

Dear Reader,

During the last couple of weeks, we have witnessed heated debates throughout Europe on the UN Migration Compact. In contrast, far less attention has been devoted to the UN Compact on Refugees, an agreement that was formally adopted by the UN General Assembly just this week, on December 17th 2018. Among the primary goals of the Refugee Compact is greater support of millions of refugees and their hosting countries in the Global South. It goes without saying that Europe has a special responsibility in this regard.

What does this European responsibility entail? This was the central question of our debate with representatives from the EU Commission, the UNHCR and academics at our [sef: Policy Lunch](#) in Brussels on November 22nd. Please find below a [conference report](#) of this event. As always, this newsletter will also keep you informed about our other ongoing activities.

We wish you nice and relaxing holidays and all the best for 2019! Hope to see you again!

Sarah Hinz,

Institute for Development and Peace (INEF)

Dr Mischa Hansel,

Development and Peace Foundation (sef:)

UPCOMING EVENTS



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: Participation or Polarisation? Social Media and Societal Peace

**Dresden Forum for International Politics 2019
19-20 March 2019 Dresden**

What does it mean for peace within and between societies if a single tweet can trigger a local, national or even international crisis, which then erupts into real-world violence? Which opportunities do social media offer to promote peace and democratic processes? These and other questions will be explored at the [Dresden Forum for International Politics](#). A public evening event at the Dresden Frauenkirche on 19 March 2019 will discuss the impact of social media on elections.

PAST EVENTS



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: Sharing Responsibility: The UN Global Compact on Refugees and its implications for Europe

sef: Policy Lunch

22. November 2018 Brussels

The UN Refugee Compact, adopted on December 17th by the United Nations General Assembly, aims at strengthening international cooperation in the interest of millions of refugees and their hosting countries. Do Europe's current asylum and border control policies contradict the intention of the Refugee Compact? What needs to be changed if Europe wants to support the implementation of UN goals? These were some of the questions raised during our **sef: Policy Lunch** in November in Brussels with practitioners and academic experts. Read our **short conference report** now.

PUBLICATIONS



: "It's not a project, it's a way of life"

sef: insight 12|2018

In this interview at this year's **Bonn Symposium**, Colisile Tfwala (Municipal Council of Mbabane, Swaziland) talks about the requirements for cooperating with businesses for local economic development purposes. How can local municipalities adapt their planning processes in order to gain the support of business and civil society stakeholders? How important is the right kind of communication and leadership style? What has been the impact of the SDGs on local economic development?

The interview with Colisile Tfwala has been published as **sef: insight 12|2018**. You can also watch it via our **YouTube Channel**.

: "We are the voice of young people in urban sustainability"

sef: insight 11|2018

During the 2018 **Bonn Symposium**, sef: talked with Nick Ngatia about young people and their contributions to urban sustainable development. Nick is the Founder of Nairobi Urban Creators, a network of youth organisations based in Kenya's capital. What are his organizations main goals and how does it support young people in their efforts to realize sustainable urban development? How important are social media for the organisation's daily work? And what is special about the perspectives and aspirations of young people when it comes to sustainable solutions in an urban context?

Read the interview in our new **sef: insight 11|2018** or watch it online via our **YouTube Channel**.



: "We have to create demand for better governments"

sef: insight 10|2018

At the **Bonn Symposium 2018**, we met with Namhla Mniki-Mangaliso who is Executive Director of the African Monitor to talk about ways of mobilizing the potential of civil society in Africa. How important are the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs as guidelines for her work with different civil society organizations? What are the challenges of working with civil society organisations in places with poor human rights records? What are lessons that Western governments and civil society could draw from the African context?

The interview is available both as **sef: insight 10|2018** and as video on our **YouTube Channel**.





: "A sustainable city needs sustainable institutions"

sef: insight 9|2018

In this interview with sef: at the **Bonn Symposium 2018**, Ahmed AbuLaban, the City Director of Ramallah, talks about the challenges of his daily efforts at implementing the SDGs in a local context. He puts special emphasis on the importance of stable and resilient institutions and tells the story of how Ramallah has become a model of local sustainability in the whole region. Read his story in our **sef: insight 9|2018** and watch the video of the interview on our **YouTube Channel**.

SEF:/INEF INSIDE



: Meeting of the sef: Board of Trustees

On 6th November, the annual meeting of the sef: Board of Trustees took place. Headed by the Minister-President of the State of North-Rhine Westphalia Armin Laschet and the Minister for the Environment, Agriculture, Conservation and Consumer Protection Ursula Heinen-Esser, the trustees adopted the programme as well as the financial planning for the year 2019. Preceding the meeting, they discussed the impact of digitalization on domestic peace with Ulrich Kelber, member of the German Bundestag and designated Federal Privacy Commissioner.



: New member of the sef: Executive Committee

On November 6th 2018, the sef: Board of Trustees appointed Dr. Julia Leiningner as new member of the sef: Executive Committee. Dr. Leiningner is the head of the research program „Transformation of political (dis-)order: Institutions, Values & Peace” at the German Development Institute” (DIE) in Bonn.



: Dr Marianne Beisheim appointed as new Chair of the sef: Advisory Board

Also during its meeting on November 6th 2018, the sef: Board of Trustees decided on the members of the incoming Advisory Board in 2019. They appointed Dr Marianne Beisheim of the German Institute of International and Security Affairs as Chair of the Advisory Board.

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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 Käthe Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research.