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A Patchwork Quilt of Programs

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Abstract: How is Germany doing with respect to the fight against COVID-19? Did the German Federal and the country's Regional Governments enact a coordinated approach, and did the sector have the opportunity to co-operate with government and have a "voice" in the policy process? Based on the results of recent empirical studies and desk-top, internet-based research, these questions are addressed and the outcome is that there were numerous programs issued by the Federal and regional German governments that buffer the effects of the crisis is having on the sector. However, the programs were not developed in co-operation with the sector and were not easy to access, particularly for small and non-professionalized nonprofits.

Keywords: COVID-19, pandemic, civil society, nonprofit organizations, Germany

1 Introduction

In spring 2020, German political leaders took action and agreed upon a coordinated approach to effectively limit the spread of the virus. At the end of 2020, there was a mixed picture with respect to the outcome of the fight against COVID-19: While the economy was doing fairly well, German society had to cope with many restrictions that were not very effective in keeping the pandemic in check.

Against this background, this article will address how the pandemic impacted Germany's nonprofit sector, which is the organizational infrastructure of the country's civil society; how the German government tried to support the sector; and how public programs with the aim of buffering the sector from negative effects of the pandemic were designed and implemented and might had helped far right groups gain more popularity in recent months.

Since the pandemic is still in full swing, it is far too early to assess the overall impact of the pandemic on the sector and to quantitatively record the effect of COVID-19. Instead, a first and preliminary assessment of how the sector is affected

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by the crisis will be provided based on results of a limited number of empirical studies (Gross 2020; Kausmann et al. 2019; Krimmer 2020; Krimmer and Tahmaz 2020). Programs of the Federal and the regional German governments will be outlined based on internet-based desk-top research.

The article is structured in five sections. We will refer to the country's political governance, its civil society and the structure of its nonprofit-sector in section two. Against this background, section three will thematize the impact of the pandemic on civil society and the sector. As there is not yet reliable data available to quantitatively assess the impact of the pandemic on the organizations, in section four we will focus on the programs issued by the German Federal and Länder Governments to counteract the negative effects of the crisis.¹ Key programs will be highlighted and distinctive policies of selected regional governments analyzed. The conclusion in section five will address the questions of how the sector and civil society will further develop and whether the pandemic might increase government awareness that serious crises such as COVID-19 require the joint and coordinated action of government and the nonprofit sector.

2 Federalized Germany, Its Civil Society and Nonprofit Sector

Germany is a federalized country composed of 16 regions – Länder in German – that differ significantly with respect to size, economic strength and party composition of parliaments and governments (Weichlein 2019). Currently, at the federal as well as at the regional levels, coalition governments are exclusively in power. The German regional governments, by law, have to co-operate closely with the federal level of government. Only a few policy areas are subject to the exclusive control of the Länder, in particular the policy fields of education, research and culture that encompasses the arts as well as sports and any other leisure activities.

Germany's civil society looks back upon a long tradition, in which political activism based on social movements has always played a distinctive role (Bermann 1997; Roth and Rucht 2008). Still today, there are social movements on both sides of the political spectrum representing either a more liberal and leftist or a more conservative and sometimes nationalist faction of the German society (Grande 2018). The sector used to reflect, at least to a certain extent,

¹ Please see the annex for the list of programs (web-sites of the Federal and regional governments).

major political cleavages of the German society. Today the majority of nonprofit organizations are no longer affiliated with a certain political or normative direction. However, the sector is still quite diverse with respect to the legal forms of its organizations, their size, areas of activity, modes of financing, and finally as regards to the degree to which its organizations are co-operating with government (Table 1).

By far, the majority of German nonprofits – more than 620,000 – are legally registered “voluntary associations” (Vereine) based on membership (Krimmer 2019: 5). Predominately small or middle-sized organizations, German Vereine operate at the local level primarily in the areas of recreation, sports and amateur cultural activities. Their prime source of financing are membership-dues and, to a certain extent, donations and sponsorships. At the local level, there is a long tradition of co-operation between governments and Vereine, albeit limited to infrastructural support and small-size grants. Vereine manage their operations

Table 1: Key figures of the German nonprofit-sector.

