

# : Programme

**sef: Policy Lunch - ONLINE EDITION**

## **The EU and Solidarity in Global Health Cooperation: Lessons from the Covid-19 pandemic**

last updated: 5 May 2021

**18 May 2021, 12.30-13.45 hrs (CEST)**

**via Zoom**

**Conference language:** English

**Supported by**

Minister for Federal, European  
and International Affairs  
of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia



**#sefLunch**

---

## **BACKGROUND AND KEY QUESTIONS**

Since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the concept of solidarity has been on everyone's lips. But while solidarity is held dear in political speeches and debates at all levels of politics, the prevailing impression is that political practice is often different.

In a new sef: GLOBAL GOVERNANCE SPOTLIGHT, the authors emphasise that it is not about a morally charged approach. Rather, a focus on the commonalities, mutual respect and a dialogue at eye level should be the starting points of solidarity-based action.

But what does solidarity mean in concrete terms as a political concept guiding action in the international context? What basis exists for states for a joint commitment to act in solidarity? How can solidarity be operationalised in global health cooperation? Or is the concept of solidarity a misleading approach, for instance by distracting from human rights obligations of states?

At the sef: Policy Lunch, we would like to discuss these questions with a view to the European Union. Based on the experience of international crisis management in the current pandemic and the performance of the EU in recent months, we would like to explore how the EU can contribute to institutionalising real solidarity in global health cooperation.

---

## **ABOUT THE POLICY LUNCH SERIES**

With its Policy Lunch series, the sef: invites you twice a year to discuss the role of the EU in current international processes and debates.

---

**12.25 HRS**

**VIRTUAL “CHECK-IN”**

---

**12.30 HRS**

**WELCOME MESSAGE**

**Hans H. Stein**

Director

Representation of the State of

North Rhine-Westphalia to the EU, Brussels

---

**12.35 HRS**

**INTERVIEW**

**Dr Hanna Kienzler**

Reader in Global Health

King’s College, London

**Professor Barbara Prainsack**

Director of the Centre for the Study of

Contemporary Solidarity (CeSCoS),

University of Vienna

---

**12.50 HRS**

**COMMENTS**

**Dr John H. Amuasi**

Executive Director

African Research Network for Neglected Tropical

Diseases (ARNTD), Kumasi

**Dr Jan Paehler**

Deputy Head of Unit, Social Inclusion and

Protection, Health and Demography

Directorate-General for International

Partnerships, European Commission, Brussels

---

**13.05 HRS**

**OPEN DEBATE**

Chair

**Frank R. Hofmann**

Senior Correspondent, Analysis and Reports

Deutsche Welle, Berlin

---

**13.45 HRS**

**END OF EVENT**