

The effects of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria are devastating. It is, therefore, of major concern to the Ministry for Children, Youth, Family, Equality, Refugees and Integration, that support is swiftly made available to those affected by the tragic effects of the earthquakes.

In this context, the Ministry has compiled some important information on the subject at <https://www.mkjfgfi.nrw/informationen-zu-den-aufenthaltsrechtlichen-hilfen-aufgrund-der-erdbeben-der-tuerkei-und-syrien>.

Furthermore, the Ministry has noticed that in recent weeks the Foreigners' Registration Offices in North Rhine-Westphalia have received a large number of enquiries from persons who would like to issue a letter of undertaking. The Foreigners' Registration Offices are, of course, happy to answer these questions. However, the number of enquiries in this context poses a considerable additional challenge for the Foreigners' Registration Offices. Many of the questions that the Foreigners' Registration Offices currently answer on the subject could, perhaps, be independently clarified or answered by way of publicly accessible information (e.g. on the internet at <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/service/fragenkatalog-node/13-verpflichtungserklaerung/606492> or the websites of the respective Foreigners' Registration Offices).

In this context, I attach particular importance to drawing attention to the following:

A letter of undertaking can only be issued if the person making the undertaking can furnish proof that he or she has sufficient, net, income. Accordingly, a letter of undertaking submitted by persons who have no income of their own because they themselves are dependent on public benefits (e.g. citizen's income) shall, therefore, be excluded. The following overview can provide an initial indication of a sufficient subsistence level:

Person issuing an undertaking + if applicable maintenance obligation	Required monthly, net, income
Single person	€ 1,340 *
+ one dependent person (e.g. spouse)	€ 1,840 *
+ two dependants (e.g. married couple with one child)	€ 2,110 *
+ three dependants (e.g. married couple with two children)	€ 2,390 *

* The amount of required, net, income depends on the respective protected earnings rates (up to which an amount is exempt from attachment) according to Section 850c, German Code of Civil Procedure. Status: July 2022

Of course, this overview does not release the person concerned from an individual review by the Foreigners' Registration Office, but it can at least give them a rough indication of whether their own income would render them eligible to submit a letter of undertaking.