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UN in Focus Newsbrief



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Dear colleagues and friends,

This is the last issue of our "UN in Focus" Newsbrief for 2012. As the year draws to a close, we are happy to share with you some information about activities that we hosted in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. On November 26, FES New York co-organized a day-long event at the UN on the future development paradigm to substitute the MDGs after 2015. Already for the seventh year, we held our Annual Fall Academy "How to make best use of UN capacities" for young international policy analysts. Their visit to New York, as well as that of a joint Indian-Pakistani delegation, helped bridging differences in perception between the politics at the UN in New York and the politics in the outside world. This challenge, it seems, is here to stay. Similarly, as elaborated during our last workshop for 2012, the quest for human rights remains an unfinished journey for the foreseeable future.

As usual, I hope this Newsbrief will make for informative reading. We wish you very happy holidays and a peaceful and successful 2013!

Sending you season's greetings from New York,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Puschra".

Dr. Werner Puschra
Director
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung - New York Office

Past Event

"Democratic Emerging Powers and the International Human Rights System"

Wednesday, December 12, 2012, New York

India, Brazil, and South Africa (known as the IBSA group), along with countries such as Mexico, Indonesia, and Turkey are participating more intensively in global governance. The FES New York Office & Hunter College's Department of Political Science organized this workshop at the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute to focus on how these and other Democratic Emerging Powers (or DEPs) engage as key stakeholders within multilateral institutions that shape the international human rights system. Among the panelists were Kenneth Roth, Executive Director of Human Rights Watch; Jonathan Fanton, Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute; Rob Jenkins, Dept. of Political Science, Hunter College; Bertrand Ramcharan, President of UPR Info, and Emma Mawdsley, Dept. of Geography, Cambridge University.

[Concept Note](#)

Past Event

"Toward A New Generation Of Development Goals"

Monday, November 26, 2012, New York

Many discussions have emerged about whether the world needs a new development paradigm, and if so, what sort of framework must underpin it, what aspirational goals will guide it and what targets and indicators will be used to measure and evaluate its progress. The FES New York Office and Club de Madrid organized this daylong event together with co-sponsors, the Ford Foundation and the UN-Missions of Mexico, Peru and France to bring together key participants from the civil society, the UN system and among political decision-makers. Part of the day's discussions was a luncheon at the Ford Foundation convening a distinguished group of representatives from major U.S. philanthropic organizations to discuss the post-MDG/pre-SDG processes and the role for philanthropy in shaping positive outcomes. Among the speakers at the luncheon were Luis A. Ubiñas, President of the Ford Foundation, and Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Professor of International Development at the New School University.

[Program](#)

[Program Luncheon](#)

[Archived Webcast](#)

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Past Event

"FES New York Fall Academy 2012"

Monday, November 12, 2012 - Friday, November 16, 2012, New York

From November 12 to 16, 2012 the FES New York office hosted its seventh annual Fall Academy "How to Make Best Use of UN Capacities" for young international policy analysts. 19 participants came to New York for one week to learn hands-on about the work of the United Nations. They met with UN Secretariat diplomats, UN Member State Representatives and NGO experts to discuss the UN's work on peace and security issues, the Post-MDG process, and the UN's most recent reform initiatives. The training provided the participants with the opportunity to obtain in-depth knowledge of the capacities of the UN to deal with policy issues that are also relevant for their work at home. The 2012 Fall Academy put particular emphasis on the UN's post-2015 Millennium Development Goals Agenda.

[Program](#)

[List of Participants](#)

[Photos on Facebook](#)

Past Event

"Study Visit of an India/Pakistan Delegation to the UN in New York"

Sunday, November 4, 2012 - Friday, November 9, 2012, New York

As Pakistan and India are jointly serving as non-permanent members in the UN Security Council in 2012, the FES New York organized a study visit of a joint delegation from both countries to the United Nations in New York from November 4 until November 10, 2012. This select group of high-level policy makers, parliamentarians, policy analysts and media representatives discussed a variety of contemporary security challenges with diplomats from the Security Council and UN Secretariat officials.

[Program](#)

[Delegation List](#)

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