Dear Reader,

Some readings pose almost timeless questions. The February 1980 report of the Brandt Commission, led by former German Chancellor Willy Brandt, seems to belong to this category. 40 years after the publication of the report, sef: is keen to encourage reflection on some of its major findings – considering the global challenges of our times such as climate change, digitalisation and inequality.

Under #Brandt40, we will be publishing 40 excerpts from the Brandt Report throughout the year. You can find them on this webpage and on Twitter, Instagram or LinkedIn. Join in our debate and let us know your thoughts on today’s relevance of the report!

More about this and other projects and about recent publications can be found in our sef/INEF News.

We wish you an interesting read!

Elena Sondermann, Institute for Development and Peace (INEF)  
Dr Mischa Hansel, Development and Peace Foundation (sef:)

UPCOMING EVENTS

: The UN at 75: Europe’s vision for the world organisation

Policy Lunch  
3 March 2020 in Brussels

In 2020, the United Nations is celebrating its 75th anniversary. At a time when multilateralism is retreating in the face of resurgent nationalism in international relations, Europe’s continued support for the UN seems to be more crucial than ever. At the same time, the EU finds itself in a state of fragmentation, and its ability to act is questioned in practice.

At the Policy Lunch entitled “The UN at 75 – Europe’s vision for the world organisation”, we will join the current conversation initiated by the UN on “the future we want” and discuss European vision(s) for a multilateral system of the future and the UN’s role in these visions.

Please register for this event at our website!
Building Sustainability into African Free Trade

Potsdam Spring Dialogues
26-27 March 2020 in Potsdam

The agreement establishing the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) entered into force on 30 May 2019. By reducing tariffs and other barriers, signatory states seek to boost intracontinental trade and to overcome the continent’s marginalisation in the world economy. At the same time, they need to find common ground between strong and weak economies and to prevent social conflicts within countries.

How can a Pan-African free trade regime support sustainable development on the continent? What can international partners contribute to this endeavour? These are the guiding questions of this year’s Potsdam Spring Dialogues.

Participation by personal invitation only. If interested, please send an email to hansel@sef-bonn.org.

„AfCFTA has the ability to unite the continent”

sef: insight 1|2020

In this sef: insight, Maria Auma, socially-conscious female entrepreneur and founder of BLI Global, explains the benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) for businesses and young innovators on the African continent.


**: „It is about building community”**

**sef: insight 11|2019**

At the Bonn Symposium 2019, Mariana Alegre presented her initiative Ocupa tu Calle. In this sef: insight we asked her to explain the idea behind urban micro-interventions in Lima and other places and how they are used to regain public spaces for everyone.

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


**: „There is a need to amend tender procedures”**

**sef: insight 10|2019**

Ntomboxolo Cynthia Ngesha is Senior Director of Supply Chain Management at the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality in South Africa. At the occasion of the Bonn Symposium 2019 we had the chance to ask her about public procurement as key instrument for realising the SDGs at the local level.

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


**: „This is fundamentally an issue of procedural justice”**

**sef: insight 9|2019**

How can indigenous communities or small farmers have a voice in regional and international climate governance? What is required for achieving climate justice? Answers can be found in our interview with Mithika J. Mwenda, Executive Director of the Panafrican Climate Justice Alliance at the Bonn Symposium 2019.

Read the interview as sef: insight or watch the video on our YouTube channel.
:: Strengthening climate and disaster resilience

**Good-Practice-Series 19**

The Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) programme aims at improving the resilience of vulnerable people in Burkina Faso against climate extremes and disaster. In the context of “Ways out of Extreme Poverty, Vulnerability and Food Insecurity” (AVE), a project funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), INEF researcher Jana Herold shows in her *Good Practice 19* study that the programme has had positive impact, not only on the economic situation and food security of the beneficiaries but also on the social cohesion in the villages.

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:: #Brandt40

**North-South: A Programme for Survival – the Brandt Report at 40**

On 12 February 1980, Willy Brandt formally presented the report of the Independent Commission on International Development Issues (Brandt Commission) to the UN Secretary-General. It sees development and peace as truly interrelated and defines poverty and hunger, the depletion of natural resources and the proliferation of weapons as major challenges that require common solutions.

How relevant is the Brandt Report today? Which unsolved challenges identified by the Brandt Commission do we still face in 2020? Where has positive change been achieved? With the #Brandt40 hashtag, the Development and Peace Foundation (sef:) will publish 40 excerpts from the Brandt Report throughout the year. You can find them on this [webpage](#) or on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

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:: New sef: Executive Committee

**Meeting of the sef: Board of Trustees in Dusseldorf**

At its session in Dusseldorf on January 21st, the sef: [Board of Trustees](#) appointed Oliver Krauss, member of the Parliament of North-Rhine Westphalia, as chair of the new *sef: Executive Committee*. Viola Klein, Executive Director of Saxonia Systems Holding GmbH, was elected as new Vice-Chair together with Dr Gerd Harms. They are joined by Klaus Brückner (treasurer), Dr. Julia Leiniger and Dr Cornelia Ulbert (Executive Director of INEF).
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We congratulate the new Chair and sef: Executive Committee Members and we are very much looking forward to working together in the coming years!

Also, we say thank you to the outgoing Chair Renate Hendricks and Executive Committee members Professor Helmut Breitmeier and Professor Tobias Debiel for their tireless efforts and always very constructive discussions!