

ATLAS OF CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT IN POPULATION PROTECTION

Societal Change and Involvement in Authorities and Organizations with Security Tasks
(ATLAS-ENGAGE)

Why this project?

Population protection has been under multiple pressures to adapt: globalization, demographic change, and climate change go hand-in-hand with a transformation in hazard and operational situations. At the same time, there are changes in motivational structures, and the emergence of more flexible forms of civil engagement (e.g. so-called unattached, spontaneous, or digital volunteers) compete with more traditional, long-term commitment. This project contrasts existing concepts from research and practice with these challenges. The approaches are analyzed based on their relevance and suitability for volunteer engagement in different organizations in population protection.

Methods

The project thoroughly examines the state-of-the-art of different forms of engagement in population protection. With the help of additional expert interviews, a survey-based SWOT analysis, and scenario thinking, it aims to develop a typology for various ways of volunteering and to assess them against the background of various megatrends. The results will be published in a monograph, with recommendations for action.

Innovation

The project's aim is a comprehensive, research-based and practice-oriented atlas which portrays prospects for civil society engagement in population protection against the background of societal change, risk trends, and institutional characteristics of emergency and rescue services (specifically, "Behörden und Organisationen mit Sicherheitsaufgaben", or "Authorities and Organizations with Security Tasks").



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Region: Germany, global

Research: Disaster Research Unit (DRU), Berlin

In cooperation with:

- German Red Cross, General Secretariat (DRK)

Technical support:

- Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW)

Associated partners:

- Workers' Samaritan Federation (ASB), Federal Association
- National Network for Civil Society (BBE)
- German Life Saving Association (DLRG), Federal Association
- German Fire Protection Association (vfdb)

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