

# JOBLINGE GERMANY



500

Young people in Hamburg have taken part in the JOBLINGE Klassik and Kompass programmes

380

Young people were placed in vocational training and work

## Fight against youth unemployment

The vision of the JOBLINGE initiative is to make a visible and sustainable contribution to the fight against youth unemployment. The objective is to provide disadvantaged, unemployed youth with the opportunity to earn a long-term placement in a vocational training or job and thus lead a self-determined life.

Even in these times of historically low unemployment in Germany, the number of disadvantaged youth and young refugees who struggle to gain access to an apprenticeship or work is not shrinking. The past years have shown that lower-skilled youth, in particular, are not benefitting from the positive economic development. Due to multiple placement obstacles, the target group of 18–25 year olds is considered hard or impossible to place in employment. Most of them have a migration background, come from welfare-dependent families. They lack role models, have never experienced success in school,

and have received little recognition — and accordingly, they have never learned to realistically assess themselves or their aspirations. Those who fail to complete vocational training when they are young have four times the risk of long term unemployment as adults. Germany cannot afford to forgo the potential of these youth; but most importantly, every young person, regardless of their origin or background, should be given the opportunity for a self-determined life.

In Germany, the Julius Baer Foundation supports the Hamburg locations of the JOBLINGE programme, which supports disadvantaged young people and young refugees to enter in the Job Market by doing a vocational training. Through qualification, real job opportunities and the ability to take responsibility for one's own life, JOBLINGE creates real future perspectives for young people. Independence and help for self-help are at the heart of the concept with the aim of developing a vocational training or job on





**Jan Hitzke,**  
JOBLINGE-Alumnus,  
today IT specialist

### Julius Baer Foundation

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### Contact

Julius Baer Foundation  
Bahnhofstrasse 36, P.O. Box  
8010 Zurich, Switzerland  
Tel.: +41(0)58 888 4422  
foundation@juliusbaer.com  
www.juliusbaer.com/foundation

“I never thought I'd ever get to learn my dream job. For years I was so far away from an independent and regulated life, it still seems like a big lottery win to me.”

This would not have been possible without the support of JOBLINGE. When Jan Hitzke was 23 years old, he approached the program for support in 2015 because he wanted to get his life back on track after several broken off vocational trainings and family problems. JOBLINGE supported him in orienting himself professionally and finding a job that matched his interests and abilities. Thanks to his revised application documents, he was given the opportunity to complete an internship in a logistic company. There he convinced both professionally and personally and was offered an apprenticeship as an IT specialist.

their own. During the six-month programme, the participants themselves are in charge of their future. Many participants had already given up on themselves and they didn't receive support from friends and family. The programme is designed to encourage them, create perspectives and integrate them into society.

### JOBLINGE closes the gap between origin and future

Of the 8,200 Joblinge who have participated nationwide so far, an outstanding placement rate of more than 70% was achieved. Since Joblinge was founded in Hamburg in 2014, more than 350 young people have taken part in the programme, 78% have made the transition into vocational training. In 2016 an additional programme for refugees was launched — JOBLINGE Kompass — in which more than 150 young people have taken part so far, 77% were placed in vocational training and work. With both programs, the initiative in Hamburg wants to continue paving the way for 160 young people a year to enter in the job market.

### Facts and figures: Germany

The dual vocational system is firmly established in the German education system. The main characteristic of the dual system

is cooperation between companies on the one hand, and publicly funded vocational schools on the other. This cooperation is regulated by law. Trainees in the dual system typically spend part of each week at a vocational school and the other part at their training company, from which they receive a monthly salary. Dual training usually lasts two to three-and-a-half years. In Germany, about 50% of all school-leavers undergo vocational training provided by companies which consider the dual system the best way to acquire skilled staff.

- Inhabitants: 82,8 million
- Capital: Berlin
- Language: German
- 540,000 young people under 25 years old without professional perspective
- 1,5 million 25 to 34 years old without any formal job qualification
- 120,000 unemployed young refugees younger than 25
- Forecasted shortage of skilled workers in Germany in 2025: 5 million

For more information about JOBLINGE, please visit: [www.joblinge.de](http://www.joblinge.de)

“Our work is successful if we place obstacles in the participants' path — and they overcome these obstacles and see things through to the end. They focus on solutions instead of on problems. That's the way it works. And we support them, with the goal of making them independent.”

Kadim Tas, Operational Director of the JOBLINGE umbrella organization