Dear Reader,

10 years after the Arab Spring, we still see – maybe even more than ever? – protests against regimes that sometimes openly, sometimes covertly oppress their own people. One of the most recent events making headlines is the situation in Belarus. What are common root causes of anti-government protests? What role do non-violent strategies play in the success of protest movements, and what are the possibilities of digital networking? And how can international actors position themselves in response to national protest movements and help prevent violence and human rights violations?

We would like to discuss these questions with you and our international experts at this year’s Berlin Summer Dialogue. Would you like to join the discussion? We look forward to your registration.

In this newsletter, you will find many more interesting events and publications, as well as reports from past events. As always, we hope you enjoy reading!

Best regards,

Elena Sondermann, Institute for Development and Peace (INEF)  Ingo Nordmann, Development and Peace Foundation (sef:)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Protesting for Political Reforms

Berlin Summer Dialogue - Online Edition 2021
1 June, 8 June, 15 June and 17 June, each 15:00 to 16:30 hrs (CEST)

How do protest movements for political change emerge? What role does digital networking play in this? And what strategies are needed to prevent violence - especially in fragile situations? In a series of online events, the Berlin Summer Dialogue will focus on these questions. Further information on the programme and registration can be found here.
Cities and protest movements. Offering space for protest – and dialogue?

Evening event of the Berlin Summer Dialogue – Online Edition 2021
17 June, 18:00 to 19:30 hrs (CEST)

Cities play an important role in the emergence of protests. Not only do conflicts arise more quickly in densely populated urban spaces. Cities also offer the possibility to assemble. How can cities contribute to becoming not only a place of protest, but also a place for dialogue – and thus enable change at the local level? In cooperation with the Land Berlin, we invite you to join this dialogue. The event will be interpreted (German/English). Register here!

How to strengthen legitimacy in a pluralistic world order?

43rd Käte Hamburger Lecture
1 June, 11:30 hrs (CEST), online

As part of the lecture series of the Käte Hamburger Kolleg (KHK) / Centre for Global Cooperation Research, Terry Macdonald, Senior Lecturer in International Relations at the University of Melbourne, discusses “Creating Legitimacy in a Pluralist World Order: The New Political Arts of Global Cooperation”. She argues that stronger legitimacy can be built in global governance institutions by recognising “creative” dimensions of political action. Please register here for participation.
Innovation by disruption? How COVID-19 is changing diplomacy

Session at the Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum
14 June 2021, 13:45 to 14:15 hrs, online

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on international diplomacy is considerable. Most international negotiation processes had to be halted, and the hope that they could be resumed quickly in the usual format proved to be false. Instead, innovative ways are needed to maintain diplomatic exchange.

But is it possible at all to successfully conduct diplomatic negotiations virtually? What are the consequences of “Zoom diplomacy” for inclusivity and transparency? And will the current experiences permanently change international diplomacy? We will discuss these questions with the authors of our recent Global Governance Spotlight, Jovan Kurbalija and Katharina Hoene, at the session at the Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum. Register now!

Worldwide standard setting between expert consensus and intergovernmental regulation

44th Käte Hamburger Lecture
14 June, 18:00 hrs (CEST), online

In this KHK lecture, Craig N. Murphy, Professor at Wellesley College, and JoAnne Yates, Sloan Distinguished Professor at the MIT Sloan School of Management, trace the development of a system of standards and show a process that has far-reaching influence on everyday life. Using archival material from three continents, interviews and direct observation of the latest web-related standard-setting, Yates and Murphy describe ideals, conflicts and the struggle to establish rules.

Please register here.
Making Digitalisation Work for Peaceful Development

Potsdam Spring Dialogues 2021 – video summary available

At this year’s Potsdam Spring Dialogues, activists, academics and political representatives from Africa and Europe discussed the impact of digitalisation on peaceful development in Africa. The contribution of ´Gbenga Sesan, Director of the Paradigm Initiative in Nigeria, was particularly impressive, as he wrapped up the most important results of the three-day conference in a quick summary. Watch the video now.

A conference report and further video clips are in the making and will soon be published on our website.

The EU and Solidarity in Global Health Cooperation

sef: Policy Lunch – video recording and report available

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been much talk of solidarity. But while the idea of solidarity has featured prominently in speeches and debates at all levels of politics, the situation seems rather different in practice. What constitutes genuine solidarity in global health cooperation? This was discussed by the authors of our latest sef: Global Governance Spotlight, Hanna Kienzler and Barbara Prainsack, together with John Amuasi, a leading public health researcher from Ghana, and Jan Paehler from the European Commission. If you missed this highly topical debate, you can now find the main part of the event as a video recording on our website. A report on the entire event is also available.
Digitalisation Necessitates a Paradigm Shift in Peacebuilding

“Peacebuilding in a Digital Age”

Having released a new INEF Report on “Digital Technologies, Peacebuilding and Civil Society”, INEF and the German Platform on Peaceful Conflict Management jointly hosted a web event that focussed on how civil society actors can use and actively shape the development of digital tools in peacebuilding. What repercussions do these tools have on the character of conflicts and their dynamics? How can digitalisation contribute to empowering communities? The author, Julia Hofstetter, presented her key insights. Together with three renowned commentators she argued for a paradigm shift in peacebuilding.

A short report of this event is available on our website.

Russia and the European Union in International Politics

FORUM Frauenkirche Online – recording available

Last week, Rüdiger von Fritsch, Irina Kobrinskaya and Angela Stent had a lively discussion on EU-Russian relations at the second edition of the Frauenkirche Forum Online. The event was organised in cooperation between the sef:, the Frauenkirche Dresden Foundation and the Saxon State Agency for Civic Education (SLpB). You can now watch the debate in the original audio (German and English).

PUBLICATIONS

Past, present and future of weapons of mass destruction control regimes

Report for the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Weapons of mass destruction control regimes are central to the global order. But the bipolarity of the Cold War has given way to a more complex, multipolar world order characterised by conflicts of interest and great power competition. In the report, INEF member Carmen Wunderlich together with Harald Müller and Una Jacob examine how these changes affect the enforcement of arms control agreements and how they should be designed in the future to ensure effective governance.
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