	Time of Reporting	Numbers
Legal & organizational form¹		
Voluntary associations vereine (e.V.)	31.12.2019	610,720
Limited corporations with tax-exempt status (gGmbH)	31.12.2019	25,300
Nonprofit employees²		
	30.06.2016	3,900,000
Volunteers³		
	2014	30,900,000
Financing⁴		
	2017	In %
Membership dues		38.6%
Donations		22.9%
Market income		20.1%
Public funds		11.0%
Others		7.3%
		(100%)
The free Welfare Associations⁵		
Institutions	01.01.2016	118,623
Employees	01.01.2016	1,912,665
Facilities (beds/Placements)	01.01.2016	4,166,276

Sources: 1) Bundesamt für Justiz, Geschäftsberichte der Amtsgerichte; (Ministry of Justice, Annual Reports of the District Courts) 2) Hochrechnung auf Grundlage des IAB-Betriebspanel (Extrapolation based on the IAB-Betriebspanel); 3) Hochrechnung auf Grundlage des Deutschen Freiwilligensurvey 2014 (Extrapolation based on the Voluntary Survey Germany 2014, people older than 14); 4) ZiviZ-Survey 2017; 5) Gesamtstatistiken der Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Freien Wohlfahrtspflege e.V., 2016 (General Statistics of the Free Welfare Associations).

primarily with volunteers at the management and shop-floor level. However, the professionalization of German voluntary associations is on its way, particularly in the area of sports, where the clubs have diversified their services and are increasingly working with a limited number of employees. Despite this trend, local Vereine are still the main domain for volunteering. With about 40% of the German population engaged on a regular basis (Kausmann et al. 2019: 56; Simonson et al. 2017: 22), volunteering has been on a steady increase in the last decades.

The stronghold of nonprofit employment are nonprofits working in the areas of social service and health care provision. The majority of those are affiliated with the German Free Welfare Associations (Boëbenecker and Vilain 2013), which look back upon a long and very intensive co-operation with government (Zimmer 1999). Until the 1990s, nonprofit social service and health care providers affiliated with the Associations were legally protected from commercial competition in Germany. Today, there is hardly any difference between nonprofit and commercial providers of social services, health care or care for the elderly. Particularly with respect to financing, nonprofits operating in the social domain are treated on equal footing with for-profits. Accordingly, the majority of nonprofits operating in this domain have become more business-like in recent years. Organized legally as tax-exempt limited corporations, they are working predominantly with paid staff. Nevertheless, nonprofits in the social domain are still attracting volunteers who are integrated into day-to-day operations where they provide additional services such as running a café in a home for the elderly, the costs of which are not covered by the allowances of the social and health-care insurances.

With respect to financing nonprofits, the German Federal Government does not play a central role. Nonprofits operating in the social service and health area are predominately financed by allowances of the social and health insurances (Zimmer and Priller 2007). Nonprofits operating in the areas of culture, sports and leisure, which fall exclusively under the domain of the German regional governments, receive support from the regional and predominantly from the local governments. With respect to the modes of governance, Germany used to be characterized as a “semi-sovereign state” (Katzenstein 1987), in which nonprofits, particularly in the social domain but also in the area of sports, were thoroughly integrated into the policy process as partners of government with respect to both policy development and implementation. During the last decades, this neo-corporatist tradition of the country has diminished and is no longer strongly in place (Bode 2012).

3 The Impact of COVID-19

3.1 Increase in Engagement

German civil society reacted promptly, spontaneously, and with many informal forms of solidarity. Younger people supported elderly folks in their neighborhood by going to the super-market, picking up drugs from the pharmacy or clearing the garbage for them. Volunteer agencies reported that there were more Germans who wanted to get engaged and help spontaneously than demand and possible placements could support (Krimmer et al. 2020: 26). Some of the informal initiatives and groups drew upon their experience from the refugee crisis in 2015. It seems that German civil society carries deep-rooted potential that is almost automatically activated in times of crisis (Grande and Hutter 2020).

However, there has also been a significant increase in so-called anti-corona protest rallies that, similar to other European countries, mostly take place in cities and metropolitan areas. The anti-corona protest provides a fruitful ground for nationalist and right-wing groups (Jaafar 2020; Markwardt 2020). This new social movement, piggybacking on the anti-corona sentiments of parts of the German population, constitutes a dangerous threat for democracy. While liberal groups draw attention to some threats to civil rights that go along with the protective restrictions issued by government (Bundesvorstand der Humanistischen Union 2020; Klein 2020; Strachwitz 2020), social movements, located primarily on the far-right side of the political spectrum, perceive the “anti-corona-mood” as a window of opportunity for the denigration of democracy as such in Germany.

3.2 The Impact on Nonprofits

According to recent studies, the local Vereine are particularly hurt by the crises (Gross 2020: 7, 14; Krimmer et al. 2020). The lock-downs translated into shut-downs of local club life. Although recent surveys do not yet indicate a massive cancellation of memberships (Krimmer and Tahmaz 2020: 9), local sport clubs, choirs and other leisure oriented voluntary organizations might suffer from an erosion of their membership base (Schrader et al. 2020: 14) because it will be a long time before club life returns to normal. In the same vein, self-help groups that are thoroughly based in the concept of coming together personally are heavily affected by the lock-downs and the further limitations of meetings (Krimmer et al. 2020: 22).

