



2.1.4 Right to autonomy and democratic participation

Child and youth services is aligned with Germany's Basic Law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Basic Law recognises individuals' **right to autonomy** and **participation in democratic society**. These fundamental rights also extend to children and adolescents.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is also legally binding upon child and youth services. It requires that the rights of children and young people to participation must be respected.

Child and youth services supports children and adolescents in exercising these rights in their institutions and in society as a whole.