Dear Reader,

The elections to the European Parliament are only weeks away. There is growing concern about concerted disinformation efforts within and through social media. How do such information operations work? How can democratic societies protect themselves? What can we learn from societal initiatives against fake news and hate speech on the internet?

These were the guiding questions of this year’s Dresden Forum for International Politics. The public evening event of the Forum at the Frauenkirche Dresden included a keynote by Laura Chinchilla, Chair of the Kofi Annan Commission on Elections and Democracy in the Digital Age. Those interested in the international governance of social media should also take a look into the most recent sef: Global Governance Spotlight by Matthias C. Kettemann.

As always, this newsletter will provide information on other projects and topics as well. We wish you an interesting read!

Sarah Hinz, Institute for Development and Peace (INEF)  
Dr. Mischa Hansel, Development and Peace Foundation (sef:)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regional peacebuilding in Africa

Potsdam Spring Dialogues  
16/17 May, Potsdam

The Potsdam Spring Dialogues 2019 will focus on ways to strengthen the capacity and political autonomy of the African Peace and Security Architecture. This is against the background of new international partners such as China as well as new intra-African challenges, for example the advent of sub-regional ad-hoc-coalitions in the Sahel. Take a look into the conference programme!

Participation is only possible by invitation. If you are interested, please write to Mischa Hansel (hansel@sef-bonn.org).
**Visions of World Order in Pan-Africanism**

*31st Käte Hamburger Lecture*

*16 April 2019*

Does Pan-Africanism contain resources for the defence, reinvigoration and reinvention of a more just, equal and rule-bound multilateral world order? Or does its nativist reflex and defence of difference carry particular risks in a context where strikingly similar viewpoints are promoted by New Right movements? In the 31st Käte Hamburger Lecture, Rita Abrahamsen, Professor of Public and International Affairs at the University of Ottawa, makes a case for taking Pan-Africanism seriously within IR debates about world order. Please find more information about this event [here](#).

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**PAST EVENTS**

**Elections and social media**

*Public evening event*

*19 March 2019, Frauenkirche Dresden*

In the run-up to European and state-level elections, Laura Chinchilla, former President of Costa Rica and Chair of the Kofi Annan Commission on Elections and Democracy in the Digital Age, had a discussion on social media with Renate Nikolay, Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Vera Jourová, and Nanjala Nyabola, Nairobi-based writer and political analyst. This public evening event was part of the second [Dresden Forum for International Politics](#).

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**Governing the future of work. The ILO Report**

*sef: Policy Lunch*

*26 February 2019, Brussels*

The ILO Global Commission on the Future of Work published its final report on 22 January 2019. While presenting trends and solutions for a broad range of issues from skills mismatch to informality, the report also discusses elements of future regional and global governance. The sef: Policy Lunch invited representatives from the European Commission and civil society to debate implications of the report from a European perspective. Read our [conference report](#) now!
The mobility of people can engender positive effects for global economic development. Yet, migration has not been backed by an internationally-endorsed governance architecture as was the case with the liberalisation of international trade. The challenge lies in advancing the development promise of international migration and reconciling it with the integrity of national sovereignty without compromising human rights. In GLOBAL TRENDS. ANALYSIS 01|2019, Stuart Rosewarne and Nicola Piper argue for a broader focus on migration and a rights-based approach in migration governance.

Various initiatives at the European and global level seek to curb the distribution of false and defamatory information via social media. In the most recent Global Governance Spotlight, Matthias C. Kettemann looks at the strengths and weaknesses of these initiatives from an international law perspective. In his conclusion, he proposes five guidelines for combating disinformation without compromising on human rights.