During the crisis Vereine, in particular sport clubs, tried to respond by offering web-based activities that kept their memberships from plummeting. It

seems that the notion of memberships might even regain attractiveness. Recent studies report an increased demand for social encounters and an active club life (Gross 2020: 13). At the same time, results of empirical studies indicate that volunteers, particularly those holding positions of leadership in local Vereine, were confronted with management challenges, caused by the pandemic, that went far beyond their capacities (Gross 2020: 14; Krimmer and Tahmaz 2020: 9). If possible, the local Vereine have reacted by delegating management duties to paid employees. There are indicators that after the crisis, professionalization of local Vereine might further advance; also, there might be fewer nonprofits, and those will be larger in size, more professionalized and less dependent on the input of volunteers.

The pandemic also heavily impacted nonprofits active in the areas of education and culture that are, to a significant extent, financed through fees for courses or ticket sales (Gross 2020: 14). These nonprofits suffered from a significant loss of income during the lock-downs and thereafter due to the limitations and regulations related to public events and meetings. Initial results of empirical studies indicate that some of these nonprofits might not be able to continue operating (Krimmer and Tahmaz 2020: 9; Krimmer et al. 2020: 16).

This is not the case for nonprofits active in social service provision and in the healthcare sector. By and large affiliated with the Free Welfare Associations, the nonprofit service providers were financially not severely affected by the pandemic (Schrader 2020: 19). However, the lock-downs accompanied with a visiting ban for anybody who is not member of the staff, put a heavy burden on the personnel of social and health care facilities such as homes for the elderly or hospitals. Many volunteer-based extra services, such as the stroll with inhabitants of the home for the elderly, were no longer possible. In many facilities, staff personnel suffered from burn-out. Furthermore, it was no longer possible to provide certain services such as an “open living room” for homeless people or a free meal in a community center (Krimmer et al. 2020: 18).

Finally, Churches in Germany were significantly affected by the lock-downs and the further restrictions, particularly after some Church services turned out to be a hot spot for spreading the virus (Krimmer et al. 2020: 23). Particularly affected were the non-Christian churches that are not part of the Church tax arrangement, which is in place with the German government and the Catholic and Lutheran Christian Churches. The Christian Churches receive a so-called church-tax, a percentage of the tax per capita, that is automatically deducted from the salary and income, unless the German citizen has officially declared non-membership.

The impact of the pandemic might have been more severe if the German Federal and regional governments had not taken timely action.

4 Governments Reactions

4.1 Federal Government

In May 2020, the Federal Government initiated a “Corona Protective Umbrella”,² a generously funded program with the purpose of supporting the country’s economy and safeguarding employment. The program, tailored for commercial enterprises, encompasses nonprofits if they comply with the requirements, and in particular work with at least one employee. As a part of the umbrella, there are the following three programs, nonprofits might refer to:

- Bridging Allowance Programm (Überbrückungshilfe für kleine und mittelständische Unternehmen),
- Short-term compensation (Kurzarbeitergeld),
- Reboot Culture (Neustart für Kultur),

*Bridging Allowance Program*³ (*Überbrückungshilfe für kleine und mittelständische Unternehmen*): Nonprofits (NPOs) with at least one employee are treated on equal footing with small and middle-sized enterprises. The program provides three-months support awarded as a non-repayable grant that amounts to 80% of the fixed costs of the organization. NPOs are eligible if they provide a record of economic activity, and if, due to the pandemic, their income has dropped more than 70% compared to the previous year. The support measure is not restricted to earned income but also encompasses other financial sources such as membership dues, grants and sponsorship. NPOs operating close to government – so-called Quangos – are not allowed to apply. It is permitted to cover a variety of ongoing costs, amongst those cost for rents, loans, credits, staff and trainees. The program is administered by the Federal Ministry for Economy and Energy and terminates in January 2021.

Short-term Compensation (Kurzarbeitergeld): Short-term compensation for companies constitutes a well-tested tool for avoiding dismissal of workers in times of severe economic problems when organizations are confronted with a drastic reduction of new orders. Any private organization (nonprofit included) with employees is eligible to apply for this special type of financial support. The program is administered by the Federal Agency for Work, a Quango, or self-governed public

² <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Schlaglichter/Corona-Schutzschild/2020-03-13-Milliarden-Schutzschild-fuer-Deutschland.html>.

