



## 2.6.6 Involvement in juvenile court proceedings

**Adolescents (aged 14 to 17) are deemed criminally responsible and are subject to juvenile criminal law; the same applies to young adults (aged 18 to 20) whose developmental status or crime is deemed juvenile in nature.**

**The duties of the youth courts assistance service or youth assistance in criminal proceedings are outlined in Book 8 of the Social Code (SGB VIII) and in the Youth Courts Act (JGG):**

### **Article 52 of SGB VIII:**

- involvement in criminal proceedings under Sections 38 and 50 III 2 of the JGG,
- provision of assistance and support for the young accused during the proceedings,
- provision of youth services that may eliminate the need for criminal prosecution or lead to the discontinuation of proceedings already begun.

### **Sections 38 and 50 JGG:**

- submission of relevant information in juvenile court proceedings, particularly relating to the young accused's personality and social circumstances,
- participation in and reporting during main proceedings,
- monitoring of compliance with instructions and conditions.