



# 2020

ANNUAL REPORT

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## 2021

OUTLOOK

**FRIEDRICH  
EBERT   
STIFTUNG**

# Facts and Figures



194,000,000 €

budget (2020)



240

publications in  
Germany



108

foreign offices



2,646

students and doctoral  
candidates



3,048

events in Germany  
(in person and online)

16

offices in Germany

270

of them are foreign  
scholarship-holders

120,474

participants  
(in person and online)



22,000

visitors to Museum  
Karl-Marx-Haus in Trier



56,000 metres

of archive holdings

1 million

publications in the  
library holdings

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OUTLOOK

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# For Social Democracy

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## Who we are

Founded in 1925, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is the political foundation with the longest and richest tradition in Germany. It was named after *Reichpräsident* Friedrich Ebert, and the Foundation owes its origins and tasks to the political legacy he left behind.

As a political foundation with close ties to a political party, we base our work on the fundamental values of Social Democracy: freedom, justice and solidarity. This links us ideologically with Social Democracy and free trade unions. As a non-profit organisation, we organise our work independently and autonomously.

## What we strive for

- A free society based on solidarity, offering equal opportunity for political, economic, social and cultural participation – regardless of origin, gender or religion;
- A vibrant and strong democracy; an economy growing sustainably with decent work for everyone;
- A welfare state which provides more education and better health, but also fights poverty and addresses the major risks in life;
- A country that assumes responsibility for peace and social progress in Europe and the world.

## This is what we do

We promote and strengthen Social Democracy, above all through

- Civic and political education work to bolster civil society. Our information, orientation and training programmes and events motivate and help lay the groundwork for successful political, trade union and civic engagement. We improve participation by citizens in the social discussion and debate as well as in decision-making processes;
- Policy advice: We develop strategies on central issues relating to economic, social and educational policy as well as on fundamental questions of democratic development. At the interfaces between science and political practice, we help shape the public discourse to bring about a more just and sustainable economic and social order at national, European and global levels;
- International cooperation: With foreign offices in over 100 countries, we support a policy of peaceful cooperation and human rights, promote the establishment and consolidation of democratic, social and constitutional structures, and help pave the way for free trade unions and a strong civil society. In the process of European unification, we are committed to, and work intensively for a social, democratic and competitive Europe;
- Encouraging the advancement of talented young people with special consideration of students and doctoral candidates from low-income families and those with a migration background. This is one way we contribute to greater educational justice;
- Collective memory of Social Democracy: through the archive, our library and contemporary history projects, we keep the historical roots of Social Democracy and trade unions alive and vibrant while supporting socio-political and historical research.

## The FES in 2020 – a crisis and many new opportunities

As 2020 drew to a close, the Foundation found itself facing challenges on an unprecedented scale.

Since the beginning of 2020, the FES has been undergoing one of the largest restructuring processes in its history. Thanks to the process initiated by the Executive Board, “FES 100”<sup>1</sup>, the Foundation is to receive a new, more streamlined working structure, which will organise its work more clearly, translate into efficiency gains and help make planning processes more coherent.

In mid-March, the Corona pandemic put a stranglehold on everyday working life. The Foundation was jolted into crisis mode as a result of strict legal regulations and rules governing contact and hygiene. Measures had to be initiated in a very brief span of time to ensure that the Foundation would be able to work effectively under the conditions laid down in the new rules and regulations at Federal and *Länder* levels aimed at containing the pandemic.

Wherever possible, work was largely done from home. Video conferences replaced real meetings; an exhausting sequence of video conferences day in, day out took its toll on all our staff members.

The fact that socio-political work was nevertheless carried on, and was in no way inferior in terms of either scope, diversity or quality compared to a “normal” year, bears witness to the substance of the Foundation. The heart of the Foundation also continued to beat strongly during the Corona pandemic. As a result, the FES fully accomplished its mission even in times of crisis.

This was important because the need for political consultancy and policy mediation was in particularly high currency this year. The political and social effects of the Corona crisis impacted working lines in which the Foundation has been engaged for a considerable time now. The problems that the working lines grapple with have clearly been amplified by the pandemic – as if through a magnifying glass.



**Kurt Beck, State Premier (ret.)**  
President of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung e.V.,  
Honorary Chair since January 2021



**Dr. Roland Schmidt**  
Secretary General of the  
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung e.V.

The pandemic’s negative consequences can be felt in many areas of life. The forecasted enormous economic upheavals harbour considerable potential for social conflict. Strong warnings regarding further ruptures and cleavages in social milieus are to be heard as well as calls for policy-makers to take countermeasures to reduce inequality in society. This has been a major topic for the Foundation – even before Corona.

In times of lockdown, however, it has also become apparent how stable traditional role models that were thought to have become a thing of the past are still making their presence felt. Just consider this fact: it is predominantly women who are responsible for “children and cooking” in times of closed schools and day-care centres. Many measures to contain the pandemic have gone hand in hand with unprecedented restrictions on basic democratic rights. Extremists are instrumentalising the Coronavirus, agitating in the hope of bringing about a collapse of democracy. Abstruse conspiracy ideologies are spreading on social media, posing a threat to democracy. It is in this context that findings from the FES “Mitte Study” are often being cited in the public debate.

In a crisis, people yearn for answers and explanations. Therein lies a great opportunity for civic and political education work. Thanks to solid and resolute preparatory work in the field of digitisation, the Foundation was able to react quickly to the lockdown and adapt its socio-political services.

The crisis has brought home to us with full force the fundamental importance of a well-functioning and capable social welfare state. However, it has also exposed the drastic consequences of cuts in investments in public infrastructure and services of general interest – issues that the FES has been intensively addressing for some time now.

It was possible to even create completely new networks in innovative digital formats freed from the constraints of geography. In many places in this field, FES colleagues report that technology is helping to expand the range and reach out to new target groups. Here the FES has managed to be at the forefront: an evaluation by the Centre for Evaluation (CEval) shows that in the field of civic and political education the FES is among the top group of institutions in terms of offering the most online events.

In addition to this technical management, the Foundation has succeeded in responding to the crisis in a competent and efficient manner in its work. The crisis has brought home to us with full force the elementary importance of a well-functioning and capable social welfare state. But it has also revealed the drastic consequences of slashing investments in public infrastructure and services of general interest – topics and issues that the Foundation has been addressing intensively in its work for some time.

At the same time, massive financial support programmes instituted to cope with the pandemic have lent a new urgency to the classic demands of Social Democracy for greater tax justice and fairer taxation of wealth. At a high-level panel organised by the FES for the “Global Solutions Summit” in May, Norbert Walter-Borjans called for social democrats and policy-makers to “learn from the crisis and correct the gradual reversal of tax progression over the last 100 years”.

The “FES Spotlight Report”, an important shadow report on the status of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which the Foundation presented at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly in September, also contains far-reaching demands for the transformation of our economies. The report provides the basis for many of the work programmes of non-governmental organisations that back these demands.

Since April, all FES departments have been working in an ad hoc working group to develop concrete proposals on how democracy, society and the economy can be made fairer in the future in the wake of Corona. Debates were held in a variety of formats with prominent guests, including renowned economists, the Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz, Thomas Piketty and sustainability expert Maja Göpel<sup>2</sup>. At

the beginning of June, the Foundation presented the advisory paper “Corona verändert die Welt”, which was praised as a valuable contribution by the German Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs.

In order to reflect the extent of the crisis in a global context and thus also to meet the surge in demand for advice on the Corona pandemic around the world, the FES is leveraging its large network of offices abroad and its excellent global networks and partnerships. The foreign offices produce comprehensive expert reports on the handling of the Corona pandemic in countries in which the FES operates on a continuous basis. These are then evaluated and edited at headquarters. This work provides important information on the effectiveness of control strategies and is a valuable source of knowledge for policy-makers.

Structural and political deficits in the architecture of multilateral organisations have not only been a subject of debate since Corona. The Corona crisis has made these deficits more visible, however. Global institutions such as the UN and its specialised agencies such as the WHO have failed to fulfil their tasks. Global coordination of the necessary crisis measures has been lacking.

The EU initially had to struggle with similar problems, with parochial national interests and knee-jerk isolationist reactions taking precedence over a Community approach with all its advantages. Here, a turnaround was only initiated with the construction programme “Next Generation EU”, which went into action under the German Council Presidency in July.

The Foundation has taken these developments as an opportunity to intensify its European work once again. Through its programmes, it supports various partners in forging progressive alliances, especially between actors committed to climate and social policy, in order to lend impetus to European integration along progressive lines. Together with the Institute for European Politics, the FES office in Brussels has developed proposals on how the EU can make its decisions more democratic and successfully defend itself against attacks on democracy and the rule of law. The results are being continuously fed into the two-year EU process “Conference on the Future of Europe”.



While the pandemic is holding the peoples of the world in suspense, the climate crisis is increasingly posing an acute threat to humanity. The colossal forest fires in California and Siberia this year as well as the progressive melting of the polar ice caps are dramatic signs of this. It is true that the European Commission is leading the way toward an urgently needed ecological restructuring of the European economy with the “European Green Deal”. But many people in Europe apparently perceive economic structural change as something that is at their own expense. For them, the ecological issue is a zero-sum game with social issues on the other side of the equation. It is for this reason that the Foundation is placing an important focus in its work on the climate issue from the perspective of a socio-ecological transformation. The FES wants to provide an impetus to the debate on ecological justice that specifically applies to people’s everyday lives. Saving the climate will only succeed in the long term if social cohesion is preserved.

In December, the Foundation, but also all of us personally, were faced with important changes. The task was to pass the baton of Foundation responsibility on to able new hands. In our “personal home stretch to the end of the year”, we could hardly have imagined a more trying, strenuous and

demanding year. The fact that challenges have been taken up energetically and tackled successfully fills us both with great joy and thankfulness.