³ https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/E/eckpunkte-ueberbrueckungshilfe.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=12 <https://www.ueberbrueckungshilfe-unternehmen.de/UBH/Navigation/DE/Home/home.html>.

entity, that is responsible for any program and initiative in the area of labor market policy. To buffer the negative economic effects of COVID-19, public allowances granted under the umbrella of this scheme were upgraded up to 80% of the normal salary. The employee whose working hours are reduced, or who does not work at all, receives up to 80% of his or her salary for a certain period of time. Although the employee receives short-term compensation, he or she is allowed to earn on the side up to the amount of his or her full salary.

Reboot Culture (Neustart für Kultur) – the Support Program for Culture and the Arts: In August 2020, the Federal Government initiated a major program for culture and the arts that is particularly designed for the support of private organizations (commercial as well as nonprofits) and self-employed persons working in this area. There are many nonprofits operating in this field. Amongst those are amateur theaters, dance companies, cultural initiatives, so-called socio-cultural centers offering a variety of programs, small cinemas or local museum run by volunteers. The support is partly restricted to infrastructural investments. The support does not cover 100% of the costs; applying institutions must prove that a matching fund is available. The program is administered by the office of the Federal Minister for Culture and Media who chairs a sub-unit of the Chancellery.

Tax Measures to Promote Aid for those Affected by the Corona Crisis (Steuerliche Maßnahmen zur Förderung der Hilfe für von der Corona-Krise Betroffene: One provision of the “Corona Protective Umbrella” is specifically earmarked for nonprofits and related to the regulations of tax-exemption. There are time-limited (until the end of 2021) exceptional provisions with respect to any resources acquired or provided by nonprofits on behalf of persons in need due to the pandemic. The bookkeeping of tax-exempt donations and public grants is laborious for nonprofits and checked in detail by the local revenue offices, which are in charge of the overall supervision of nonprofits in Germany. Thanks to the time-limited provisions, enacted under the Corona Umbrella, these regulations were slightly reduced and simplified. Also, the list of tax-exempt purposes was enlarged and adapted to the special situation of the pandemic. In order to be granted a tax-exempt status, nonprofit organizations have to comply with certain requirements. The list of tax-exempt activities is limited and restricted by law. Tax-exemption is exclusively granted to those aims and purposes of a nonprofit which are laid out in its by-laws. Under the exceptional provision, nonprofits are allowed to engage in activities which go beyond their organizational statutes. In particular, fundraising drives with the aim of helping people in need due to the pandemic are welcomed and do not endanger the tax-exempt status of the organizations, even if the tax-exemption of the nonprofit does not cover this particular activity (Bundesfinanzministerium 2020, 2021).

4.2 Programs of the German Länder

4.2.1 Key-Areas

In accordance with German federalism, the Länder programs reflect the division of labor between the Federal and the regional governments that are exclusively responsible for the policy fields of education, arts and culture, leisure, and sports. Accordingly, the majority of the almost 50 programs, earmarked for the support of the sector by the regional governments, address local voluntary organizations such as sports or cultural clubs, voluntary initiatives or semi-professionals or amateurs engaged in cultural activities.

Every regional government has set up a support program for sport clubs, even those such as Brandenburg (next to Berlin) and Bremen, a city state in the north of Germany, which issued just one initiative on behalf of nonprofits during the pandemic. A further stronghold constitutes the policy field of the arts and culture, an area characterized through many amateur and semi-professional companies and nonprofit initiatives. This policy field has been dramatically affected by the crisis. Similar to the “Reboot Culture Program” of the Federal Government, almost every regional government has set up programs for the support of both cultural nonprofit organizations and amateur or semi-professional artists.

The German regional governments did not coordinate their activities and programs addressing the crisis. Accordingly, there are regional differences, and some governments are more active than others. The government of Rhineland-Palatinate in the south-west of Germany at the border to France, ranks as the “champion” among the German Länder with respect to the support for nonprofits in the covid-crisis. Rhineland-Palatinate initiated a joint initiative, which gives nonprofit organizations a voice in the policy process, and five programs are earmarked for the support of the sector. Next comes North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW), which is the most populous region in Germany with about 18 million inhabitants. The regional government of NRW also supports five programs. However, the majority of the regional governments run either two (six regions) programs or just one (two regions) program. Two regions – Bavaria and Saxony – are engaged in four programs. The remaining four regions, amongst those the city state of Hamburg, are engaged in three programs.

