Dear Reader,

To “maintain international peace and security” and to "develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples" – this was the main objective when the United Nations was established almost 75 years ago. Where does the organisation stand today, in the run-up to the opening of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly – and how must it reinvent itself to (again) become "a centre for harmonising the actions of nations"? These questions will accompany us in the coming months, beginning with an Expert Workshop in early September.

Read more about this and our other projects and publications in our sef/INEF News.

We wish you an interesting read!

Elena Sondermann, Institute for Development and Peace (INEF)  
Dr Michèle Roth, Development and Peace Foundation (sef:)

UPCOMING EVENTS

: The Essential World Organisation: Reinvigorating the UN at 75

International Expert Workshop
3/4 September in Duisburg

In 2020, the United Nations will celebrate its 75th anniversary. In light of the current transition to a new world order, sef: and INEF have invited international experts to a Workshop to discuss the effects on the UN. What role will the organisation have in the future? What new strategies and alliances could help the UN to live up to its Charter requirements?

Participation by personal invitation only.
Reconstruction in the MENA-Region and the role of external actors

Berlin Summer Dialogue
18/19 June in Berlin

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region has been convulsed by multiple wars and armed conflicts for decades. The damage and economic cost are huge; the human suffering and the social consequences for the affected societies cannot be quantified. Against this background, the Berlin Summer Dialogue asked how reconstruction measures in the MENA region must be designed in order to develop a long-term peacebuilding effect. A summary of the debates has now been published.


Global Governance Spotlight 3|2019

Nearly 75 years after the founding of the United Nations to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, the world is in a precarious state. Against this background, Tim Murithi calls for a fundamental review of the UN Charter in 2020. In the Global Governance Spotlight 3|2019, he recommends to transform the UN system in a manner that will make it more democratic, inclusive and effective in its decision-making.

"Investing in human capital is very important for reconstruction efforts"

sef: insight 8|2019

At the Berlin Summer Dialogue 2019, sef: talked to Rasha Jarhum, founder of the Peace Track Initiative, about Yemen’s experience with regard to reconstruction and what is needed beyond infrastructure.

The interview is available as sef: insight and as video (YouTube).
 "We need to get away from neoliberal policies in reconstruction"

sef: insight 7|2019

On the occasion of the Berlin Summer Dialogue 2019, Aseel Sawalha, anthropologist at Fordham University, talked about reconstruction in Beirut and the need to include local citizens in the planning processes.

Read the interview as sef: insight or watch the video on our YouTube channel.

Protection and sustainable management of natural resources in Ethiopia

AVE Good-Practice Series 14B

In 176 rural districts, Ethiopia is implementing the Sustainable Land Management Programme (SLMP) which is supported by several external donors. Its objective is to improve the living conditions of the local people by enabling them to protect and manage their natural resources in a sustainable way. Registration of land and the granting of land titles to farmers are important initiatives that support these objectives. For the BMZ funded project “Ways out of extreme poverty, vulnerability and food insecurity”, INEF researcher Karin Gaesing discusses implications for the living conditions of the people in the project area in the study Good-Practice 14b.

Transparency politics and the implementation of human rights in global production networks

Article in international volume

While the critical role of transparency norms are undisputed in the context of business and human rights, the underlying politics of information and knowledge generation are power-laden and contested on every level of global production networks. In a contribution to an international edited volume, INEF researcher Christian Schepfer and Sabrina Zajak (Ruhr University Bochum) discuss the question how to navigate transparency politics in a way that enables public regulators and rights-holders to better shape and control them.
Furthering interlinkages between different Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the Working Group on Peace and Development (FriEnt) and its partners have compiled a dossier on “Land and Conflict prevention”. INEF researchers Karin Gaesing and Jana Herold contributed the article “Peacebuilding starts at home – Gender-just access to land for escaping hunger and for peaceful and inclusive societies”, which is based on the results of the BMZ funded project “Ways out of extreme poverty, vulnerability and food insecurity”.

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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.