A special word of gratitude goes out to our highly motivated and excellently qualified staff for their work in this particularly difficult year.

We wish the new Foundation President Martin Schulz and future Secretary General Dr. Sabine Fandrych much success and all the best.

**Kurt Beck, State Premier (ret.)**

President, Honorary Chair since January 2021

**Dr. Roland Schmidt**

Secretary General

Berlin/Bonn in January 2021

<sup>1</sup> This designation refers to the 100th anniversary of the foundation’s founding in 2025.

<sup>2</sup> The French economist Thomas Piketty is the winner of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung’s “The Political Book” prize. The prize was awarded to him in 2015 for his work “Capital in the Twenty-First Century”.



# 2020 in pictures







## PROJECTS AND WORKING LINES



# Emerging from the Corona crisis and its fall-out: more just, ecological and democratic?

Workers at a furniture business in Indonesia. The number of employees was cut back by up to 50% in smaller sectors of business and industry during the pandemic.

The Corona pandemic had a significant impact on the year 2020. Thanks to careful preparation, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung was able to organise numerous events at home and abroad, quickly switching to online formats and thus reach new target groups. Topics relating to Social Democracy, such as justice in education and taxes or the importance of social security systems, took on a new urgency; the need for advice was enormous everywhere. The FES was also able to recognise opportunities in the crisis and apply its resources effectively in response.

## Social pathways out of the crisis

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is forecasting the worst recession since the Great Depression 90 years ago. Global poverty could rise for the first time in 30 years. Many countries are already facing a new debt crisis. The need for advice on social and economic counterstrategies went ballistic in the spring of 2020. Thanks to its excellent global networks, the FES was able to react nimbly and offer ideas and suggestions in Germany and abroad on the question of how reconstruction in the wake of the Corona crisis can be used to make societies more just, ecological and democratic.

The massive support programmes of numerous governments to cope with the pandemic have given a new urgency to demands for greater tax justice and taxation of wealth. A study by the FES on the sovereign debt crisis, which explores strategies for debt relief, came just at the right time in April and flowed into the deliberations of international organisations on how to help the countries of the South.

Mass redundancies, week after week of cancelled classes and overburdened clinics dramatically underscored the importance of a properly functioning state in times of crisis. Wherever governments had refrained from investing in good social services, serious gaps and deficits were exposed. The pandemic has also had serious implications for education systems. From a social democratic point of view, there is an urgent need to prevent children from disadvantaged backgrounds from becoming losers in the crisis. In order to develop recommendations for the school year 2020/21 in Germany, the FES appointed a commission of 22 experts from educational science, law governing schools, medicine, psychology, school administration, headmasters, teachers, students and parents. Their recommendations were addressed to a wide audience.



## Strengthening information work and rights

In many Western countries, some citizens have preferred to consume fake news and conspiracy narratives on social media in response to Corona. Against this background, the FES prepared several country studies on the situation surrounding public broadcasting. In order to meet the enormous need for advice on the global situation and to counter misinformation, the FES put together an international information service. In blogs, FES experts reported on the effects of the pandemic in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and the Balkans.

The crisis is in part being used to reinforce authoritarian structures. This is making trade union representation of interests become even more difficult in many countries. Together with its partners, the FES has responded to this by supporting, for example, the development of trade union apps in Uganda and Argentina, launching an online course

for a post-Corona agenda with the Global Labour University and strengthening trade unions in Vietnam in wage and collective bargaining.

In the medium term, it is to be expected that causes of flight will increase worldwide. In crisis countries, where the pandemic has further aggravated an already dramatic situation for the population, the FES has adopted new strategies to attract international attention. For example, it helped Afghan photojournalists produce the photo essay "Afghan Lives Through the Lens of COVID-19", which was published in the journal "Internationale Politik" as well as in "The Diplomat".

With the global FES media campaign "Care to Join Us", the Foundation was able to draw attention in Egypt to the structural discrimination of female care workers, which was exacerbated by the pandemic. In Latin America, the campaign took up numerous counselling approaches launched by the FES and the ILO on the rights of domestic workers. In Israel as well, women were disproportionately affected by the impact of the pandemic on the labour market. A study presented by the FES and Adva Center served as the basis for a joint list of demands forwarded by feminist organisations to policy-makers.

In Germany as well, it became apparent that women are particularly affected by the pandemic because of the care work that largely women perform, because of job losses and because they are often particularly exposed to the risk of infection. An interdepartmental project looks at the consequences of Covid-19 in gender policy and focuses on those people who perform care work (not only) during the pandemic.

## Digital – new paths, new impact

In substantive terms, the FES was quick to recognise the opportunity for a new narrative of Social Democracy in the Corona crisis. Representatives of all departments formed an ad hoc working group as early as April to jointly describe a social democratic way out of the crisis. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs (WISO) promptly succeeded in adding a wide-ranging Corona perspective to its work. The annual WISO event "Progressive Economy Day" was transformed into a blog and book project. The online conference



"Digital Capitalism" in November looked at the impact of the pandemic and digitalisation on work and the economy, health and urban development, education and Social Democracy.

The switch to working from home and online events presented the entire Foundation with some major logistical challenges. Due to different rules and regulations in the various countries, the FES had to react individually at each international location. The Scholarship Programme Division also had to make massive changes to its schedule and "digitalise" both the selection of scholarship-holders and non-material support at short notice. Fortunately, it was possible to continue to pay scholarships.

Looking back, it can be said that the FES was well positioned to react quickly. The Foundation had already launched the project "Digital Political Education and Consultation" (in short: FES digital) in 2019 and systematically addressed the digitisation of its offerings. The changeover from face-to-face to online formats was achieved within a few weeks. The rapid switchover was also made possible by numerous training courses for colleagues in Germany and abroad and new web tools from the IT department. An evaluation by the Centre for Evaluation (CEval) in June 2020 showed that the FES and the Heinrich Böll Foundation offered the most online events on civic education. The FES work areas in Germany and abroad also reported that they were able to increase their reach and address new target groups with digital events. In addition, international experts who would rather not attend face-to-face events are able to participate.

# Democracy under pressure: With all our might for an open, plural society

“The 2020 Political Book” award ceremony held at FES Berlin on 17 September 2020: Award-winner Matthias Quent with former FES President and State Premier (ret.) Kurt Beck

30 years after German unification, the democratic system of the Federal Republic is under massive pressure. Enemies of an open, pluralistic society are taking advantage of each and every opportunity to trumpet weak points, discredit political representatives, divide society and fan the flames of hatred and hatred-mongering. The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is fighting this with all its might. Its political education programmes inform people about democratic mechanisms, remind them of historical milestones, promote tolerance and openness to the world, and support social and political commitment.

## Democracy needs commitment

Political education is increasingly in demand because society is under greater pressure than it was a few years ago. The division between rich and poor as well as right-wing populist movements and governments are posing a threat to democracy and social peace. On many political issues, opinions differ so much that a dialogue is scarcely possible any more. This is shown not least by the increasingly shrill protests against Corona protection measures, in which opponents of vaccination are allying with conspiracy ideologists and right-wing extremist *Reichsbürgers*. The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is addressing these phenomena and promoting awareness of the problem as well as willingness to get involved in democracy. The regional offices organised numerous events against the extreme right and for a democratic culture (of debate). The FES office in Thuringia, for example, launched a project involving outreach political education work to strengthen citizens' resilience against right-wing actors. The language used by the extreme right and how the media should react to this was the subject of a two-day online programme in the project against right-wing extremism. The Jena sociologist Matthias Quent describes the dangers of the shift to the right in his book “Deutschland rechtsaußen. Wie die Rechten nach der Macht greifen und wie wir sie stoppen können”. For this book, he received the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung's “The Political Book” award. In her laudation, Saskia Esken emphasised:

“The slogan ‘Never again!’ was never meant to be just an empty phrase. ‘Never again!’ was a promise to never again look away – but to act instead.”

In order to win people over to democratic discussion processes, the Schwerin FES office conceived “Political Education Days”, which collected “ideas for a strong Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania”. In Berlin as well, participants in a series of workshops discussed challenges and innovative approaches to life in the metropolis. At the “Long Night of Democracy”, the BayernForum invited poetry slammers and journalists to present “Declarations of Love for Democracy”. Participants in the 20th FES Summer University were able to further develop and present visionary project ideas online under the caption “Climate, Work, Capital – Only Utopias are Realistic”.





In July, KommunalAkademien NRW, Baden-Württemberg and Bayern brought together 200 people active in local politics from all over Germany at the first virtual local politics summer academy.

Can the future be shaped along socially just lines? This is the question that was explored by the FES podcast "Zukunft gerecht". It presents scientific studies in a generally understandable way – studies which have been carried out within the framework of the Foundation's project "For a Better Tomorrow". The Academy Social Democracy launched "Buch|Essenz", which presents non-fiction books on the fundamental programmatic principles of Social Democracy as expressed in political platforms in a new digital format.

### More women in politics, policy-making and leadership

At European level, the cornerstones for equality between women and men were laid this year: At the beginning of March, EU Commissioner Helena Dalli presented the EU Gender Equality Strategy 2020–2025. This was reason enough to take a closer look at how the European equality

agenda is to be implemented across Europe at the FES ceremony celebrating International Women's Day in Berlin.

Federal Minister for Women's Affairs Franziska Giffey and SPD Deputy Chair Klara Geywitz discussed this topic with other high-ranking guests from the fields of European and German politics and civil society.