The policies of the Länder do not follow a distinctive pattern, also there is no special link to any party affiliation or government composition recognizable. Regional coalition governments, in which the Green party participates, seem to pay slightly more attention to nonprofits in the arts and culture. All in all, the support policies of the German regional governments translate into a patchwork quilt of programs, initiatives and measures issued and administered by the regional ministerial bureaus. The programs differ significantly with respect to

funding schemes, the amount of money for which can be applied, and the bureaucracy required to apply for support and to comply with the accounting measures. Nonprofits need expertise and patience to work themselves through the jungle of funding and monitoring requirements. This is not an easy task since the programs primarily address Vereine, small and middle-sized voluntary associations, the management of which is by and large not professionalized.

4.2.2 Distinct Approaches: North Rhine-Westphalia and Rhineland-Palatinate

Although, the German Länder target pretty much the same segments of the sector, the two regions – North Rhine-Westphalia and Rhineland-Palatinate that are also the champions in regards to the number of support schemes set up for the sector – stand out because the support policies of these governments seemed to be guided by a certain mission or conceptual idea of what the sector is all about. In North Rhine-Westphalia, a conservative coalition government of Christian Democrats and Liberals is currently in power under the leadership of a Christian-Democrat Prime Minister. When the government was inaugurated in 2017, for the first time in the history of the region, homeland “Heimat” developed into a policy issue under the guidance of a ministry. Moreover, support for volunteering became a political priority with a special unit headed by a State Secretary.

To a certain extent, the support program for the sector in the time of the COVID-19 crisis reflects these priorities. One funding scheme is earmarked exclusively for amateur choirs and singing clubs that constitute a predominantly local and traditional segment of the German nonprofit sector. There are small funds available for the clubs; the overall scheme of funding amounts to half a million Euros. Furthermore, there is a funding scheme labeled “Special Program Homeland” (Sonderprogramm Heimat 2020⁴) that is specifically tailored to meet the needs of traditional Vereine such as carnival or shooting clubs. The regional government has earmarked 50 million Euros for the support of local voluntary associations for which the Ministry of Homeland is responsible.

Rhineland-Palatinate is governed by an unusual coalition in which social democrats have the lead and representatives of both the German Green (two ministries) and the Liberal party (one ministry) are the “junior partners”. For decades, Rhineland-Palatinate was a stronghold of the German social democratic party that favors a specific policy style labeled “participatory policy making” by political scientists: Whenever possible, those who are affected by a particular policy should be enabled to have a voice and to participate in the policy process. Round tables, approaches of

⁴ <https://www.mhkgb.nrw/themen/heimat/sonderprogramm-heimat-2020>.

participatory governance and expert panels are key-features of this particular policy style (Lamping and Schridde 2011; Leggewie and Nanz 2016).

The steps taken by the regional government to support the sector in the covid-crisis are in line with this approach. The support program for sport clubs was developed in close co-operation with the regional and sub-regional umbrella associations for sports in Rhineland-Palatinate. The regional government even perceived the crisis as an opportunity for strengthening the co-operation among the various organizations within the sector. Under the leadership of the Prime Minister a “Corona-Alliance” was inaugurated with the aim of developing a roadmap for the advancement of social cohesion in the country. The Alliance encompasses a broad spectrum of organizations, amongst those are representatives from the trade unions, the German Christian Churches and the Free Welfare Associations. Finally, Rhineland-Palatinate also supports new initiatives within the sector that try to co-ordinate and facilitate civic engagement such as volunteer centers, centers for the elderly, or recently established small village shops run by volunteers. All these initiatives draw heavily on volunteer engagement, as well as other form of civiness, such as neighborhood assistance of services and information hubs for volunteers and nonprofits.

5 Summary and Concluding Remarks

Civil society and Germany’s nonprofit organizations are thoroughly affected by the crisis. Civil society appears to move in the direction where there is an increasing divide between a pro-democratic and a nationalist faction of German civil society. Both sides are very active and tend to increasingly take to the streets.

The impact of COVID-19 on the nonprofit sector depends on the size and type of the organization and on the field of activity. There are some indicators that the typical German nonprofit organization, the membership-based voluntary association that works primarily with volunteers, might face difficult times in the future. Even before the crises, the notion of membership had significantly changed. Instead of becoming a member, an affiliation with an association was increasingly perceived more as a contract-like relationship in which you pay dues for services. This general trend might be accelerated through the crisis. The outcome might be a new wave of mergers of nonprofits that no longer work primarily with volunteers but with hired staff.

But the further push towards professionalization of nonprofits might be counteracted by another trend that became visible during the crisis: civic engagement and volunteering tend to become less formalized, more spontaneous and also increasingly neighborhood-based. The trend towards more informal and ad-hoc modes of volunteering is also not a new development, it started long before COVID-19 hit the country. These two trends might become even more influential in

the future: nonprofit organizations increasingly integrate into the country's service economy, while simultaneously volunteering will continue to grow, however, outside the confines of nonprofit organizations.

