

Dear Reader,

At the end of the year, it's time to look ahead: In 2018, sef: will start a new, high-level conference series, the Dresden Forum for International Politics. The series aims at adding to the knowledge of current global processes and at raising awareness for diverse standpoints. The first **Dresden Forum for International Politics 2018** seeks to map out practical strategies in response to the critical challenges democracies face worldwide, thereby strengthening their contribution to sustaining peace.

We are looking forward to this new format and wish you nice and relaxing holidays!

Sarah Hinz, Institute for Development and Peace (INEF)
Rebekka Hannes, Development and Peace Foundation (sef:)

UPCOMING EVENTS



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“Sustaining Peace“. Current challenges for democracy

**Dresden Forum for International Politics
8th/9th February in Dresden**

The United Nations is currently in the process of reviewing its conflict resolution strategy. The focus is on processes and structures, which facilitate and foster the prevention and peaceful management of conflicts in the long term (“sustaining peace”). Against the background of current challenges, the **Dresden Forum for International Politics 2018** will explore practical approaches to peaceful and democratic conflict resolution from the international to the local level. Participation is possible by personal invitation only. If you wish to participate, please write an email to neubauer@sef-bonn.org.



• "Peace must grow from within – but how?"

Public Evening Event

8th February 2018 in the Frauenkirche Dresden

How can societies live in peace for good? It is clear that peace must grow from within. But what does this mean in view of the global rise of nationalist and populist movements that not only demand a more isolationist approach externally but also target anyone they regard as “other” at home? The UN Special Envoy for Syria, the Former Mayor of Bethlehem and a young peace activist from Libya will discuss this question with other experts at a **Public Evening Event** in the context of the **Dresden Forum for International Politics**. **Register now!**

PAST EVENTS



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• Local partnerships to implement Agenda 2030 worldwide

Bonn Symposium 2017

On 5th and 6th December 2017, sef: hosted, together with the Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) of Engagement Global gGmbH, the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia and other supporters, its annual Bonn Symposium. More than 120 experts discussed good examples of partnerships within and between municipalities worldwide. You will find all speakers’ presentations [here](#). A conference report will be published soon.



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• Possible UN-Treaty on Business and Human Rights

sef: Policy Lunch

At the end of October, the third negotiations on a UN-Treaty on Business and Human Rights took place in Geneva. Goal of the negotiations is a legally binding instrument for states and businesses. With a sef: Policy Lunch on 20 November, sef: and CIDSE informed the Brussels community on the outcome of the negotiations and discussed the positions of the European institutions. Our short [conference report](#) provides an overview thereof.

PUBLICATIONS



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• "Local partnerships are key!"

Video Interview with Mariam Yunusa

Mariam Yunusa, former Director of the World Urban Forum, spoke with sef: in a [video interview](#) about the role of local partnerships for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She outlines how she lobbied for a common position among African Heads of State for the Habitat III conference and draws a picture of a truly sustainable city. The interview will also be published as an edition of sef: insight.



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• "Energy is fundamentally political"

Video Interview with Tasneem Essop

Tasneem Essop has recently founded the Energy Democracy Initiative South Africa. The initiative aims at establishing community-owned renewable energy systems. In the [video interview](#), Essop explains the approach of the project, maps out the planned project phases and talks about possible obstacles by regulatory institutions. The interview will also be published as an edition of sef: insight.

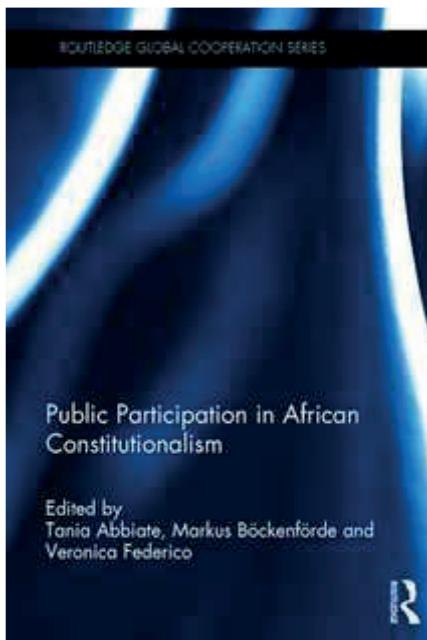


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• "We need to make the SDGs more accessible"

Video Interview with Abdihakim Ainte

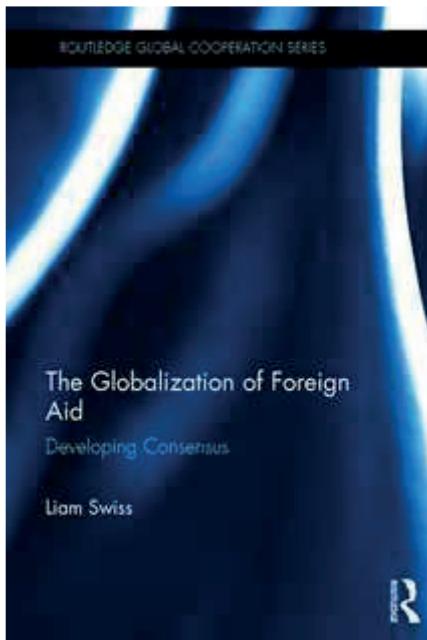
Abdihakim Ainte is the Founder of iRise Hub, a technology and innovation hub based in Mogadishu, Somalia. In the [video interview](#) he explains how his organisation contributes to translating and implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Somalia and what is necessary for local communities to feel a sense of ownership towards the SDGs. The interview will also be published as an edition of sef: insight.



• Public Participation in African Constitutionalism

Routledge Global Cooperation Series

The **book** by Tania Abbiate, Markus Böckenförde, and Veronica Federico (eds.) looks at what aspects are part of the participatory constitution making – from conception to processes and specific topics. The authors investigate, which topics trigger ambivalent dynamics in such processes. They look at various aspects of participatory constitution making by using case studies from Central African Republic, Egypt, Kenya, Libya, Malawi, Morocco, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



• The Globalization of Foreign Aid

Routledge Global Cooperation Series

Liam Swiss argues in his latest **book** that the homogenization of aid policies reflects the globalization processes in the aid sector. Using a mixed-methods approach, the author explores how global influences on aid agencies in Canada, Sweden, and the United States are translated through micro-level processes. He illustrates this with two comparative case studies, which look at the adoption of common policy priorities in the fields of gender and security.

INSIDE SEF:/INEF



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• **sef: in dialogue with Members of Parliament in North Rhine-Westphalia**

First Parliamentary Breakfast

On 20 December 2017, sef: welcomed nearly 20 Members of the Parliament of North Rhine-Westphalia to a **Parliamentary Breakfast**. The Chairperson of the Executive Committee, Renate Hendricks, provided an overview of the history of sef: and its current projects. The subsequent discussion focussed on possible links to the one world and sustainability policy of the federal state.

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The Development and Peace Foundation (sef:) was founded in 1986 on the initiative of Willy Brandt. It is a cross-party and non-profitmaking organisation. sef: provides an international high-level forum for shared thinking on the complex challenges of globalisation. It is linked to the Institute for Development and Peace (INEF) by a cooperation agreement. The aim of INEF's application-oriented research is to build bridges between theory and practice. It is one of three host institutions of the Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research.