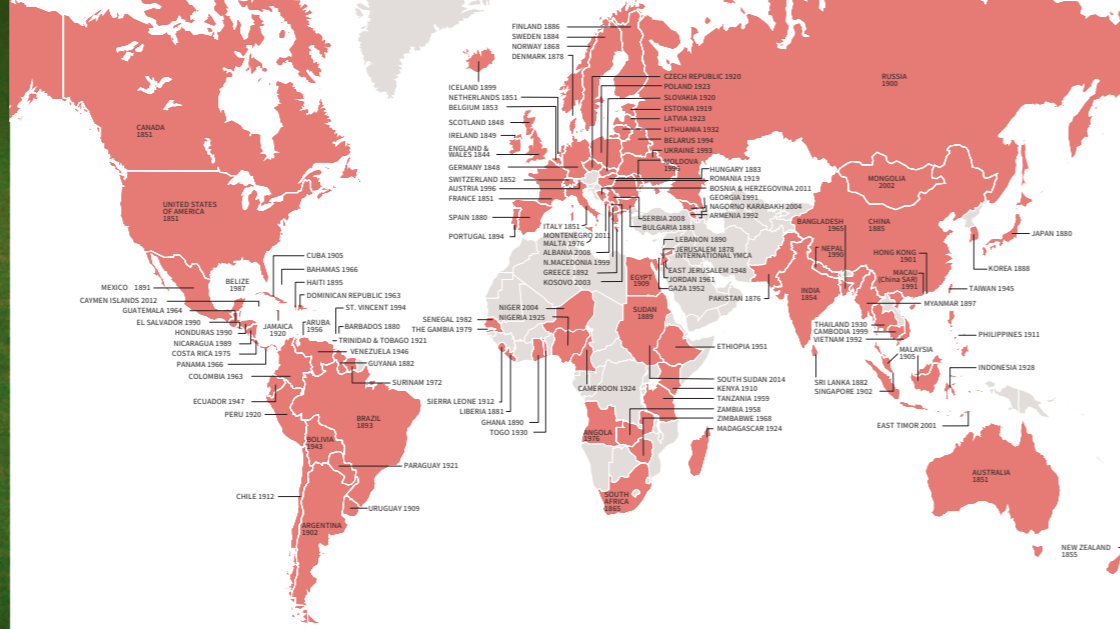
Managing Director

Rainer Heid

Memberships

- Federation of Protestant Youth in Germany (Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Evangelischen Jugend in Deutschland e. V. (aej))
- The social welfare organisation of the Protestant Churches in Germany (Diakonisches Werk der Evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland)
- YMCA Europe
- World YMCA

YMCA Germany is a registered non-profit organisation supported by 13 member associations. Various guesthouses, foundations, and the YMCA University of Applied Sciences under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Gebhardt belong to YMCA Germany.



The YMCA is active throughout Europe and worldwide

The World Alliance of YMCAs (World YMCA) is an umbrella organisation of currently 120 national YMCAs. Movements and local associations of each member country are connected in it.

The World Alliance of YMCAs was founded at the first World Conference in Paris, which makes it the oldest international voluntary organisation in the world. Its headquarters are located in Geneva, Switzerland.

The guiding motto of the World YMCA is: **“That they all may be one”** (John 17:21). **The Paris Basis**, written in 1855, is the foundation of all YMCA work.



The YMCA cooperates with people of all social classes regardless of their belief, ethnicity, gender or cultural roots.

“Empowering young people”, the World YMCA’s motto, describes the work of YMCAs on all continents. As an umbrella organisation on the European level, YMCA Europe supports the work of its member associations. Its goal is to empower young people and to provide a space for transformation and impact.

* The YMCAs are linked together in a network regionally, nationally and internationally. Hence they offer young people a chance to learn from each other through meetings and exchange and to fight for a more just living together of people in this world.

From the history books

The beginning of the German YMCA goes back to the foundation of the “Mission-Jünglings-Verein Barmen-Gemarke” (association for mission among young men) by the 16-year-old Carl W. Isenberg in 1823.

George Williams founded the first YMCA in London in 1844.

In 1848, the “Rheinisch-Westfälische Jünglingsbund” was founded in Elberfeld as the first regional young men’s association in Germany.

