Dear Reader,

„Forward into the past?“ reads the title of the Peace Report 2019 that has just been published by four German peace and conflict research institutes, among them INEF. After pinpointing to the many weaknesses and blind spots of German and European peace and security policies, the report envisages new partnerships as a way of protecting existing rules and creating new governance mechanisms in the interest of peace worldwide.

The role of international partnerships in peacebuilding on the African continent was one of the topics of the Potsdam Spring Dialogues 2019 on May 16th and 17th. More specifically, the event centred on African ownership as a guiding concept for both regional and international cooperation in this policy area.

Find out more about this and other current projects in this newsletter!

Dr Cornelia Ulbert, Institute for Development and Peace (INEF)
Dr Mischa Hansel, Development and Peace Foundation (sef:)

PAST EVENTS

Shadow-Elites and the role of global investigative journalism

Tête-à-Tête at the DW Global Media Forum
28 May, Bonn

„Panama Papers“, „Lux Leaks“, „Offshore-Leaks“ – these transnational investigations have made headlines in recent years. What is far from clear, however, is their impact on public discourses and politics. To discuss the potential of global investigative journalism as a tool for increasing democratic control, sef: organized a tête-à-tête between political scientist Professor Janine Wedel, George Mason University, and Ilya Lozovsky, Managing Editor of the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project. Read the short report now!

There is also a video recording of the complete session available.
Regional peacebuilding in Africa

Potsdam Spring Dialogues
16-17 May, Potsdam

This year’s Potsdam Spring Dialogues 2019 focussed 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 emergence of sub-regional ad-hoc coalitions in the Sahel. Take a look into the conference report that summarizes main arguments and policy recommendations!

PUBLICATIONS

Forward into the past? Peace needs partners

Peace Report 2019

Achievements of multilateral cooperation that helped to globally secure peaceful coexistence are being jettisoned bit by bit in recent years. To prevent further divisions and the weakening of established cooperative procedures, German foreign policy must be proactive in identifying new partners and developing new forms of cooperation in key areas of peace and security policy. In a joint Statement on their Peace Report 2019, four German peace and conflict research institutes provide a number of recommendations on how to move forward.

"We always regard development as our highest priority"

At the Potsdam Spring Dialogues 2019, sef: talked with Professor Zhang Chun from Yunnan University in Kunming about the goals and motives behind China’s growing security cooperation with African partners.

There is also a video available.
"Institutional frameworks are often lagging behind the reality on the ground"

sef: insight 5|2019

Also on the occasion of the Potsdam Spring Dialogues 2019, sef: talked with Dr Lori-Anne Théroux-Bénoni, Director of the regional office of the Institute of Security Studies in Dakar, about the crisis in Sahel and regional responses of G5 Sahel and other actors.

There is also a video available.

"It’s about common destiny and shared responsibility"

sef: insight 4|2019

At the Potsdam Spring Dialogues 2019, sef: talked with Michelle Ndiaye, Director of the Africa Peace and Security Programme (APSP) at Addis Ababa University, about changing regional security threats and the need for shared responsibilities between regional and global actors.

There is also a video available.

"There is a need for well agreed coordination mechanisms"

sef: insight 3|2019

In the run-up to the Potsdam Spring Dialogues 2019, we interviewed Dr Cyriaque P. Agnekethom, Director of Peacekeeping and Regional Security of the ECOWAS Commission, on the challenge of coordinating a regional response to the crisis in Sahel.
There is a need for well agreed coordination mechanisms.

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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.