Meanwhile, in Germany, effort to get more women into parliaments suffered some severe setbacks: In both Thuringia and Brandenburg, the constitutional courts overturned parity laws stipulating a quota system for electoral lists. The Berlin Parity Network, founded in autumn 2019 upon the initiative of Forum Berlin, is nevertheless continuing to pursue the goal of introducing a parity law for the *Abgeordnetenhaus* (House of Representatives) there. The FES stepped up its activities in this area with two publications in widely read media on the participation of women in the federal capital.

The discussion series "FrauenFühren" (Women in Leadership), staged by the FES Mainz Office, also addressed the issue of muted participation of women in politics. State Premier Malu Dreyer discussed online with the French Ambassador, Anne-Marie Descôtes, parity expert Uta Kletzing and around 80 participants from all over Germany the French

parity law and the possibility of it serving as a role model for Germany. The difficult situation of single parents during the Corona pandemic was highlighted by the NRW regional office in an online discussion with the members of the *Land* parliament Anja Butschkau and Nicola Stroop from the NRW Association of Single Mothers and Fathers.

Many young people in Germany have become more political again through the Fridays for Future movement, whose focus is the climate crisis. The FES takes this up in programmes and events geared to young people. In addition, it offers digital learning modules on local politics for first-time voters in its programme and trains teachers in the use of digital tools designed for civic education and fostering democracy in the classroom.





### 30 years of German unity

Reunification was the most prominent anniversary this year. Many regional offices seized this opportunity to open up new perspectives looking back on the time of reunification. Participants in the four-day workshop “MeGa – Mauern einreißen, Grenzen abbauen” (MeGa – tearing down walls, dismantling borders), staged in Hötensleben in Saxony-Anhalt, explored the impact of the former border between East and West Germany: They spray-painted a 26-metre-long wall, thereby creating the largest single graffiti work in Saxony-Anhalt – with the FES logo as an element.

The Berlin film “Die Kraft der Wenigen, Protest und Widerspruch – DDR Umweltbibliothek und Fridays for Future” (The Power of the Few, Protest and Dissent – GDR Environmental Library and Fridays for Future) moved the spotlight to a small group of committed people who had a tremendous impact. In it, environmental activists from the former East Germany and the Fridays for Future movement reflect on their political demands then and now. The film is being made available to secondary schools in the form of a workshop in combination with a discussion with contemporary witnesses. The Online History Workshop has placed a digital teaching package online, consisting of a film, video statements, a quiz and an online survey on the 30th anniversary of young people from East and West.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the official merger of the East and West SPDs, Markus Meckel, the last Foreign Minister of East Germany and later Member of the Bundestag, discussed the beginnings of the East SPD (SDP) with SPD Deputy Chair Klara Geywitz in Potsdam. Meckel’s autobiography “Zu wandeln die Zeiten” (To change the times) not only illustrates the dangers involved in establishing the party in the GDR, which was illegal back then, but at the same time illustrates what role the federal *Land* of Brandenburg, which was established later, played for the SDP.

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Dresden, the Saxony regional office organised a panel event with several hundred guests in the Albertinum on 13 February to look at the question of how to deal with this date, which is routinely abused by right-wing extremists. As is well known, the bombing of Dresden and other German cities at the end of the war was preceded by some of the ghastliest crimes against humanity in history along with a ruthless war of aggression by the National Socialists. The FES took Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January as an op-



portunity to hold a “contemporary witness talk” with 90-year-old Penina Katsir from Israel in Bonn House with over 200 schoolgirls. Ms. Katsir’s account of her struggle for survival in the Ukrainian ghetto underscored the pan-European scale of the Holocaust.

### Public service media can sensitise groups far removed from politics

The role of public service media services as a kind of ‘virtual campfire’ for societal discussions continues to decline in the face of digital distribution channels and individualised use of news. In the publication “Gemeinsamer Gesprächsraum. Wie der öffentlich-rechtliche Rundfunk den Diskurs fördert” (A common space for discussion. How public broadcasting corporations promote the public debate), the Media Policy Unit drew attention to the potential of public broadcasters to use entertainment and humour to sensitise population groups far removed from politics to political and social problems. At a digital event staged by JournalistenAkademie in August, 120 media professionals spoke about conducting research in Corona times, new funding opportunities for quality journalism and the importance of fact-based reporting, including in social media channels.

# Flight, migration, integration: Reaching out to the most vulnerable groups

Corona has exacerbated the desperate situation of refugees and migrant women around the world: while the most vulnerable groups are largely defenceless against the pandemic, borders have been closed and the deployment of aid workers has been made more difficult. For the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, this means that it needs to vigorously redouble its efforts in its work on flight, migration and integration. At international level, it works to ensure that migration is fair and that conditions facing refugees and migrant workers are improved. In Germany, it promotes the integration process, which has already been successful in many cases, and supports people who stand up for immigrants.

## #zusammenkommen – #get-together

The consequences of the Corona pandemic hit the most vulnerable groups the hardest, among them refugees and migrants. Border closures have made it more difficult to flee war and crisis regions. Inhumane conditions in many refugee camps have further worsened because aid workers can no longer come there and medical care is inadequate. Moreover, it is almost impossible to protect oneself from infection in the cramped conditions there. The fire that devastated the Greek camp Moria on Lesbos in September was one example of the desperate situation refugees have been in for many years. For the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, this means that the focus on “flight, migration, integration” as a theme is by no means losing its importance at home and abroad, even if public attention is being absorbed by Corona.

Five years have passed since 2015, when more than 800,000 people arrived in Germany hoping for safety and a better future. Much progress has been made with integration since then. At the beginning of March 2020, almost half of all refugees who had arrived in Germany since 2015 were in employment. More than 10,000 people who have fled their homes have enrolled in higher education since 2015, and 93 per cent of children between the ages of six and ten attend school.

What has been achieved in integration policy and what still needs to be done was the subject of a digital integration policy symposium entitled “#zusammenkommen” held in October. The conference showed that there is still a long way to go before people who have fled their homes can participate equally in political and social life – and that this requires a continued commitment as well as political initiatives in the fight against racism and discrimination.

FES regional offices also took stock of the successes and challenges of integration work. In Brandenburg, for example,

integration commissioner Doris Lemmermeier noted the special nature of Potsdam’s integration policy at the 19th *Land* Integration Conference: although immigrants only make up six per cent of the population, Brandenburg was the first federal *Land* with an integration strategy, and it furthermore provides a comparatively large amount of state funding for social work with refugees. In Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Minister of Social Affairs Stefanie Drese and Integration Commissioner Reem Alabali-Radovan spoke about the particularly difficult situation facing migrant women in Corona times and the tasks for integration policy resulting from this.

Factors conditioning successful integration into the labour market are examined in the FES study “Mehr als nur ein Job. Die qualitative Dimension der Arbeitsmarktintegration von Geflüchteten in Deutschland” (More than just a job. The qualitative dimension of labour market integration of refugees in Germany). It reveals, first of all, that the quality of work does not differ significantly from the average for all employees and, secondly, that although refugees tend to earn more over time, they are still in the low-wage category. The labour market integration of women of non-Western origin was the topic of an online workshop in which representatives from academia, politics and civil society from Germany, Sweden, Norway and Denmark took part. It became evident that special measures are needed for this target group.

Sufficient German language skills are indispensable for social participation. The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) is currently evaluating integration courses offered by various providers. The FES is supporting the evaluation process from a civil society perspective. A symposium staged in cooperation with AWO-Bundesverband brought together representatives from policy-making and public administration with providers and teachers of language courses to discuss what had been achieved, but also to discuss potential for improvement in language-learning programmes. To-

gether with the association Migra e.V., the Foundation hosted an online conference on the topic of teachers with a migration background in order to make proposals to policy-makers on how to successfully bring teachers of foreign origin into the teaching profession.

### Eastern and Western Europe: Views on immigration drift apart

The fact that Germany is a country with a net immigration balance is now part of the discursive consensus. This diversity is rarely reflected in the inner workings of political parties and parliaments, however. The importance of diverse voices in politics is underscored by the FES podcast “Hörgut – Auf Stimmenfang für Vielfalt” (Listening to Voices for Diversity), which Forum Berlin produced together with the Iranian community in Germany. In the podcast, young people interviewed politicians with migration experience.

The FES has been working on migration issues not only at the national level, but also at European level, particularly at the Budapest location from 2017 to 2020 in the regional project “Flight, Migration, Integration in Europe”. Among other things, the project looked at attitudes toward migration from a comparative European perspective before and after the years 2015/16 on the basis of data produced by the European

Social Survey. Current data analysis showed that eastern and western Europe continue to diverge on this issue. While the majority of people in western Europe are still positive about immigration, attitudes in some Eastern countries such as the Czech Republic and Poland have worsened considerably. In the long term, it is to be expected that eastern and western Europe will think in fundamentally different ways on the migration issue. An unexpected finding of the FES study was that the population in the Western Balkans, which has a history of ethnic hostilities and divisions and is a key migration route, is much less sceptical about immigration than the populations of most countries in central eastern Europe. Moreover, the study showed that immigrants have more trust in the social, economic and political institutions of their countries of refuge than native citizens of these countries themselves. This does not change the fact that they feel excluded, however.

### Competence centres for migration

The FES is committed to ensuring that cross-border mobility is fair and based on free choice. This year, the situation for migrant workers worsened dramatically worldwide, which also affects their countries of origin, as remittances are declining as a result. This will have a negative impact on the fight against poverty. The FES Flight and Migration Competence Center (FMCC) in Addis Ababa has been mandated to promote the dialogue between Africa and Europe through dialogue platforms. The Competence Center co-operates closely with the EU, the African Union, academic institutions and civil society organisations in Africa and Europe to facilitate exchange between African and European experts and decision-makers. In 2020, the centre put out the publication “Risking Everything for a Better Life”, which sheds light on international migration to, from and through Ethiopia.