The Paris Basis was accepted as the basis for YMCA work at the first World Conference in Paris in 1855. The World Alliance of YMCAs was founded.

Pariser Basis

“The Young Men’s Christian Associations seek to unite those young men who, regarding Jesus Christ as their God and Saviour, according to the Holy Scriptures, desire to be his disciples in their faith and in their life, and to associate their efforts for the extension of his Kingdom amongst young men.”

In 1882, a first congress of the German “Jünglingsbünde” (young men’s associations) took place in Detmold. Through this event, today’s CVJM-Gesamtverband in Deutschland e. V. (YMCA Germany) came to life. In 1883, the first German association by the name of “Christlicher Verein Junger Männer” (“Young Men’s Christian Association”) was founded in Berlin.

In 1891, Canadian doctor und educator James Naismith invented basketball at the YMCA College in Springfield. Four years later, his colleague William G. Morgan invented volleyball.

Since the 1960s, more girls and women participated in YMCA activities. Since 1985, the acronym CVJM stands for “Christlicher Verein Junger Menschen” (Young People’s Christian Association).

In 2016, the wordmark “CVJM Deutschland” was established, even though the statutory name “CVJM-Gesamtverband in Deutschland e. V.” has been kept.

* Participation in YMCA programmes is open to everyone: boys and girls, men and women from all social, ethnic and religious groups form the worldwide community of the YMCA. The Paris Basis applies to all youth work of YMCA Germany today.

CVJM Deutschland

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Every donation supports the work of the YMCA Germany!

IBAN: DE05 5206 0410 0000 0053 47



YMCA Germany at a Glance

CVJM Deutschland

and its member organisations

Education

Faith

worldwide

Sports

Hotels and Guesthouses



Facts and figures

The CVJM/YMCA is the largest youth organisation in the world that operates in 120 countries and reaches 64 million people. The YMCA considers itself an interdenominational Christian missionary organisation. In Germany, the YMCA has approximately 310,000 members and regular participants.

Furthermore, it reaches almost a million young people every year through its programmes, events and camps. Its main focus is local youth work in 1,400 local YMCAs, youth associations and youth villages.

* The YMCA leaders are united in their faith in Jesus Christ. They belong to different Christian churches. The YMCA is part of the worldwide church of Jesus Christ. Its missionary work contributes to the building-up of this church. The YMCA strives for cooperation with the Christian churches.

* In the YMCA it is primarily young adults, youth and children who experience the love of God through personal caring and companionship and are invited to faith in Jesus Christ.

For the most part, the work of the YMCA is organised by volunteers. Its 68,000 volunteers are supported by 840 professionals.

* Volunteer work is essential in the YMCA. Volunteers and professionals work together as partners.

Under the umbrella of the YMCA, youth work is offered under following labels:

- “Christlicher Verein Junger Menschen” (CVJM)
- “Evangelisches Jugendwerk“ (EJW)
- “Christliches Jugenddorfwerk Deutschlands“ (CJD)

* In the fellowship of the YMCA all people shall experience appreciation, discover and develop their talents and take responsibility according to their abilities.

* The work of the YMCA is done holistically. It regards the human being as an integrated whole of body, mind and spirit, in his relationship to himself, to other people, to creation and to God. The work is done in various forms of youth work, youth education and social youth work.

* The blue texts were taken from the guidelines of the YMCA Germany. Those were prepared by the main committee of YMCA Germany in 2002.

Programmes for children and young people at the YMCA

Throughout Germany, the YMCA offers various programmes for children and young people:

Children's activities
Camps
Vacation Bible school
Youth worship
Intercultural openness
Music
“Wortlabor”

Teen groups
social work
Sport and movement
Confirmands
Scouts
Youth worship
Scouts
Youth worship
Scouts

Open field hockey
Acting and dancing
“KonfiCastle”
Youth groups (“Jungschar”)
Girls and boys youth work
Basketball
Creative youth work
Trombone choirs
Youth evangelisation
Faith courses

TEN SING
Mentoring
Bands
School-related youth work
JuLeiCa

Fields of activity of YMCA Germany

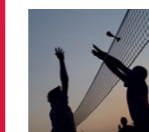
YMCA in Germany

Missionary Children and Youth Work



YMCA Germany develops and supports missionary work with children, teenagers and young adults, addresses current challenges and spreads good ideas about the practice of mission work among young people in order to reach young people with the Gospel.

