

UN in Focus



No. 6 | December, 2016

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

With this last UN in Focus Newsbrief of 2016, the team at the New York Office of Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung would like to sincerely thank you for all your interest and the many productive and thoughtful interactions throughout the year.

We are very pleased to share with you some information on our activities in the recent weeks, such as the 10th anniversary of our annual FES Fall Academy. This year, 12 young policy makers from all over the world critically assessed the Agenda 2030 and how it can be used for transformative, progressive politics.

Other highlights include a joint workshop with the World Bank and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) on labour safeguards at Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), as well as a global trade union meeting in preparation of the upcoming sixty-first session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61).

As always, we look forward to your comments and feedback.
FES New York wishes you very happy holidays and a peaceful, joyful and successful New Year!

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bettina Luise Rürup'.

Bettina Luise Rürup
Executive Director
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung - New York Office

Past Events

"Trade Union Perspectives on Women's Economic Empowerment in the Changing World of Work" - Global Trade Union UNCSW Preparatory meeting

On December [6-7 2016](#), FES New York, in conjunction with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), Education International (EI), and Public Services International (PSI), hosted a seminar on "Trade Union Perspectives on Women's Economic Empowerment in the Changing World of Work". The seminar served as a Global Trade Union preparatory meeting for the 2017 United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61), which has taken up the priority theme, "Women's Economic Empowerment in the Changing World of Work".

The participating trade unionists worked to develop a strategy for trade union representation and labour lobbying in the UNCSW61, to ensure high-level participation of trade unions in panels and official side-events, and to develop a strategy for increased labour visibility at UNCSW61.

[Concept Note & Program](#)

World Bank-ITUC-FES Workshop on Labour Safeguards at Multinational Development Banks (MDBs)

FES New York, in cooperation with the World Bank and International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), convened a workshop on labour safeguards policies at the World Bank and other Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). Aiming to develop a cooperative approach for the implementation of labour safeguards at the World Bank and other MDBs, this workshop brought together specialists from Trade Unions, MDBs (World Bank, IFC, EBRD, ADB), and the International Labour Organization (ILO). Against this backdrop, special emphasis was placed on the World Bank's newly adopted labour safeguard, which establishes enforceable lending requirements for the Bank's public sector divisions (IBRD and IDA). With the new safeguard taking effect in early 2018, the workshop highlighted the need for both the trade union movement and the ILO to be actively involved in the preparations and subsequent monitoring in order to ensure that World Bank-funded activities truly comply with international labour standards.

[Program](#)
[Concept Note](#)

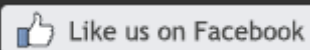
FES New York 2016 Fall Academy: "Using the UN's Sustainable Development Agenda for Transformative Politics" - A Training for Young International Policy Makers

At this year's Fall Academy, young policy makers developed skills to influence the political agenda associated with the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their respective home countries. The participants collaborated on different topics (e.g. gender equality, decent work for all, consumption, climate change) in order to share expertise and learn from one another's experience. Based on this group work, individual policy papers were developed to help create a synergy between participants' ongoing work for progressive political transformation and the implementation of the SDG agenda in each participant's home country.

[Program](#)

[Watch our Fall Academy video](#)

[Article about the 2016 Fall Academy by the UN Social Development Network \(UNSDN\)](#)

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