



Call for Applications

Beyond Polarization

Join a German-Israeli Exchange Program on Social Cohesion

The German-Israeli Future Forum invites young people from Germany and Israel to apply for “**Beyond Polarization**”. The program brings together participants to strengthen bilateral exchange and social cohesion in both countries.

In times of increasing polarization and ongoing conflicts, societal divisions are becoming more visible in both Germany and Israel. This program provides a space for **dialogue, mutual understanding, and constructive exchange**, allowing participants to reflect on complex societal issues.

Participants will also experience projects that **promote democracy, social cohesion, and intercultural understanding**, gaining practical insights that they can apply in their own communities.

Who are we looking for?

Are you active in youth education or civil society work or interested in getting involved and are committed to social cohesion? You like to take on responsibility, act as a role model, or are involved in initiatives that promote democratic and inclusive values – or want to start doing so? You are open-minded and not afraid of facing complicated realities? You want to meet young Israelis and Germans, exchange ideas, travel, and get to know interesting organizations? You are comfortable participating in a program conducted in English?

Then we are looking for you! **Apply now and join our program!**

What exactly is the program “Beyond Polarization” about?

- The program consists of three components: a **trip to Berlin, Germany**, a **trip to Israel**, and a **Mini Project**, where you get the opportunity to organize an activity in your community (e.g., movie night, workshop, etc.). All program costs are covered.
- During the trips to Berlin and Israel, you will meet different initiatives actively working towards social cohesion and engage in dialogue. We also want to include the organizations you are involved with and your ideas, so **your perspective is part of the program!**



When does the program take place?

- **Kick-off meeting (Zoom):** May 7, 2026
- **Trip to Germany (Berlin):** June 22 – 28, 2026
- **Trip to Israel:** August 30 – September 6, 2026
- **Mini Projects:** until the end of November 2026

Apply if:

- You speak English and are **between 18 and 29 years old**
- You are active in youth education or civil society initiatives that promote social cohesion, or plan to get involved
- You can participate in both trips and would like the opportunity to create a Mini Project and/or contribute ideas to help shape the program

Curious?

Send us your application with a **short CV**, a short **motivation letter** or a **video** explaining why you want to participate and how you plan to get involved. If you already have an idea for a Mini Project, feel free to include it.

Deadline: April 26, 2026

Send your application as a PDF or MP4 to: network@dizf.de

If you have any questions about the program or your application, don't hesitate to reach out to the program leads: Madlen Herb (herb@dizf.de); Gina Baer (baer@dizf.de)

Safety Considerations

We monitor the security situation in Israel and take all necessary precautions to ensure a safe and meaningful experience for participants. If a travel warning is issued for September, the trip will not take place.

German-Israeli Future Forum Foundation

The German-Israeli Future Forum is a foundation dedicated to promoting cooperation and programs that strengthen civil society in Germany and Israel based on the values of democracy, freedom, and tolerance. We support dialogue and discussion based on mutual respect – even in disagreement. Discrimination, racism, and antisemitism of any kind are not tolerated.

The project is funded by the German Federal Foreign Office.