With respect to the acknowledgment of the sector as a valuable partner in the policy process, particularly in difficult times, the programs of the Federal government are disappointing. The specificity of the sector is only partially taken into account. With one exception, nonprofits are treated as a proxy of commercial enterprises. The programs aim at keeping the economy going and the unemployment rates low were developed in a top-down approach without giving civil society the possibility of making its voice heard.

This is not thoroughly the case with respect to the programs of the German regional governments that were and are indeed very active in supporting the sector. However, the diversity of government programs is remarkable; the different measures are not easy to access; and the application and monitoring procedures involve a fair amount of bureaucracy and are not easy to comply with, particularly for small and non-professionalized nonprofit organizations. Moreover, with just one exception, the programs of the regional governments were also not developed in partnership with the sector. Instead, similar to the federal level of governance, the majority of the Prime Ministers of the German Länder grasped the opportunity to show-off and to portray themselves as the most competent leaders.

Charismatic leadership as a top-down approach to politics has become very popular since the beginning of the covid-crisis. However, the notion of "charismatic leadership" stands very much against a policy style favored by civil society that puts a high emphasis on democratic participation and deliberation. Mirrored through this lens, COVID-19 poses a threat to civil society in Germany because it heavily impacts the political culture of the country, and indeed there is a growing number of skeptical voices who try to allude to this thread (Klein 2020; Strachwitz 2020).

Annex: Programs of the Federal and Regional Governments

Federal Government

Überbrückungshilfe für kleine und mittelständische Unternehmen:

https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/E/eckpunkte-ueberbrueckungshilfe.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=12.

„Neustart Kultur“:

<https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/bundesregierung/staatsministerin-fuer-kultur-und-medien/neustart-kultur-startet-1767056>.

Regional Governments

Baden-Württemberg

Soforthilfeprogramm Corona/Überbrückungshilfen Corona:

<https://www.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/service/presse/pressemitteilung/pid/weitere-corona-hilfen-fuer-kunst-und-kultur-1/>.

Finanzielle Unterstützung von Ehrenamtlichen im Bevölkerungsschutz:

<https://im.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/service/presse-und-oeffentlichkeitsarbeit/pressemitteilung/pid/153-millionen-euro-fuer-ehrenamtliche-helferinnen-und-helfer-im-bevoelkerungsschutz/>.

Hilfefond für Kunst und Kultur und Vereine der Breitenkultur:

<https://www.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/service/presse/pressemitteilung/pid/weitere-corona-hilfen-fuer-kunst-und-kultur/>.

Unterstützung von gemeinnützigen Vereinen und zivilgesellschaftlichen Organisationen:

<https://www.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/service/presse/pressemitteilung/pid/15-millionen-euro-fuer-gemeinnuetzige-vereine-und-zivilgesellschaft/>.

Masterplan Kultur BW | Kunst trotz Abstand:

<https://www.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/service/presse/pressemitteilung/pid/oeffnungsperspektiven-und-unterstuetzung-fuer-die-kultur-in-corona-zeiten/>.

Bavaria

Soforthilfe Corona:

<https://www.stmwi.bayern.de/coronavirus/#c72271>.

Corona-Kredit – Gemeinnützige:

<https://www.stmas.bayern.de/aktuelle-meldungen/pm2008-181.php>.

Berlin

Rettungsschirm für den Berliner Sport:

<https://lsb-berlin.net/aktuelles/coronavirus-lage/rettungsschirm-sport/>.

Ehrenamts- und Vereinshilfen (Soforthilfe X):

<https://www.ibb.de/de/foerderprogramme/ehrenamts-und-vereinshilfen.html>.

Brandenburg

Corona-Überbrückungshilfe für Sportvereine:

<https://lsb-brandenburg.de/corona-hilfe/>.

Bremen

Sondertopf Sport:

https://www.lsb-bremen.de/fileadmin/bremen_homepage/media/pdf/03_Antrag_Soforthilfeprogramm_Sport_Endf.pdf.

Hamburg

Hamburger Corona Soforthilfe (HCS):

<https://www.ifbhh.de/foerderprogramm/hcs>.

IFB Förderkredit Sport:

<https://www.ifbhh.de/foerderprogramm/ifb-foerderkredit-sport>.

IFB Förderkredit Kultur:

<https://www.ifbhh.de/foerderprogramm/ifb-foerderkredit-kultur>.