Sports



The YMCA offers hobby, popular, professional and event sports for all ages.
www.cvjm.de/sport

TEN SING



Young people between 13 and 25 prepare a stage performance including choir, band, dance and theatre. Through this they find out about their talents, responsibility, God and friendships.
www.tensingland.de

Voluntary services in Germany



Over 140 spots for voluntary services (FSJ or BFD) in Germany.
www.cvjm-jahr.de

youth politics



YMCA youth politics represents the interests of the YMCA and of young people before political bodies at the national level, in the federal states and society
www.cvjm.de/jupo

Education at the YMCA Germany

YMCA University



The YMCA University of Applied Science offers degrees of Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Master of Arts (M.A.) through residential studies, distance learning and online courses. It also offers programs of professional further education through YMCA Academy. It provides vocational training in the fields of theology and social pedagogy which is accredited by both church and state.
www.cvjm-hochschule.de

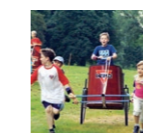
Vacation, Travelling and Events

Hostels and hotels



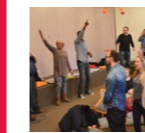
Over 100 hostels and hotels are run by YMCAs in Germany, four of them by YMCA Germany itself.
www.cvjm-gastfreunde.de

Vacation camps and trips



The YMCA organises vacation camps and trips for different age and various interest groups.
www.cvjm-reisen.de

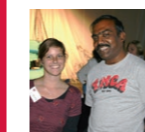
Events, conventions and initiatives



The YMCA regularly organises events, conventions and initiatives to connect staff and to provide inspiration for local youth work.

YMCA worldwide

CVJM weltweit (YMCA worldwide)



“CVJM weltweit” is connected internationally through international exchanges and partnerships.
www.cvjm.de/weltweit

International Voluntary Services



The YMCA facilitates international voluntary services in 15 countries.
www.cvjm.de/ifwd

Aktion Hoffnungszeichen (Signs of Hope)



The YMCA supports developmental education in 19 countries and regions.
www.cvjm.de/hoffnungszeichen

* Participation in YMCA programmes is open to boys and girls, men and women from all social, ethnic, cultural and religious groups. The programmes foster mutual understanding and respect.

YMCA Germany

CVJM Deutschland / YMCA Germany (statutorily: CVJM-Gesamtverband in Deutschland e.V.) is an association of 13 independent member organisations with approximately 1,400 local YMCAs. Cooperation in the areas of kids groups, youth, young adults, international, performing arts and sports activities takes place through conferences, consultations, initiatives, project teams, expert groups, large central staff conferences and publications.

YMCA Germany coordinates and supports the cooperation of its member associations, represents the CVJM before church, state and the public on a national level and cooperates with other youth organisations. Furthermore, it organises the YMCA's international affairs, especially within the World YMCA and YMCA Europe.

* The YMCA is a youth association based on democratic principles and practices. It lobbies for the interests of young people in youth politics and supports them in taking social responsibility.

Member organisations of YMCA Germany

- * CVJM Deutschland (CVJM-Gesamtverband in Deutschland e.V.)
- 1 Arbeitsgemeinschaft der CVJM Deutschlands e.V.
- 2 Christliches Jugenddorfwerk Deutschlands e.V. (CJD)
- 3 CVJM-Landesverband Baden e.V.
- 4 CVJM-Landesverband Bayern e.V.
- 5 CVJM Norddeutschland e.V.
- 6 CVJM-Ostwerk e.V.
- 7 CVJM Pfalz e.V.
- 8 CVJM-Landesverband Sachsen e.V.
- 9 CVJM-Landesverband Sachsen-Anhalt e.V.
- 10 CVJM-Landesverband Schlesische Oberlausitz e.V.
- 11 CVJM Thüringen e.V.
- 12 CVJM-Westbund e.V.
- 13 Evangelisches Jugendwerk in Württemberg (EJW)