The FES Tunis Office supports the Trade Union Network for Migration in the Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan Africa (RSMMS) with the aim of strengthening the dialogue between countries of origin, transit and arrival of migrant







workers. The network brings together trade unionists from North and West Africa as well as Southern Europe and advocates fair regulation of migration that upholds and respects the rights of migrants while recognising the potential of migration. At the same time, the 29 affiliated unions from 16 countries are working together to find solutions to combat racism within their own ranks. The RSMMS has become a sought-after centre of expertise on labour migration in the Mediterranean region.

## Crises and flight in the world

Together with Women in Migration Network, the Foundation is working to put together an overview of all organisations and experts working on gender and migration worldwide. More than 300 organisations were interviewed about their work. The objective is to foster networking and joint action to strengthen the human rights of women in connection with migration.

The Middle East and North Africa are particularly affected by flight and displacement due to the crises in Syria and Libya. The film “For Sama”, nominated for an Oscar as the best documentary film of the year, describes the development of the Arab Spring in Syria up until the bombing of Aleppo.

The Munich FES office showed the film as a Bavarian premiere in the presence of filmmaker Waad al-Kateab. Waad

al-Kateab, who lives in Great Britain, spoke about developments in her country of origin and how individuals and states can take meaningful action, for example by supporting the “Stop Bombing Hospitals” initiative.

One of the biggest refugee crises in the world is currently unfolding in Latin America. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Venezuela is the second largest country of origin for refugees after Syria, accounting for 3.7 million, while Colombia is the second largest host country in the world behind Turkey, with 1.8 million people finding refuge there. The FES offices in Colombia and Venezuela are therefore working closely together as well as with partners like government authorities, academia and aid organisations on the ground.

Ecuador has also taken in hundreds of thousands of refugees from Venezuela. Many of them have experienced and are experiencing violence, racism and xenophobia. The FES Instituto Latinoamericano de Investigaciones Sociales Ecuador (ILDIS) together with Collective Corredores Migratorios produced short video clips on people who have fled. Their testimonies underscore their vulnerability due to the failure of the state to guarantee their rights. The videos are also to be used in a legal action before the Ecuadorian Constitutional Court, which is seeking to ensure that such violations are not repeated. In addition, selected videos can be found on the FES theme portal “Flight, Migration, Integration” (FMI).

# Economic and social affairs: Harnessing the momentum from the crisis

Warning strike in the public sector: A participant holds a speech at a strike rally in Kiel holding up a sign saying "Underpaid, overworked, essential workers".

"Systemically relevant" was the term of the year. Public attention was riveted on the care and service sector, as well as government aid for crisis-stricken companies, economic sectors and freelancers. The FES accompanied these topics in its usual competent, critical and constructive manner while not losing sight of long-term developments such as the socio-ecological transformation and digitalisation of the economy.

## Care policy needs to be rethought

Parents, hospital and nursing home staff as well as family care-providers – these are all systemically relevant in the true sense of the word. The great interest they received at the beginning of the Corona crisis did not last all that long and problems in the care sector, especially considerable staff shortages, persist. The FES addressed these issues throughout the year. In Oranienburg, for example, the care commissioner of the SPD parliamentary group in the Bundestag, Heike Baehrens, and the deputy chair of the SPD parliamentary group in the state parliament of Brandenburg, Björn Lüttmann, spoke with senior care workers about the unattractive working conditions characterising this sector. In cooperation with the trade unions, BayernForum addressed these issues in the online discussion series "Who cares?".

Nor is monetary remuneration in line with the importance of the service sector. This injustice was the topic of the NRW Service Congress in November. Employees, representatives from trade unions, works councils, research and politics elaborated recommendations for a sustainable service sector.

At the digital symposium "Feminist Economics and Sustainability: An Answer to an Economy in Crisis?" held in Stuttgart, Katharina Mader from Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration illustrated how a gender-sensitive approach helps address deficits in our economic system.

Thus, it is no coincidence that the majority of sectors that are essential for survival are staffed by women, even though they earn less here than workers in other professions.

Minister of Family Affairs Franziska Giffey has submitted a draft law for more women on boards of directors. The FES Managers Group has supported this concern with its discussion paper "Stark mit Quote" ("Strong through Quotas"), which was published in June and covered by several newspapers.

Living conditions in Germany vary greatly from region to region. At the Trier Business Forum, Katarina Barley, Vice-President of the European Parliament, and Jens Südekum, expert on regional infrastructure at the University of Düsseldorf, discussed recommendations forwarded in the





In the Berlin pilot project “Car-Free Friedrichstrasse”, a 500-metre section of the street has been closed to car traffic. The space gained for cyclists and pedestrians is to be used to turn the street into a promenade.

FES study “Better Promoting Europe’s Regions – Ideas from the Rhineland-Palatinate and Saxony-Anhalt” with representatives of the business community.

The focus was on tailor-made funding opportunities for structurally weak municipalities and regions. The Hesse Regional Office published “Unequal Hesse – Regional Disparity Report”, which presents the development of the Land and formulates political recommendations for action on the basis of socio-economic data.

“The 21st century is threatening to become a century of extreme inequality, and not only between North and South, West and East. Class-based society is returning – including in Germany. Social divisions are posing a threat to our democracy.” This pessimistic prognosis was spelled out in detail by Dierk Hierschel, Head of Economic Policy at ver.di, at the online presentation of his book “Das Gift der Ungleichheit” (Inequality: a toxic brew) in Hanover. The event explored, among other things, how trade unions, the environmental movement and political parties can help bring about better working conditions as well as a more socially and ecologically just society.

## Advancing the socio-ecological transformation

BayernForum continued its series on Munich urban development with online events under the heading “City in Balance”. The focus was on individual lifestyles, citizen participation

and sustainable infrastructure. Important discussions sought to bridge the gap between representatives of Fridays for Future and Munich Airport as well as between the city urban planning office and citizens’ initiatives. Due to the great response, the series is to be continued in 2021.

A central building block in the socio-ecological transformation of the economy is the transformation of transport and transportation. With the country having literally ground to a halt, mobility researcher Marco Sonnberger from the University of Stuttgart discussed in a live chat organised by the NRW *Land* office at the end of May what opportunities and risks the pandemic meant for the mobility transformation. The Baden-Württemberg Managers Group focused on structural change in the automotive industry this year, for example at the New Year’s reception in Stuttgart with SPD *Land* chair Andreas Stoch.

Agriculture also urgently needs to become more environmentally friendly if we do not want to destroy the natural resources of our planet. At the very well-attended “Agrarpolitische Tagung” (Agricultural Policy Conference) put on by the Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania Regional Office in Güstrow at the end of January, discussions were held with Minister of Agriculture Till Backhaus on how the agricultural sector can be made sustainable. At an online conference at the end of November, at which a statement was also issued by Federal Minister of the Environment Svenja Schulze, oppor-

tunities for sustainability in agriculture, the food industry and tourism in Münsterland were explored.

The public seems to be largely unaware of the fact that Social Democracy also has a long tradition in environmental policy. It was against this background that the Archive of Social Democracy contributed a historical approach to policy advice with its paper on the SPD’s socio-ecological tradition. In September, the AdsD hosted a debate on current social democratic climate policy with the digital event “Gutes Klima – Gute Gesellschaft!”

In January, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung’s Kocheler Kreis for Economic Policy elevated the topic of “Public Investments in Times of Debt Caps and Fiscal Pact” to the agenda. The 85 members came to the conclusion that there is





Digital capitalism – a watershed change due to Corona? 10 – 26 November 2020  
Digital Congress with forums, interviews and live talks; moderation: Geraldine de Bastion and Tobi Müller. For more, see:  
[www.fes.de/en/digitalcapitalism](http://www.fes.de/en/digitalcapitalism)



considerable pent-up demand in Germany for investments e.g. in education and infrastructure.

The experts recommended reforming the debt cap as well as the fiscal pact, taxing higher incomes and wealth more heavily and channelling more financial resources to municipalities. The FES Managers Circle drafted a discussion paper entitled “Offering a direction for crisis management” on the same topic.

### Social cohesion in digital life

The fact that Germany is in danger of losing out when it comes to digitalisation has been a recurring theme in connection with school closures and working from home. An online discussion in July looked at whether the Corona stimulus packages could help. Guests included the head of department in the Federal Ministry of Finance in charge of this area, Ana Dujić, and the digital policy spokesman of the SPD parliamentary group, Jens Zimmermann.

Malu Dreyer, State Premier of Rhineland-Palatinate, explained her state’s digital strategy in the online forum of the Rhine-Main Managers Group in December. The Corona pandemic has made this process all the more urgent. For example, the media literacy of schoolchildren and teachers, the “electronisation” of the administrative and judicial system as well as investments in the broadband supply need to be boosted significantly. The Fritz-Erler-Forum in Stuttgart conceived “Digitaler Sommer-Frühshoppen” (Digital Summer Breakfast) together with Netzwerk Sozialer Zusammenhalt in Digitaler Lebenswelt (Social Cohesion in the

Digital World). This series tackled issues such as working from home or cohesion at the workplace and on digital platforms. The format was so well received that the FES is planning to continue it next summer.

“A turn in the tide through Corona?” This question served as the banner for the FES congress “Digital Capitalism”, which took place in November as a virtual event series. High-ranking guests from science and research, politics and society discussed the impact of the Corona crisis on the digital economy and society. The discussion series “digital.social democratic”, which was launched in tandem with the congress, offers all those actors who help shape social democratic digital policy in Europe the opportunity for a debate oriented towards the field of practice.

