

The Charter of Café Mondial Konstanz e.V. – *The Art of Diversity*

Every human has abilities,
is capable of self-determination,
and is the absolute sovereign of our time.
[...] Where he unfolds his abilities,
he is an artist.“ (Joseph Beuys)

About Café Mondial:

Café Mondial is a meeting place where visitors to Konstanz as well as long-established and new residents of the city can encounter and get to know each other. Our café is non-commercial¹ and easily accessible to all people. It is a public meeting place that invites all friends and neighbors to join together in intercultural exchange.

Café Mondial is a place to go for newcomers who have found refuge in Konstanz and for those who get want to get to know, talk with, and support them.

Café Mondial serves as a platform. It collaborates with many other groups in the region and supports them in realizing their own project goals.

Café Mondial sees itself as a work of art, as a process driven by the participation of all. Everyone can be an active part of this process, thereby influencing and enriching our society. All those who participate in the planning, development and the daily operating of our volunteer association can play a part in a social reality in which Café Mondial intends to fill the idea of a "welcoming culture" with life.

About the Charter:

The purpose of this charter is to create an operational foundation - the Charter provides guidance and assists Café Mondial and its members to not lose sight of its goals, its self-conception and its values in the course of its continuous evolution. The actions, external appearance as well as the internal processes of Café Mondial should exist and be carried out in harmony with this Charter. All members should continuously reflect on its contents.

¹ All that Café Mondial offers is supported by the "pay as much as you can / want" principle: No one needs to give more than he or she can provide, but can give as much as he or she wants. The acceptance of symbolic support, material or financial donations may be refused if the contributions or activities of donors do not align with the association's goals, or if they are identified to serve political or economic exploitation

What does Café Mondial stand for:

Café Mondial aims to bring people from different cultures together and provide them the stage to interact at eye level.

Café Mondial wants people to learn from each other - regardless of origin, biography, motivation and talent. Café Mondial offers an enormous potential for positive societal development. Interpersonal contact is especially helpful in counteracting prejudice against supposedly alien cultures.

Café Mondial aims to create a creative space for art and culture, for creative design, for making music and for dancing together.

Café Mondial wants to create a space for education and information in which the exchange of talents is possible. In collaboration with other groups.

Café Mondial wants to establish a place of contact where competent advice can be exchanged. It will support the answering of questions regarding daily necessities, employment requirements, administrative and bureaucratic realities, asylum procedures, etc. It intends to offer already existing groups venues for consultation and the opportunity to exchange ideas.

Identity and Values of Café Mondial

Café Mondial does not promote a specific religion or worldview; personal characteristics such as age and gender are not determining factors. Whether religious or non-religious, all are welcome. Café Mondial is happy to work with community-engaged groups with religious backgrounds as long as they represent values that are harmonious with the contents of this Charter. Every form of discrimination is unacceptable.

Café Mondial is politically unaffiliated and ideologically free. Café Mondial likes to work with politically inclined people and groups, but does not let itself be instrumentalized for political purposes.

Café Mondial is organized on a democratic basis and depends on the participation of all. That does not mean that everyone has to participate and communicate all of the time. It does provide every individual the opportunity, however, to involve him or herself and to play a part in the decision-making process.

Café Mondial approaches all people on equal footing and represents the principle of equality. Café Mondial does not view people in terms of productive utility. Café Mondial does not concentrate on the weaknesses and mistakes of a person, but instead focuses on the talents and abilities of others. At Café Mondial all participants live and work together, for one another rather than against each other - according to the principle Tadamon Egtema'i (Arabic: live for each other).

Café Mondial is diverse: it represents people from different cultures and all walks of life, with different biographies and of all ages and any gender. All enjoy equal rights and we work together as equals.

Café Mondial is brave: it does not fear contact, it is prepared to try new things. Setbacks are not understood as a failures, but as opportunities to for learning.

Café Mondial is spontaneous and adaptable: it is open and ready for new ideas and change.

Café Mondial is wild and independent: it can not be monopolized, controlled or thwarted by any party, religion, ideology, etc.

Café Mondial is creative and likes to leave the beaten path in order to find new ways.

The task of Café Mondial:

Café Mondial wants to breathe life into the term "welcoming culture", ensure that migration is perceived as an enrichment, and encourage society to recognize the potential of diversity.

Café Mondial is committed to a society in which everyone has the same opportunities to develop and participate.

Café Mondial promotes personal responsibility, active participation and the assumption of social responsibility.

Café Mondial wants to function as a role model that inspires and advises other initiatives while supporting similar projects in other cities.

Café communication, random encounters, feel welcome, arriv

Meeting point assortment of offers, different groups sharing space, room for creative and cultural ideas

Knowledge exchange, advising, training, information, support

