Dear Reader,

Last week saw the change of power in the White House, which many had been waiting for. The arrival of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris is associated with high hopes. But the tasks ahead – both domestic and international – are of enormous scope.

In Europe, too, there are hopes for a new start in transatlantic relations. At the same time, the European Union should ask itself how it can seize the opportunity to make international relations more constructive again. How can they find solutions to long-standing conflicts and avoid new ones?

These questions will be discussed by Federica Mogherini, Professor Nicole Deitelhoff and John C. Kornblum on 28 January at the first FORUM Frauenkirche online. Register today to participate via Zoom (final day)!

You will also find new publications and results from our latest conferences in this newsletter from sef: and INEF.

We wish you a good read - and hope you get through these challenging times well!

Best wishes,

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

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Europe's role after the change in the White House. New chances for a global peace policy?**

**FORUM Frauenkirche online**

**28 January 2021, 18.50 hrs (CET)**

On 28 January 2021, Federica Mogherini, former EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Professor Nicole Deitelhoff (PRIF) and former US ambassador John C. Kornblum will discuss new opportunities created internationally by the inauguration of President Biden. The event is being held for the first time in cooperation between the sef:, the Stiftung Frauenkirche Dresden and the Saxonian State Agency for Political Education. Today’s the final day to register.
Building Sustainability into African Free Trade

Potsdam Winter Dialogues 2020
14-15 December, online

On 1 January 2021, member states started trading under the rules of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement. At the Potsdam Winter Dialogues 2020 Online, we discussed the opportunities and challenges at the heart of the continent’s economic integration with a wide range of African and European experts. How can the free trade area contribute to economic recovery and create as many jobs as possible? How can small economies or workers in the informal sector also benefit?

On our website we will publish short videoclips of talks and panels over the coming days. A conference report will also follow soon.

Reducing Social Inequality – Strategies at Local Level

Bonn Symposium
5-6 November 2020, online

All over the globe, the coronavirus pandemic reveals and aggravates problems of social inequality. At the same time, many local communities and city governments take innovative and extraordinary steps to strengthen social cohesion. How can we build on such initiatives to make our communities integrative and fair on a larger scale? What is our vision of social justice and equality at the local level in 2030? On November 5th and 6th 2020, we virtually met with more than a hundred local policymakers, scientists and activists at the Bonn Symposium 2020 to tackle these questions and to identify workable solutions.

On our website you will find video recordings of short inputs and lectures. A short conference report will be available soon!
An update for the internet

Global Governance Spotlight 4|2020

Matthias C. Kettlemann and Alexandra Paulus describe the opportunities that the year 2021 can bring for an "update of the internet". The challenges for the international community in digital terms have increased rapidly in recent years. Improved international cooperation and the implementation of already formulated cyber norms could fundamentally reform global digital policy. In this Spotlight, the two authors explain which steps are necessary to achieve this.

Does electoral inclusion contain jihadist radicalization?

Contribution to INEF’s Development and Peace Blog

INEF researcher Jannis Saalfeld and Christof Hartmann provide a first insight into the complex relationship between Salafism and secular party politics in Africa. These are based on findings in the context INEF’s research project "Party Competition and Collective Jihadist Radicalization in sub-Saharan Africa", which is funded by the German Foundation for Peace Research.

The Struggle for Legitimacy in Business and Human Rights Regulation

Article on international negotiation processes

Human rights have become an important concern to govern the global economy based of international standards. At present two complementing, but also competing approaches shape the discourse: On the one hand the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights of 2011 and on the other negotiations for an international treaty on the same topic. In her new article INEF Senior Associate Fellow Brigitte Hamm compares the processes leading to these two instruments.
Private Military Companies and African Security Governance

Contribution to INEF’s Development and Peace Blog

The article discusses the effects of the re-establishment of “Executive Outcomes”, the infamous first private military company from South Africa. Against the background of declining Western interventionism and Russian efforts to gain a (military) foothold on the continent, author Markus Bayer asks whether the revival of a well-known actor will change the African security arrangements.

Challenges for global climate cooperation

New edition of "Global Cooperation Research - A Quarterly Magazine"

Articles in the new themed issue of the Käte Hamburger Kolleg (KHK)/ Center for Global Cooperation Research deal with different aspects of global cooperation in the field of climate policy. They critically ask to what extent international goals can still be achieved, question ideas of blockchain-based climate cooperation, explore the potential of natural rights as a legal tool for environmental protection and investigate a case of an involuntary relocation of a PPP project for sustainability in Vietnam.

Surveillance under dispute

Article conceptualizes political controversies

Surveillance is a controversial sociopolitical issue. The "Snowden Affair" exposed the uncertainties and moral ambiguities. In a contribution to the European Journal of International Security, Frank Gadinger, Researcher at the Center for Global Cooperation Research/ Käte Hamburger Kolleg (KHK), Christopher Smith Ochoa and Taylan Yildiz develop a conceptual framework based on the term “narrative politics of legitimation”, and investigate the Snowden controversy in the US and Germany.
New Deputy Chairperson of the Executive Committee

We are pleased to welcome Mr Martin Gorholt, former State Secretary, as the new Deputy Chairman of the sef: Executive Committee. He succeeds Dr Gerd Harms, who had been a member of the Executive Committee since 2006. We thank Dr Harms very much for almost 15 years of commitment.

sef: Long-term planning 2021-2025

sef:’s Board of Trustees approved the new long-term planning 2021-2025 in its first-ever online meeting on 25 January 2021. Three programme areas will provide the framework for the work of the sef: in the future:

A. Global Governance: Policy options in a multipolar world

B. Sustainable Development: Towards systemic change with the 2030 Agenda

C. Crises and Conflicts: New challenges at state and societal levels

Questions of solidarity and justice between and within societies as well as the need for a transformation of our economic system and way of life will run through all programme areas. Likewise, the opportunities and risks of advancing digitalisation will be considered in all projects.