Hesse

Corona Hilfe für Sportvereine:

<https://innen.hessen.de/sport/corona-hilfe-fuer-sportvereine>.

Weiterführung der Vereins- und Kulturarbeit:

<https://www.hessen.de/presse/pressemitteilung/foerderprogramm-zur-weiterfuehrung-der-vereins-und-kulturarbeit>.

Lower Saxony

Corona Sofortprogramm für gemeinnützige Kultureinrichtungen und Kulturvereine: https://www.mwk.niedersachsen.de/startseite/aktuelles/ausschreibungen_programme_forderungen/corona-sonderprogramm-fur-gemeinnutzige-kultureinrichtungen-und-kulturvereine-188405.html.

Corona Sofortprogramm für Sportorganisationen:

https://www.mi.niedersachsen.de/download/157752/Corona-Sonderprogramm_fuer_Sportorganisationen_geht_an_den_Start.pdf.

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

MV-Schutzfonds Kultur:

<https://www.lfi-mv.de/foerderungen/coronahilfe-fuer-kulturelle-traeger-mv-schutzfonds-kultur>.

Corona Soforthilfe:

<https://www.lfi-mv.de/foerderungen/corona-soforthilfe/>.

Unterstützungsleistungen für in wirtschaftliche Bedrängnis geratene Sportvereine und -verbände:

<https://www.lsb-mv.de/export/sites/lsbmw/downloads/sportfoerderung/rili-corona/01-COR-Merkblatt.pdf>.

North Rhine-Westphalia

NRW-Soforthilfeprogramm 2020:

<https://www.wirtschaft.nrw/nrw-soforthilfe-2020>.

Soforthilfe Sport:

<https://www.land.nrw/de/pressemitteilung/soforthilfe-sport-noch-einmal-verlaengert-sportvereine-nordrhein-westfalen-koennen>.

NRW.BANK. Gemeinnützige Organisationen:

<https://www.nrwbank.de/de/foerderlotse-produkte/NRWBANKGemeinnuetzige-Organisationen/16033/nrwbankproduktdetail.html?backToResults=true>.

„Auf geht’s!“ Stipendienprogramm für freischaffende Künstlerinnen und Künstler:

https://www.mkw.nrw/FAQ_Sofortprogramm.

Kulturstärkungsfonds für Kultureinrichtungen:

https://www.mkw.nrw/FAQ_Sofortprogramm.

Förderprogramm für Laienmusikvereine in der Corona-Krise:

https://www.mkw.nrw/FAQ_Sofortprogramm

Sonderprogramm Heimat 2020:

<https://www.mhkgb.nrw/themen/heimat/sonderprogramm-heimat-2020>.

Rhineland-Palatinate

Kulturförderung: „Im Fokus: 6 Punkte für die Kultur“:

https://corona.rlp.de/fileadmin/rlp-stk/pdf-Dateien/Corona/Anhang_PrM_Kultur_020-04-27_Visualisierung_II.pdf.

„Schutzschild für Vereine in Not“:

<https://corona.rlp.de/de/aktuelles/detail/news/News/detail/schutzschild-fuer-vereine-in-not-antraege-ab-sofort-moeglich-1/>.

Unterstützungsangebot für selbstorganisierte, bürgerschaftliche Projekte der Nachbarschaftshilfe in der Corona-Pandemie:

<https://wir-tun-was.rlp.de/de/service/corona-pandemie/>.

Corona Soforthilfe für Dorfläden mit Lieferservice:

https://www.m-punkt-rlp.de/fileadmin/user_upload/63_-_PM_Lewentz_Dorfl%C3%A4den_leisten_in_Corona-Krise_wichtigen_Bei...pdf.

Corona Soforthilfe Kredit RLP:

<https://isb.rlp.de/606-corona-soforthilfe-kredit-rlp-gemeinnuetzige-organisationen.html>.

Corona-Bündnis Rheinland-Pfalz:

<https://corona.rlp.de/de/aktuelles/detail/news/News/detail/gemeinsam-perspektiven-fuer-rheinland-pfalz-entwickeln-1/https://www.rlp.de/de/aktuelles/einzelansicht/news/News/detail/corona-buendnis-gemeinsam-krisebewaeltigen-und-impulse-fuer-zukunftsstrategie-setzen/>.

Saarland

Soforthilfen für Kleinunternehmer und Kulturschaffende:

https://corona.saarland.de/DE/wirtschaft/soforthilfe/kleinunternehmer-soforthilfe/kleinunternehmer-soforthilfe_node.html.

Vereint helfen: Vereinshilfe Saarland:

<https://corona.saarland.de/DE/vereinshilfe/vereinshilfe-faq/vereinshilfe-faq.html>.

