

THE ELECTION FOR THE INTEGRATION COUNCIL.

GREENS INTERNATIONAL LIST:

YOUR VOTE FOR A DIVERSE FUTURE IN ESSEN

On September 14, 2025, important elections will take place in North Rhine-Westphalia.

In addition to electing the city council, the Integration Council will also be re-elected.

Having a say, shaping, and changing — everyone in our city should be able to have a say, regardless of background and affiliation.

All people with a migration background who are over 16 years old and have been living in Essen for at least one year are allowed to vote.

This also includes people with dual citizenship and naturalized citizens.

MAKES CARE CULTURALLY SENSITIVE.

ELDERLY CARE FOR EVERYONE

We promote intercultural care concepts and multilingual advice for seniors and their relatives.

Care workers should receive specifically intercultural training.

Outpatient and inpatient care services in Essen need to better accommodate cultural diversity.

Cultural and religious needs should be given greater consideration.

We aim to specifically recruit people with a migration background as caregivers or daily companions.

MAKES EDUCATION FAIR.

EARLY SUPPORT, GOOD GUIDANCE

We want every child to have access to a kindergarten place early on.

This requires not only enough places but also targeted information and advice for parents about the importance of early childhood education.

Parents should receive early counseling during the transition from international preparatory classes into the regular school system.

Despite limited school places, newly immigrated children and adolescents should also have the chance to achieve the best possible school qualification — ideally close to their residence.

We want to continue expanding integration courses and school preparation for immigrants.

MAKES DEMOCRACY POSSIBLE.

PARTICIPATION & CO-DETERMINATION

We advocate for affordable housing for everyone — regardless of origin — to counteract division and exclusion.

We support societies and initiatives that promote encounters and exchange between people. Such projects contribute to mutual understanding and a strong, intercultural community.

We promote political education, citizen participation, and co-determination at the neighborhood level. It is especially important to us to involve young people more actively.

We are committed to establishing an Anti-Racism Commissioner in Essen.

MAKES DIVERSITY LIVELY.

STRENGTHENING A WELCOMING CULTURE

Essen is an open-minded city that has humanely welcomed many refugees over the past years.

Essen should remain a “Safe Harbor” and continue to welcome refugees.

We see integration as a societal task where social, educational, job market, and integration policies work together.

The Immigration Office should be further developed into a service agency.

We advocate for a new „Office for Migration and Integration“.

Naturalizations need to be processed more quickly — through more efficient procedures and more staff.

At the same time, the city administration should become more intercultural: through training of existing staff and targeted hiring of people with international backgrounds.

Consultation centers like Pro Asyl and migration counseling services of independent organizations should be strengthened and secured in the long term.

We continue to oppose the introduction of the discriminatory “payment card” for asylum seekers.

MAKES WORK FAIR.

INTEGRATION INTO THE JOB MARKET

We are committed to an inclusive job market that offers people with a migration background — especially women — equal opportunities.

We aim to remove barriers and expand support services to facilitate integration into employment and training.

A new skilled workforce network will connect qualified migrants with employers — complemented by mentoring and further training opportunities.

We want to strengthen migrant employers as training providers, for example through multilingual examination materials and culturally sensitive training.

Collaboration between the city, businesses, and migrant organizations should be strengthened through regular round-table discussions.