The education system in the Federal Republic of Germany is suffering not only from the slow pace of digitisation, but is also troubled by an unequal distribution of educational opportunities. These grievances were discussed by a number of FES regional offices with policy-makers, teachers’ unions, researchers, school authorities, parents’ and pupils’ representatives, for example at an event organised by the Regional Office in Regensburg in May on the topic of home schooling. Representatives of the SPD in the *Land* parliament, the teachers’ unions, academia and the Bavarian State Pupils’ Council came down hard on the Bavarian state government: education policy was criticised as having woefully neglected adding digital formats to lessons in good time, online lessons had been launched in a rush and it bordered on an outrage that the government was abusing parents as “substitute teachers”.



A short study on educational equity published by the FES Education Network formulates recommendations for the coming school year. “Democracy needs schools – schools need democracy” was the title of a hybrid Berlin conference held in September at which an FES study on political education at Berlin schools was presented. It explored ways in which democracy can be lived, taught and learned in schools. In Baden-Württemberg, ten years after its launch, the “community school” has successfully established itself. This is the conclusion of a study conducted by the Fritz Erler Forum. With its complex learning concept, the community school achieves just as good examination results as *Realschule* – many employers are not aware of this, however. The study recommends developing an integrated upper level at community schools in order to improve the reputa-

tion of this type of school and exploit the innovative potential of this form of joint learning.

## Jobs and the pandemic

“Out on the streets for May Day ...?” Not in 2020. Nevertheless, on the international Day of Labour, the demand for decent work was also underscored along a broad front at numerous FES departments. The Schwerin office published a special paper on the topic on the Internet and launched the online event series “Valuable Work” together with the northeast chapter of the Confederation of German Trade Unions (DGB Nordost). The Social Law Network, which was jointly founded by the FES and Confederation of German Trade Unions in 2018, launched the new website “netzwerk-sozialrecht.net”.

Workers in the catering industry can only dream of a good job at the mo-

ment. Uli Grötsch, Member of the Bundestag, spoke about the precarious situation in the Bavarian catering and hotel industry with Mustafa Öz, President of the Bavarian Food and Catering Union (NGG), at a webinar staged by the Regensburg Regional Office at the end of May.

The digitalisation of the economy must not go hand in hand with an inevitable elimination of jobs, and the platform economy cannot replace companies as a social realm. These were the conclusions drawn by historian Carsten Uhl, DGB Chair Reiner Hoffmann, Berlin Transport Board member Dirk Schulte and Bundestag member Cansel Kiziltepe at an event on co-determination in the digital age held in February. This was the kick-off for the new series “geschichte.macht.zukunft” sponsored by the Archive of Social Democracy.



# Europe: Cohesion, rule of law, socio-ecological transformation

Making Europe ship-shape for the future: The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung intends to contribute to this by developing concepts for socially just ecological modernisation while fostering democracy and the rule of law. The FES provided critical and constructive support for the German EU Council Presidency with numerous events and initiatives.

## Shaping ecological transformation along social lines

Structural and political deficits in the architecture of European integration have not only been a subject of debate since Corona. But in the pandemic, these deficits and the debate surrounding them have taken on a new urgency. As in the case of the Euro crisis and refugee crisis, the EU was not in a position to act uniformly and quickly. Instead, unilateral action and political impasses characterised action over long stretches. The turning point came with the “Next Generation EU” reconstruction programme, with an outlay of EUR 750 billion, which was adopted in July under the auspices of the German Council Presidency. With this, the Union finally proved that it is capable of taking action. Optimists see a chance that the EU could emerge from this crisis even stronger and more united. The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung has seized this as an opportunity to intensify its work on Europe – with the aim of strengthening the EU internally and externally while lending impetus to progressive European integration.

One focal point of FES work on Europe is directed at a socially just ecological transformation. For liberal democracy, prosperity and peace depend on whether we succeed in aligning our life and economic model with the ecological limits of the planet. With the European Green Deal, the European Commission presented its strategy for an ecological transformation of the European economy in December 2019. However, many European workers are being left with the sober realisation that economic structural changes are at their expense. For them, the ecological question is in competition with the social question. That is why the FES is prioritising the social dimension of the ecological transformation – a just transition. To this end, progressive alliances need to be forged, especially between actors committed to climate and social policy.

Many countries in central and eastern Europe are strongly affected by the climate crisis. At the same time, there is little willingness there to curb global warming: half-hearted CO<sub>2</sub> reduction targets are not in line with the Paris Climate Agreement; moreover, these countries continue to protect CO<sub>2</sub>-intensive companies and business while building new coal-fired power plants. Through several studies on the interplay between climate and social policy concerns, the FES has been able to contribute to a critical discourse on these policies. Poland’s industry in particular is still heavily dependent on coal. Experience of German trade unions with the phase-out of coal are therefore an important source of knowledge for the Polish trade union movement. In February, the FES organised an exchange of experience between the Confederation of German Trade Unions (DGB) and the umbrella Polish trade union federation OPZZ in Berlin.

A new FES Madrid project on sustainable industrial policy brings together IG Bergbau, Chemie, Energie and IG Metall with the Spanish trade unions UGT FICA, CCOO Industrial and the Hans Böckler Foundation (HBS). In four online events, strategies for socio-ecological transformation were developed – while taking into account trade union interests and experience.

## EU pillar: social legal framework

At national and European levels, one of the main objectives of the FES is to overcome social inequality and deliver on the promise of decent work and a decent life. Important in this connection is the introduction of binding standards in the European Pillar of Social Rights adopted by the EU Member States in 2017. Specifically, this involves a legal framework for minimum wages, minimum standards for national basic social security systems, a Eu-

ropean unemployment reinsurance scheme, as well as equal opportunities and fair working conditions.

Together with investments in (further) education and jobs of tomorrow, these are core building blocks for a socio-ecological transformation in Europe.

The 10th Franco-German Trade Union Forum with DGB President Reiner Hoffmann and CGT President Philippe Martinez took place in Berlin in February. The trade unionists spelled out joint proposals on vocational training for the Franco-German expert group on the future of work, which is part of the cooperation agreements comprising the Aachen Treaty.

In order to examine the long-term effects of the Corona crisis on the British world of work in more detail, FES London, together with the Involvement and Participation Association, produced the study “Towards a New Normal – What legacy might COVID-19 leave for UK working patterns?”. Among other things, it shows how Corona affects businesses and jobs. The study was distributed digitally and discussed in a German-British online event with the Economic and Social Science Institute.

## Europe and democracy

In many countries of the world, including in Europe, political polarisation is allowing right-wing populists and nationalists to gain considerable popularity. The aim of FES work is to strengthen the normative power of universal values and elevate these to become the guiding principles for political ac-

tion. It is for this reason that the Foundation opposes tendencies towards a reversal of democratisation and upward-trending violations of the rule of law, especially in EU Member States such as Hungary and Poland.

The European Union’s failure, at least in part, to defend the rule of law and democracy in its own Member States is exacerbating its crisis of credibility. This is compounded by long-standing criticism of the democratic legitimacy of the EU itself. The FES office in Brussels, together with the Institute for European Politics, has developed proposals on how the EU can make its decisions more democratic and defend against attacks on democracy and the rule of law. The results are being continuously fed into the two-year EU process “Conference on the Future of Europe”.

What influence is the pandemic having on right-wing and rightist populist parties and movements in Europe? How is their role developing in national and European socio-political debates? Is their approval rating growing or declining in elections? The FES offices in Rome, Paris and the Nordic countries have produced country portraits on this subject that met with a lively response and organised a Europe-wide exchange in cooperation with the FES project “Against Right-Wing Extremism”. All the studies carried out – including those focusing on the AfD – are available in several languages on the FES online portal.

European foreign and security policy is heavily influenced by the systemic rivalry between the USA and China, by the highly strained relations between Russia and the West, by

conflicts and wars in Europe’s neighbourhood and the general crisis of multilateralism. In view of these developments, the EU and its Member States must significantly strengthen their capacity to act in the area of foreign and security policy. The Initiative for Cooperative Security undertaken by the Vienna FES Regional Office for Cooperation and Peace in Europe has initiated a debate on cooperation in foreign and security policy that has to date been followed by about half a million interested people via Twitter, Facebook and YouTube.

Future relations with Great Britain, especially cooperation within the NATO framework, are central elements in the EU’s ability to act effectively in the field of security policy. In informal



constellations such as the trialogue between London, Paris and Berlin organised by the FES, experts and parliamentarians discussed further cooperative security policy possibilities. The different perspectives were published in a joint publication.

### The EU and human rights

During the EU Council Presidency, Germany was able to set special accents in the EU in 2020. Together with several cooperation partners, the FES initiated a book and blog project demonstrating how a more stable, fairer and economically, ecologically, socially and fiscally sustainable form of economic development can be achieved in Europe. Several events organised by the national offices also accompanied the German EU Council Presidency with constructive proposals. For example, at the invitation of the Lower Saxony Office, Bernd Lange, Member of the European Parliament, called for the crisis to be used to help the hardest-hit Member States bring about the necessary transformation of their economies.

Around 20 young people from several European countries presented their expectations for a functioning Europe at Hambach Schloss on 26 November. With Katarina Barley and other MEPs, and in the presence of FES President Kurt Beck, they discussed above all a consistent defence of democratic values. They criticised the EU's failure to speak with one voice on human rights violations such as those in Belarus. The participants also included members of the Polish voivodeship of Opole and the French region of Franche Comté/Burgundy, partner regions of Rhineland-Palatinate.

The most important development in the Eastern Partnership area in 2020 was the massively rigged presidential election in Belarus. The FES office in Kiev in charge of Belarus provided information as well as recommendations for action for political decision-makers in rapid succession before and



after the elections. For Poland, destabilisation in Belarus would have immediate consequences. Former Polish President Aleksander Kwaśniewski spoke about this with the foreign policy spokesperson of the SPD parliamentary group, Nils Schmid, and the former Polish Ambassador to Moscow, Katarzyna Pełczyńska-Nałęcz, in August in an online conference organised by FES Poland and the Lassalle Centre.

