

Dear Sir or Madam,

On 14 September 2025, local elections will be held in North Rhine-Westphalia. On the same day, the integration councils and integration committees (*Integrationsräte and Integrationsausschüsse*) will also be elected.

The integration council of the City of Iserlohn is the local representative body for all migrants living here. By combining directly elected representatives of migrants with voting members delegated by the city council, the conditions are created for close cooperation between the integration council and local politics. The integration council can submit its own motions, statements, and recommendations to the city council and its committees. Its members also serve in an advisory capacity on numerous committees.

Among other things, the council deals with the following topics:

- Questions and solutions regarding issues that arise from people of different ethnic backgrounds living together
- Anti-discrimination and equal treatment of all people in the city
- Intercultural openness in administrations, social services, and schools
- Intercultural schools and daycare centres
- Promoting the work of associations, centres and initiatives active in the fields of migration, integration and anti-discrimination

Who is eligible to vote:

- Foreign nationals
- German citizens who also hold another foreign nationality
- German citizens who have obtained their German citizenship through naturalisation
- German citizens who acquired German citizenship as children of foreign parents
- Non-German EU citizens
- Aussiedlerinnen and Aussiedler (ethnic Germans from Eastern Europe)

Additionally, on election day the person must

- be at least 16 years old,
- have resided in Germany for at least one year,
- have had their main residence in the municipality for at least sixteen days before the election.

The municipality prepares an electoral register and notifies eligible voters. Eligible voters who are not yet entered in the electoral register may register up until the twelfth day before the election. To register, you must provide proof of your eligibility to vote.

The integration council can promote an active, respectful integration policy in our city, guided by the principle of acceptance. The higher the voter turnout, the more effectively it can achieve its goals. For this reason, I kindly ask you: Take part in the election and help decide on 14 September 2025 who will represent you on the integration committees (*Integrationsausschuss*) of the City of Iserlohn.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Joithe', with a stylized, sweeping line extending from the end.

Michael Joithe
Mayor of the City of Iserlohn