

*Biography:* Arzu Değirmenci was born 1983 in Hamburg. She studies political science and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Hamburg, and recently spent a study abroad semester at the University of Manchester. She has worked on the Junge Vorbilder project since 2005, first as a mentor and then as a project assistant.

*Description:* Junge Vorbilder is a support project for children and young people with a migrant background. The successful transition of students to a school where they are able to gain a better school-leaving certificate is the main aim of this mentoring project. In contrast to many other mentoring projects, our mentors have the same linguistic and cultural background as the mentees, and have often had very similar educational experiences. The mentors are positive role models and successful teachers all in one.