Zoran Zaev is the recipient of the 2020 FES Human Rights Award. Kurt Beck presented the prestigious prize to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Northern Macedonia on 16 November in Berlin. Beck praised Zaev's courageous commitment to a "free, open and social society". The laudator, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas, called Zaev a "bearer of hope for an entire generation". Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, EU Foreign Affairs Commissioner Josep Borrell and their colleagues also conveyed their congratulations. In Northern Macedonia, the award ceremony was broadcast live by three television stations.

# Just Transition: Shaping climate protection equitably

26

Despite the pandemic, the climate crisis remains one of the biggest problems of our times. Under the heading “Just Transition”, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is working towards a combination of ecological renewal and social justice. This is a focus in both the international and national work of the Foundation.

## Ecology, justice, solidarity

The virtual Global Green Deals Forum organised by the FES on 1 October was held under the banner “social.democratic.climate-just”. 2,300 participants discussed in digital forums and participatory labs how social and ecological issues can be reconciled and how change can be shaped democratically. The congress marked the start of a thematic focus that the Foundation will continue to pursue in the coming years.

The EU Commission has set up civil society advisory bodies with the aim of making trade agreements sustainable. The FES is also member of some of these. In 2020, the Foundation together with Ghent University for the first time presented a detailed study on the effectiveness of these bodies. It formulates recommendations for strengthening this trade policy control instrument, which have met with a broad resonance by the European Commission and EU Parliament.

Sustainable supply chains were the topic of an FES conference held in Berlin in March. “Only through legal regulation of due diligence obligations of companies can the 450 million people who now work in supply chains be protected,” said IG BCE Chair Michael Vassiliadis. The conference is part of an extensive FES consultation programme on the German Supply Chain Act (*Lieferkettengesetz*), which is also a subject of controversy within the German government. This includes comparative studies on similar projects in other countries and regular expert workshops on individual aspects of the law.

The renowned Africa scholar Robert Kappel attested to a failure of development and trade policy with Africa in an on-line discussion on the topic “EU and Africa – Partnership instead of Patronage”, which was organised together with Museum Karl-Marx-Haus Trier. Ndiitah Nghipondoka-Robiati from the Namibian Ministry of Trade called for more intensive cooperation between the EU and African Union.

Like many regions, South Africa is mired in an energy crisis that can only be solved if the energy transition is accompanied by job creation.

Based on a study conceived with civil society, the FES launched a programme in which women trade unionists in the energy sector are advised by IG BCE. Meanwhile, in the Horn



Global Green Deals Forum, FES Berlin, 1 October 2020 – on the podium here: Ralf Fücks (Managing Director of Liberale Moderne); Kevin Kühnert (Deputy SPD Party Chair and Federal Chairman of the Young Socialists); Luisa Neubauer (Fridays for Future); moderator Jochen Steinhilber (FES). For more, see: [www.fes.de/en/global-green-deals](http://www.fes.de/en/global-green-deals)



of Africa, the likelihood of violent conflict is mounting due to climate change. The Climate Security Working Group founded by the FES, together with its partners, has presented recommendations for action for greater climate security, which were discussed in the Bundestag and at the African Union Summit.

In Germany, the energy transition, among other things, is intended to help stop global warming. But the social consequences must not be ignored. This was the topic of an expert discussion with Saxony-Anhalt's Minister of Economic Affairs Armin Willingmann in Freyburg/Unstrut at the beginning of March. Although coal production has been declining for decades, the remaining coalfields and regions are facing massive changes at present, according to the speakers.

The FES office in Schwerin offered several discussion formats on the transformation of the energy sector, for example on the role of wind energy, the importance of hydrogen and the Nord Stream 2 natural gas pipeline. Two online events accompanied the Fridays for Future debates; they debunked climate myths and showed how these can be deconstructed. This allowed the mostly young participants to create a link between their commitment to sustainability and education in civic and political democracy.

The BayernForum's Climate Handbook for Municipalities shows that ecological change is possible through solidarity. It provides practical recommendations for action and showcases best-practice municipalities that have already completed the transformation. The strong demand – also at the accompanying online events – showed that there is a great need for ideas on how to combine ecology and solidarity at the local level.

Political polarisation, autocracy and hostility to democracy are on the rise worldwide. Counteracting this remains one of the main tasks of the FES. One key approach to this is fostering committed young people in society through Young Leaders programmes such as "Youth for Change" in Tunisia. This year, 250 young people were trained there. Several Young Leaders were admitted to online courses at the FES-supported Global Solution Summit in May, where they met prominent politicians and academics such as Federal Minister of the Environment Svenja Schulze, virologist Christian Drosten and economist Dani Rodrik.



## Spreading peace and security

The African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), the institutional backbone for security on the African continent, remains fragile. Against this background, the FES organised a scenario process on the future of APSA. Four scenarios were presented to decision-makers in the African Union, who plan to use these as a basis for planning in the future. In Mali, the FES had drawn attention to the unstable situation early on, based on its annual survey "Mali Mètre". In the wake of the military coup in August, FES representatives in the region were sought-after discussion partners for German and European Sahel policy.

In many countries, the main responsibility for the increase in violence lies with state security forces. The Security Policy Alternatives Network (SPAN), co-founded by the FES, develops proposals for alternative approaches to security and peace policy. At its network meeting this year, SPAN presented its policy recommendations to government representatives from Germany, France, the UK and USA.

In Tunisia, the FES is working with partners to train police executives on how to deal with female victims of violence and teach them the basics of a human rights-based approach to dealing with citizens.

The effects of online bullying were addressed in Thailand on the basis of an FES study on gender-specific violence on social media. Feminist groups and academic experts were able to network thanks to this FES initiative and jointly developed strategies to counter sexualised violence online. In the run-up to the Jordanian parliamentary elections in November, the



FES supported female candidates with a team of researchers to systematically record misogynistic hostility and violence in politics in order to raise awareness among the members of the electoral commission there. In Lebanon, the FES has created an app to document and publicise homophobic attacks.

The new regional FES project in Latin America “Toma Partido” (Parties in Change) is networking progressive parties to facilitate a discourse over a new development model. The FES Brazil and Argentina offices are together

organising a virtual dialogue in July on the foreign policy interests of the countries of the centre compared to the southern periphery. “Multilateralism is in crisis and this crisis will even worsen,” predicted former foreign minister of Argentina and current senator Jorge Taiana in a dialogue with Celso Amorim, Brazilian foreign minister for many years under the Lula and Dilma Rousseff administrations. The event attracted enormous interest with more than 10,000 viewers.

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# THE FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG E.V. IN THE PRESS

# 01

ADEN TV / JEMEN  
5 JANUARY 2020

30

Mr. Mohammed Hussein Aidaroos, Chairman of the Shura Council, praised the activities of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Yemen, which targeted core issues such as the social security of state employees, in cooperation with a number of civil society organizations and their efforts to re-launch the payment of the salaries of military veterans. In addition, the Council discussed the aspects of cooperation between the Economic Commission and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in the field of capacity building programs which could be provided for the members and employees of the Shura Council.

LATVIAN PUBLIC BROADCASTING /  
LATVIA  
22 JANUARY 2020

The Latvian Foreign Policy Institute (LIIA), in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, the Nuclear Threat Initiative, the European Leadership Network, and the Russian International Affairs Council, held a public discussion entitled “Transform Process in Belarus: Impact on the West and Russia.” The discussion took place in the framework of the annual “Riga Dialogues 2020” conference. The aim of the project is to discuss and provide mutually beneficial recommendations for improving the Euro-Atlantic security area and dialogue.

ACADEMIE.SUD / KASACHSTAN  
27 JANUARY 2020

The Academy and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung have been working together successfully since 2014 within the framework of the project “International Standards for the Protection of Human Rights through the Courts”. Christoph Mohr noted the particular importance of improving the professional skills of judges and expressed the intention to expand the scope of cooperation with the Academy.

# 02

AL QUDS NEWSPAPER / PALESTINE  
7 FEBRUARY 2020

Bisan Center for Research and Development released yesterday the first issue of the Progressive Journal during a conference held at the Red Crescent Society. This journal comes to open the way for debate and dialogue on a number of thorny intellectual issues, in order to answer the question, “What do Palestinian progressives think?” The Progressive was published in cooperation with the German Organization Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and Bisan Center for Research and Development.

MDR / GERMANY  
26 FEBRUARY 2020

And various think tanks have also addressed the issue of open data. The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, for example, which is close to the SPD, can imagine the dominant companies in the market being required to share raw data.



## 03

WDR / GERMANY  
2 MARCH 2020

In his will, Friedrich Ebert decreed that a foundation should be set up with the aim of “helping people of all classes in the democratic spirit, to improve understanding between Germany and its neighbours and to promote talented young people”. [...] On 2 March 1925, the SPD central organ “Vorwärts” sent out a request in the spirit of the deceased “to refrain from donating wreaths and sending deputations and to donate amounts earmarked for this purpose to the Foundation”. The appeal for donations marks the founding of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung.

BALKANINSIGHT / BOSNIA  
5 MARCH 2020

An anti-European and anti-western pre-disposition for a variety of reasons – for example, in Serbia – should also be factored into the equation. As argued in the FES report, it is this psychological void that China is stepping into. But, again, this is not the whole story. One would still have to qualify the Asian giant’s reputation in Southeast Europe – is China enjoying a warm embrace or a lukewarm acceptance? [...] Are youngsters in Southeast Europe tempted to study and pursue a professional career in China? It doesn’t look like it. China’s soft power has little, if anything, to do with appeal. Rather, it is a mix of economic prowess and hyperactive public diplomacy, blended with a pledge of financial assistance which then breeds expectations across the region.

