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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

With the 68th General Assembly debates coming to an end, FES New York looks back upon two weeks of intensive and fruitful discussions as part of a series of side-events to this year's UN General Assembly:

FES together with the Women's Major Group, UN Women and the Missions of Timor-Leste and Norway, organized an event to highlight women's perspectives from around the world on sustainable development themes.

A side event organized during the High-Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament asked how the meeting could better contribute to progress in Nuclear Disarmament.

Along with the Council of Global Unions and the Philippine Mission, FES organized a dialogue to open up the space for unions and civil society perspectives on the UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development.

UN General Assembly President John Ashe asserted that the outcome of the week-long debate is recognition of the need for a new global development agenda that integrates economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection.

With today's Newsbrief we bring your attention to the dialogue on sovereign debt organized by FES, erlassjahr and Eurodad for the upcoming IMF/World Bank annual meetings.

As usual, I hope this Newsbrief will make for informative reading.

With best wishes from New York,



Michèle Auga

Director
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung - New York Office

Upcoming Event:

**"Why the Bank and Fund Have Provided
Too Little Debt Relief Too Late,
and What Can Be Done About It"**

**Saturday, October 12
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm
World Bank, Room I 2 - 250**

In a remarkable stock taking effort, the IMF has stated that in its management of sovereign debt crises it has often provided insufficient debt relief. There are numerous reasons for this, some technical, some more political in nature. What exactly have been the reasons for these International Financial Institutions' poor performance? And what can be done to improve sovereign debt workout processes in the future? Experts shed light on the history of debt workout procedures and make suggestions for improvements.

Speakers:

Matthew Martin, Director, Debt Relief International
"Debt Relief Beyond HIPC: What is needed in terms of debt relief?"

Gail Hurley, Policy Specialist, United Nations Development Programme
"The New Debt Crisis in the Small Island Developing States: The need for bold action"

Timothy Antoine, Permanent Secretary, Grenada Ministry of Finance (TBC)
"The Reform Debate and the Case of Grenada"

Adrian Cosentino, Secretary of Finance, Argentina Ministry of the Economy (TBC)
"How the *Argentina/NML-Capital* Case Challenges Existing Debt Workout Mechanisms"

Anna Gelpern, Professor of Law, Georgetown University
"Where the IMF's Honest Analysis of the Greek Case Should Lead to Honest Consequences"

(Event is open to those with accreditation to the Bank and Fund Annual General Meetings)

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[Download FES Publication](#), "Resolving Sovereign Debt Crises" by Jürgen Kaiser

Upcoming Event (By Invitation Only):

"From Repression to Regulation: Proposals for Drug Policy Reform"

Thursday, October 17

United Nations, Main Building, 4th floor Delegates Dining Room 6-7

1:15- 2:45pm

There is a growing international consensus that the war on drugs has failed. Problems created by drug trafficking have been exacerbated increasingly by the negative side effects of prohibitionist policies. Over the last two years therefore, the Cooperation Program on Regional Security in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) has conducted debates about and developed proposals for alternative public policies and a different international drug regime. These debates resulted in the book "From Repression to Regulation: Proposals for Drug Policy Reform" and a condensed publication with policy recommendations. The authors propose to differentiate the regulation of the whole value chain (production, trade, and consumption), according to drug type and informed by scientific evidence. Two of the authors will be present during this launch of the publications at the UN and to discuss their proposals.

[Program](#)

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Past Event:

"Migration and Development: A Decent Work Issue"

Wednesday October 2

New York, UNHQ, Conference Room 6

10:00 pm - 1:00 pm

This interactive panel was co-hosted by the Council of Global Unions and the

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) New York office, with the support of the Philippine Permanent Mission to the United Nations. International migration today is largely driven by the search for decent work. While the impact of the crisis continues to unfold, poverty continues to spread as global unemployment deepens and access to essential public services and social protection is drastically reduced. Almost half of the international migration today comprise of women who are predominantly found in jobs such as in health and social care, education, hospitality and domestic work. Despite their known positive contributions to societies, migrant workers suffer from discrimination, abuses and violations of their rights. The UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development provides the opportunity within the United Nations to review the current discourse on migration and development, and to discuss: 1) what both governments and Global Unions want from the HL Dialogue, 2) what needs to be done to better integrate migration policy with labour market policy, and 3) what is necessary for a rights-based approach to migration.

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