

AGIS STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

The current acceptance of about 900,000 refugees to Germany carries significant political and societal implications. The Association of German International Schools explicitly recognises and endorses the current atmosphere of positive efforts in Germany that embrace both the challenges and opportunities posed by the integration of refugees to the German States.

AGIS takes seriously its responsibility towards the education of children, whatever their lingual, cultural, ethnic, religious or educational backgrounds. We support every effort of the German government to relieve stress for refugees, through its actions to provide structured, spontaneous and sustainable support.

WHAT AGIS SCHOOLS ARE CURRENTLY DOING:

- Ensuring their students understand the situation
- Teaching language to help longer term integration (students and teachers)
- Donating clothes, shoes and games
- Forming school-wide committees that include students– (focusing on CAS programmes)
- Coordinating with government; students helping to sort and distribute materials;
- Providing contact amongst students, children brought to the school for sports;
- Fund-raising
- Providing boarding spots
- Providing apprentice experiences
- Donating suitcases
- Helping Authorities running camps understand the potential of what can be done.
- Focusing on the education of adults/parents as well as students
- Providing an international café
- Supporting the supporters who are getting very quickly burned out.
- Working with retired teachers to provide German language courses in the evenings.
- Arranging sports weekends such as a refugee football tournament
- Sponsoring programs to seek community donors for student tuition.
- Helping refugees to fill out paperwork (language support).
- Working with Volunteer German teachers to provide instruction on our campuses
- Sponsoring art projects; students write about their perspectives.

- Providing information to students and parents alike to avoid fears concerning our guests.
- Initiating "Refugees in Berlin Mitte" to help with paper work and collect money, clothing and shoes.
- Providing "welcome classes" to teach German.
- Providing a bus for transportation to events with teachers for support
- Global Information Network group running a forum to discuss whether refugees can educate community.
- Waiving fees for refugee students
- Seeking corporate sponsors to take more refugees.
- CAS students (over 16) working in refugee camps; importance to remember the dignity of refugees – many are ashamed of the type of clothing they are receiving, encouraging students to keep that in mind
- Involving students in writing messages and giving personalized packages. Different types of packages (Health and hygiene packages / school material packages / art packages (therapeutic function)).
- Educating group of students to respond in a global way
- Promoting and marketing a more human attitude in the face of fear. Internationally how can we become a coalition of voices as international schools?

AGIS is and will forever be committed to building a better future for these families and all globally mobile families dedicated to international mindedness.