MYJOYONLINE / GHANA  
8 MARCH 2020

A number of Gender aligned Civil society organisations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) today like the African Women’s Development Fund, the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Plan Ghana, Star Ghana, Cluster on Decentralisation, FDA-Ghana, Alliance for Women in Média, ABANTU for Development among others have been very forceful in their advocacy to push more women towards decision-making spaces in society.

PAGINA21 / ITALY  
30 MARCH 2020

In fact, as Luca Argenta, Michael Braun and Tobias Mörschel also point out in an article in the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung magazine: “In Italy, meanwhile, there is a growing feeling of having been, once again, abandoned by Europe in a state of serious crisis: as at the time of the euro crisis that began in 2008, and then during the migration crisis that began in 2015 and now, in 2020, in the management of the coronavirus crisis. To the question ‘Does the EU help Italy?’ an overwhelming 88 % answered negatively”. An opinion therefore unfortunately widespread, but false.

## 04

FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU / GERMANY  
16 APRIL 2020

A study conducted by the Friedrich Ebert-Stiftung criticises other aspects as well. Children with a migration history rarely attend public schools, which seemingly “offer those who are intent on segregation and securing status an option to realise their intentions in the field of education – with potentially problematic consequences for the cohesion of society. How are young people of different social and ethnic backgrounds supposed to learn to understand each other if they don’t have any common experiences?”

TRUD / BULGARIA  
24 APRIL 2020

If the EU has the ambition to be a leading force on the world stage, as written in the Union’s strategy papers, the slow decision-making mechanism must be changed, because sluggishness leads to inefficiency. The EU must be more effective in both preventing and managing crises that take place outside the Union. This was stated by President Rumen Radev at a discussion organized in Sofia by the Institute of Economics and International Relations and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

# 05

KOMMERSANT / RUSSIA  
30 APRIL 2020

32

What worries today's Russian youth? What are the attitudes of the country's youngest generation, who have no (or almost no) personal memories of the Soviet Union? How do young people, mostly influenced by the "wild 1990s" and economic growth of the 2000s, feel about Russia and the world – especially in an environment of increasing "de-democratization" of society and a confrontation between Russia and the West that has lasted for more than five years? To get answers to these questions, the Levada Center conducted a representative survey of 1,500 young Russians between the ages of 18 and 35 in 2019, as well as additional focus-group surveys. The research was conducted at the request of the German Friedrich Ebert Foundation as part of the international project FES Youth Studies.

RUSSIA MATTERS / USA  
5 MAY 2020

A majority of young Russians distrust NATO more than any other organization and disagree that Russia is a European country, according to a recent poll conducted by Russia's independent Levada Center and Germany's Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

WELT / GERMANY  
8 MAY 2020

No nation suffered as many victims in the Second World War as the Soviet Union. According to historians' estimates, Russians, Ukrainians, Belarusians and all other peoples of the Soviet Union, which was invaded by the German Reich, suffered fatalities in the realm of 20 to 27 million soldiers and civilians [...]. A recent study by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) on the political attitudes of young people in Russia shows how deeply these traumas continue to affect them. When asked about the most important historical event, the Second World War was named most often, well ahead of the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

THE NEW TIMES / RUANDA  
15 MAY 2020

How would you start a conversation with your friends about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the collection of global goals aimed at addressing everything from hunger, to poverty and ensure the well-being of humanity?

A new comic book by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Rwanda attempts to visually break down goals using visual characters that are simple to understand.

EL ECONOMISTA / MEXICO  
31 MAY 2020

In recent months, the pandemic has further highlighted the deficiencies in the health system and the precariousness of the labour market experienced by millions of Mexicans, according to experts at a webinar organised by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung.

# 06

THE DIPLOMAT / AFGHANISTAN  
8 JUNE 2020

As in other countries in Asia and all around the world, COVID-19 has become a nationwide challenge for Afghanistan. Decades of war have wreaked havoc on a health system that is unable to contain or adequately monitor the spread of the virus. (...) With the support of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Afghanistan, photographers Mohammad Aref Karim and Mariam Alimi explored everyday life in Herat and Kabul. The aim of the project is to shed a light particularly on the deep socioeconomic impact of the pandemic on Afghan lives and the country's prospect for peace.

AL QUDS NEWSPAPER / PALESTINE  
9 JUNE 2020

The Education Bookshop in Jerusalem, in cooperation with the German Friedrich Ebert Foundation, organized yesterday an exclusive meeting with Professor Noam Chomsky on Zoom, which was followed by about 500 people through the app itself and more than a thousand people on Facebook. While the recorded clip has exceeded fifteen thousand people during the past twenty-four hours.

FORBES / KASACHSTAN  
12 JUNE 2020

The question of what the future of Central Asian cooperation will look like was the subject of a webinar held by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Kazakhstan. As noted by the moderator of the meeting, Rakhim Oshakbayev, director of the Talap Centre for Applied Research, the crisis caused by the pandemic has not revealed any new reasons for integration in the region.

LA DIARIA / URUGUAY  
16 JUNE 2020

"From the South, rebuilding the economy to protect life" was the theme of another meeting of the roundtable organised by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in Uruguay last week. The minimum living income and other possible alternatives for minimum material security were discussed.

THE JERUSALEM POST / ISRAEL  
23 JUNE 2020

A poll by the Jerusalem Media and Communication Center (JMCC) in cooperation with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, of 1,200 Palestinian adults living throughout the West Bank and Gaza found that 45.3% of Palestinians believe that if Israel follows through with plans to annex parts of the West Bank, there would be "no chance at all" for the two-state solution.

# 07

AFP / MONGOLIA  
24 JUNE 2020

34

Mongolia's ruling party won a landslide election victory to retain an overwhelming majority in parliament – a reward from voters who approved of its handling of the coronavirus pandemic, according to near-complete results on Thursday. [...] “Voters did obviously reward the handling of the corona crisis by the Mongolian government and put their trust in the leadership of Prime Minister Khurelsukh,” Niels Hegewisch, country director of Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, a German non-profit foundation, told AFP. “Certainly, a victory of this magnitude comes with a great responsibility. Economically, Mongolia is facing tough times,” he said. Despite its mineral wealth, the country's economy has been weak and required a \$ 5.5 billion bailout from the International Monetary Fund in 2017.

THAIPBS / THAILAND  
15 JULY 2020

Today the study on impact of Covid-19 on workers in tourism, which was supported by Friedrich Stiftung, invited hotel entrepreneurs, hotel unions from Phuket, tour guides and labour rights lawyer to discuss about the problems and solutions in order to propose to the Ministry of Labour on 16 July 2020.

MONTEVIDEO PORTAL / URUGUAY  
19 JULY 2020

This note, signed by Sebastian Sperling, director of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung office in Montevideo, warns that in our country “the centre-right government is dismantling the system that made its response to the pandemic so successful”.

ANNAHAR / LIBANON  
24 JULY 2020

The Lebanese Oil and Gas Initiative LOGI, in collaboration with Kulluna Irada and in partnership with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung have held a roundtable discussion with economists, parliament members and legal experts to discuss the necessity of passing a law about the establishment of a sovereign wealth fund to manage the revenues of the Lebanese natural resources. This discussion comes as a lobbying act to vet the plans of state representatives who altogether with the banks are pushing towards the establishment of a fund to collect the public assets in order to invest/sell them.

KLIMAREPORTER / GERMANY  
27 JULY 2020

Every year, Germany awards billions in fossil fuel subsidies in the energy sector. In an analysis for the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Forum Ökologisch-Soziale Marktwirtschaft (FÖS) estimates that these subsidies total around EUR 17 billion. The subsidies cement the fossil status quo and make it more difficult for Germany to achieve the climate goals it has set itself. What is more: they counteract efforts to protect the climate.

# 08

EL DEBER / BOLIVIA  
19 AUGUST 2020

The coronavirus remains central to the concerns of politicians, analysts, journalists and academics, but it is no longer the most important one. [...] The people who generate opinion in the country and influence politicians' decisions are more concerned about the country's economic and social situation and the consequences this may have on the dispute for power in the October elections. This is according to a delphi study by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), which applied an online questionnaire to a select group of 118 political actors, analysts, journalists and specialists in different fields.

SPUTNIK MUNDO / ECUADOR  
20 AUGUST 2020

The Platform Observatory, in coordination with Glovers Ecuador, an organization of application distributors and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Ecuador FES – ILDIS Foundation, promotes the 'Survey on working conditions of application distributors', which seeks to collect anonymous information on the violations experienced by workers in seven cities in Ecuador.

NEOSKOSMOS / CYPRUS  
26 AUGUST 2020

Led by Dr Michalis S. Michael, the "Famagusta Dialogues Project" was funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade, with the financial support of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation in Cyprus. The project brought together the Greek and Turkish Cypriot municipal communities of Famagusta, the adjacent Deryneia municipal community, and other stakeholders, with a view of involving them in a constructive, respectful and mutually beneficial dialogue. It comprised of two intracommunal (internal) consultations and two intercommunal (bi-communal) dialogues.

SÄCHSISCHE.DE / GERMANY  
6 SEPTEMBER 2020

In the wake of 1990, the illusions of the East combined with the ignorance of the West, according to historian Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk. His theses are at the focus of the 31st Bautzen Forum. At the Bautzen Forum, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung now wants to shed light on the causes underlying this development. Sächsische.de spoke with the historian about the question of why prosperity is increasing in the East, but at the same time the distance to the political system is growing - and why this development is also reaching the West.

THE NAMIBIAN / NAMIBIA  
21 SEPTEMBER 2020

The country's housing backlog of about 300,000 housing units would require N\$76 billion for land servicing and housing construction.

This was revealed by Derek Klazen deputy minister of urban and rural development during a Zoom web seminar with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Namibia Office, early this month.