Saxony

Corona-Soforthilfe für Sportvereine:

<https://www.sport-fuer-sachsen.de/de/fuer-mitglieder/vereinsberatung/corona-soforthilfe/>.

Soforthilfe-Darlehen Sport:

<https://www.sab.sachsen.de/f%C3%B6rderprogramme/sie-ben%C3%B6tigen-hilfe-um-ihr-unternehmen-oder-infrastruktur-wieder-aufzubauen/soforthilfe-darlehen-sport.jsp>.

Soforthilfe-Zuschuss Soziale Organisationen:

<https://www.sab.sachsen.de/f%C3%B6rderprogramme/sie-ben%C3%B6tigen-hilfe-um-ihr-unternehmen-oder-infrastruktur-wieder-aufzubauen/soforthilfe-zuschuss-soziale-organisationen.jsp>.

Soforthilfe-Zuschuss “Härtefälle Kultur”:

<https://www.sab.sachsen.de/f%C3%B6rderprogramme/sie-ben%C3%B6tigen-hilfe-um-ihr-unternehmen-oder-infrastruktur-wieder-aufzubauen/soforthilfe-zuschuss-h%C3%A4rtef%C3%A4lle-kultur.jsp>.

Saxony-Anhalt

Corona-Soforthilfe:

<https://www.lsb-sachsen-anhalt.de/2015/o.red.r/news.php?id=1451>.

Lotto-Hilfsfond „1 Mio. € für das Gemeinwohl“:

<https://www.lottosachsenanhalt.de/lotto-hilfsfonds>.

Kultur ans Netz - Das Arbeitsstipendium für freischaffende Künstlerinnen und Künstler

<https://www.ib-sachsen-anhalt.de/unternehmen/kreativ-sein/kultur-ans-netz>.

Schleswig-Holstein

Kulturhilfe Schleswig-Holstein:

https://schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Schwerpunkte/Coronavirus/Kultur/coronavirus_kulturHilfe.

[html;jsessionid=15A4706B050A7E048A89159AA011F471](https://schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Schwerpunkte/Coronavirus/Kultur/coronavirus_kulturHilfe.html;jsessionid=15A4706B050A7E048A89159AA011F471).

[delivery1-master#doc2fb1589a-cb47-4998-9401-b6f75f03d6f2bodyText2](https://schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Schwerpunkte/Coronavirus/Kultur/coronavirus_kulturHilfe.html;jsessionid=15A4706B050A7E048A89159AA011F471.delivery1-master#doc2fb1589a-cb47-4998-9401-b6f75f03d6f2bodyText2).

Landesprogramm Corona-Soforthilfe:

<https://www.ib-sh.de/produkt/landesprogramm-corona-soforthilfe/>.

Soforthilfeprogramm für Einrichtungen des Natur- und Umweltschutzes, der nachhaltigen Entwicklung sowie Tierparks:

https://schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Schwerpunkte/Coronavirus/FAQ/Fragen_und_Antworten/Freizeit_Tourismus/foerderprogramm_umweltschutz_s.

[html;jsessionid=844B16DAB6E636E39D161F364B0CF500.delivery1-replication](https://schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Schwerpunkte/Coronavirus/FAQ/Fragen_und_Antworten/Freizeit_Tourismus/foerderprogramm_umweltschutz_s.html;jsessionid=844B16DAB6E636E39D161F364B0CF500.delivery1-replication).

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<https://schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Fachinhalte/K/kinderJugendhilfe/Jugendarbeitsozialarbeit>.

[html;jsessionid=844B16DAB6E636E39D161F364B0CF500.delivery1-replication](https://schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Fachinhalte/K/kinderJugendhilfe/Jugendarbeitsozialarbeit.html;jsessionid=844B16DAB6E636E39D161F364B0CF500.delivery1-replication).

Soforthilfe für Sportvereine/-verbände:

<https://www.ndr.de/nachrichten/schleswig-holstein/coronavirus/Corona-Soforthilfe-Sportvereine-brauchen-kaum-Unterstuetzung,sportverein140.html>.

Thuringia

Soforthilfeprogramm Corona 2020 Wirtschaft:

<https://www.aufbaubank.de/Foerderprogramme/Corona-Soforthilfe-2020>.

Corona-Soforthilfeprogramm für gemeinnützige Einrichtungen:

<https://www.gfaw-thueringen.de/aktuelles/pressemitteilungen/ende-der-frist-am-31-mai-corona-soforthilfeprogramm-fuer-gemeinnuetzige-einrichtungen-und-organisationen>.

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