The seminar was on housing provision in informal settlements and the government's initiatives to address the crisis and ensure adequate housing for all.

# 10

THE DAILY STAR / BANGLADESH  
25 SEPTEMBER 2020

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Rahman made these remarks while presenting a keynote paper at an international webinar styled “The Pandemic and SMEs: Shock-absorbing policy measures and future debates, impacts in Bangladesh and lessons from responses around the World”.

The event, jointly organised by the Small and Medium Enterprise Foundation (SMEF) and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Bangladesh, was held yesterday.

NET EASE / CHINA  
29 SEPTEMBER 2020

The theme of the symposium was “Living Cities for the Future with a Global Perspective” and was conducted in an online and offline format. Chen Qun, Vice Mayor of Shanghai, and Roland Schmidt, Secretary General of the Ebert Foundation, delivered a video message at the opening of the conference. (...)

Roland Schmidt said that cities are not only the birthplace of prosperity and innovation, but also places full of special challenges. There is a broad global discussion on how to make cities social cities and sustainable cities. After decades of development, China and its cities have undergone significant changes, with rapid urbanization and a strong capacity for integration that can offer extraordinary opportunities for development.

FENA NEWS / BOSNIA  
2 OCTOBER 2020

About twenty activists from the region gathered at the conference, and one of the goals of the Foundation and the program itself is to organize activities at locations where there is activism for environmental protection. During the conference, activists will discuss new strategies in seeking environmental solutions and discuss a variety of key topics related to climate change and environmental degradation in our communities. Director of the regional project of the “Friedrich Ebert” Foundation, Ralf Melzer, said that he is familiar with environmental problems in Bosnia and Herzegovina and that he is aware that environmental problems do not exist only in BiH, but in all countries in the region.

JORDAN TIMES / JORDAN  
4 OCTOBER 2020

Experts have warned that factors contributing to increased child labour have intensified in Jordan due to the coronavirus pandemic throughout the past six months, according to a Jordan Labour Watch (JLW) statement released on Thursday. In a panel discussion held online... the participants said that the economic and social conditions have shadowed the regulations and policies to combat child labour, which have not stopped the increase of number of working children in Jordan. The panel discussion, held to consider a paper titled “Child Labour and the novel coronavirus crisis”, is part of a series of discussions focused on the virus and the labour market, held by the Phenix centre, in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

KÖLNER STADT-ANZEIGER / GERMANY  
10 OCTOBER 2020

Nine out of ten Germans complain that in our society selfishness counts more than cohesion, according to the trust study carried out by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the University of Bonn. This is a remarkable result that makes clear how much selfishness disturbs us in everyday life. You all know this from observing traffic in urban settings: cyclists shouting at car drivers and vice versa.

MAAN NEWS AGENCY / PALESTINE  
10 OCTOBER 2020

Ramallah – The participants in a workshop on “Health Policies to Confront the Coronavirus Pandemic” organized by the Institute for Public Policy (IPP) in cooperation with the German Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) called for preparation to deal with various scenarios, that could impose itself during the coming period, including the post-Corona phase.

AINGUYEN / VIETNAM  
11 OCTOBER 2020

On November 10th, in Hanoi, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Vietnam, Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) in collaboration with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) in Vietnam organized the workshop: “Five years after the Paris Agreement – Continuing and implementing the commitment and national programs on climate change”... Facing the challenges posed by climate change, Ms. Claudia Ehing – Project Director for Climate and Energy in Vietnam said: “Looking from the changes of climate change that have poured into the central Vietnam recently, we can see that climate change cannot be taken lightly. When the Covid-19 pandemic ends, the environmental crisis is still there. The Covid-19 pandemic is not the reason we delay our transition to a low-carbon economy, but we need to find appropriate methods and solutions”.

OMNY.FM / ISRAEL  
15 OCTOBER 2020

Some 61 percent of Israelis think that in the wake of the Israel-UAE normalization deal, Israel should try to reach similar agreements with other Arab countries, while only 24 percent think it should make resolution of the Israel-Palestinian conflict the top priority. These are among the findings of the 2020 Israeli foreign policy index of the Mitvim Institute, released this week for the eighth consecutive year. The survey, conducted in cooperation with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and Rafi Smith Institute polled a sample size of 700 Jewish and Arab adult Israelis.

EL ESPECTADO / COLOMBIA  
10 NOVEMBER 2020

Although women make up 51.2% of the country's population, according to the National Statistics Institute (DANE), the number of women in elected office in Colombia is very low: only 12% of mayors and municipal councillors, 16% of governors and 19.7% of Congress. Therefore, social movements are campaigning for political parity, so that half of the positions in the different public spheres of power, will be held by women. The campaign “Paridad Ya!” (Parity Now!) was launched by citizens of the country with the support of organisations such as the women's organisation “Artemisas”, the German Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (in Colombia Fescol), the National Women's Network and the Casa de la Mujer.

CIVIL.TODAY / MACEDONIA  
16 NOVEMBER 2020

Zoran Zaev was awarded the Friedrich Ebert Human Rights Award 2020 for, as they themselves stated, Zaev's determined course of reforms that ultimately led EU member states to start negotiation talks for EU accession of North Macedonia in March, and also the country's success to join NATO as the 30th member.

VEČERNJI / CROATIA  
16 NOVEMBER 2020

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The only “tamed” access to the island is on the southwest coast, so in the course of time a port was built there for the ships that brought prisoners. Even today boats arrive there, but with tourists who want to visit the notorious “Croatian Alcatraz”. The Zagreb office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the Association Documenta – Center for Dealing With the Past – created a brochure with a tour plan this summer on the occasion of the European Day of Remembrance for the Victims of Totalitarian and Authoritarian Regimes, which can be downloaded from [www.goli.hr](http://www.goli.hr).

HANDELSBLATT / GERMANY  
20 NOVEMBER 2020

One woman for every four board members: SPD and CDU/CSU want to introduce a binding quota for women on the boards of listed or co-determined companies. [...] There has also been support for a quota from the business community. The Managers Group of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, which is close to the SPD, published a discussion paper on this in the summer: “The quota will help to leverage the full potential of our well-trained executives for the success of our companies in Germany.”

EL ESPECTADOR / COLOMBIA  
23 NOVEMBER 2020

The sanitary emergency has deepened inequalities in most Latin American countries, authorised measures that violate human rights and increased the use of the military for policing tasks. (...) Experts from several countries in the region will analyse this worrying reality from Monday to Thursday, in the second Latin American-wide congress of the “Network for Inclusive and Sustainable Security”, organised by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Colombia (Fescol).

ECONOMIA ONLINE / KOSOVO  
3 DECEMBER 2020

The findings of a publication named “Assessing the implementation of the youth legislation in Kosovo municipalities”, which was conducted in cooperation between FES Kosovo and SINK Institute, revealed that youth participation in Kosovo needs better support. In comparison to the countries in the region, e. g., in Albania, youth participation is more active than in Kosovo both in the local and central level. The speakers of the publication launching conference highlighted the importance of the implementation of the youth legislation in order to empower and widen youth participation in becoming agents of change in the society they live in.

AL GHAD NEWSPAPER / JORDAN  
4 DECEMBER 2020

Jordan has the capacity to produce low cost green hydrogen with the potential of international export according to the “Hydrogen as green energy source in the MENA region” Report produced by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) Regional Energy and Climate Project. Green Hydrogen will increase the contribution of renewable energy resources in the total energy mix, storage capacity, green growth and employment.





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# Political Education and Consultation

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung provides civic and socio-political education and consultation in Germany, oriented towards the guiding model of Social Democracy. Political education is one of the decisive instruments for fostering democratic participation and the identification of citizens with the community.

Through its civic education work, the FES aims to contribute to citizens' ability to judge and take purposeful action, while motivating them to engage in political, trade union and civic voluntary work. At the same time, the Foundation sees itself as a platform for socio-political dialogue by promoting public debate and advising policy-makers. Its programmes are target-group-oriented, thematically structured and regionally flexible. They are based on the four pillars of civic/socio-political education, learning projects, skills training and political consulting. At the same time, they leverage a variety of methodological, particularly participatory, approaches. Through the testing of new digital educational programmes last year, during the Corona shutdown, the Foundation was able to rapidly convert its educational programmes into digital formats: There were webinars, podcasts, livestreams, blogs, videos or messenger-based games for mobile phones.

## Political Academy

In 2020, Political Academy organised 910 events. In addition to online and print publications, the FES made various digital formats available, e.g. eight new episodes of the podcast "Zukunft gerecht". The messenger channel "Der rote Faden" registered 5,200 subscribers.

The aim of the civic education and advisory work of the Political Academy (PA) is to open up equal political and social participation opportunities for all. This is achieved by means of information, orientation and training programmes preparing people for political, trade union and civic engagement as well as by participation of citizens in social discussion and decision-making processes. In dialogue with politicians and scientists, citizens develop proposals on issues like how to ensure the viability of democracy, local politics and social and educational policy in the future. Experts and individuals working in the field of practice discuss developments in media and network policy in detail. In cooperation with educational institutions and associations, learning projects strengthen the participation and political commitment of young people. This is how the department contributes to citizens' competence and abilities to judge and act effectively, promoting the dialogue between the policy-making arena and the public, motivating and empowering engagement while contributing advice to policy-makers. The focal points of the Political Academy (PA) include basic values, the programme and history of Social Democracy, digital society, media and network policy, journalistic training and further education, political commitment in political parties, trade unions and civil society, young people and policy-making, local politics, digital civic education and consulting.



### UTOPIEN

Für ein besseres Morgen

Thomas Hartmann,  
Jochen Dahm,  
Frank Decker (ed.)  
Dietz Verlag



### Who Governs the Internet?

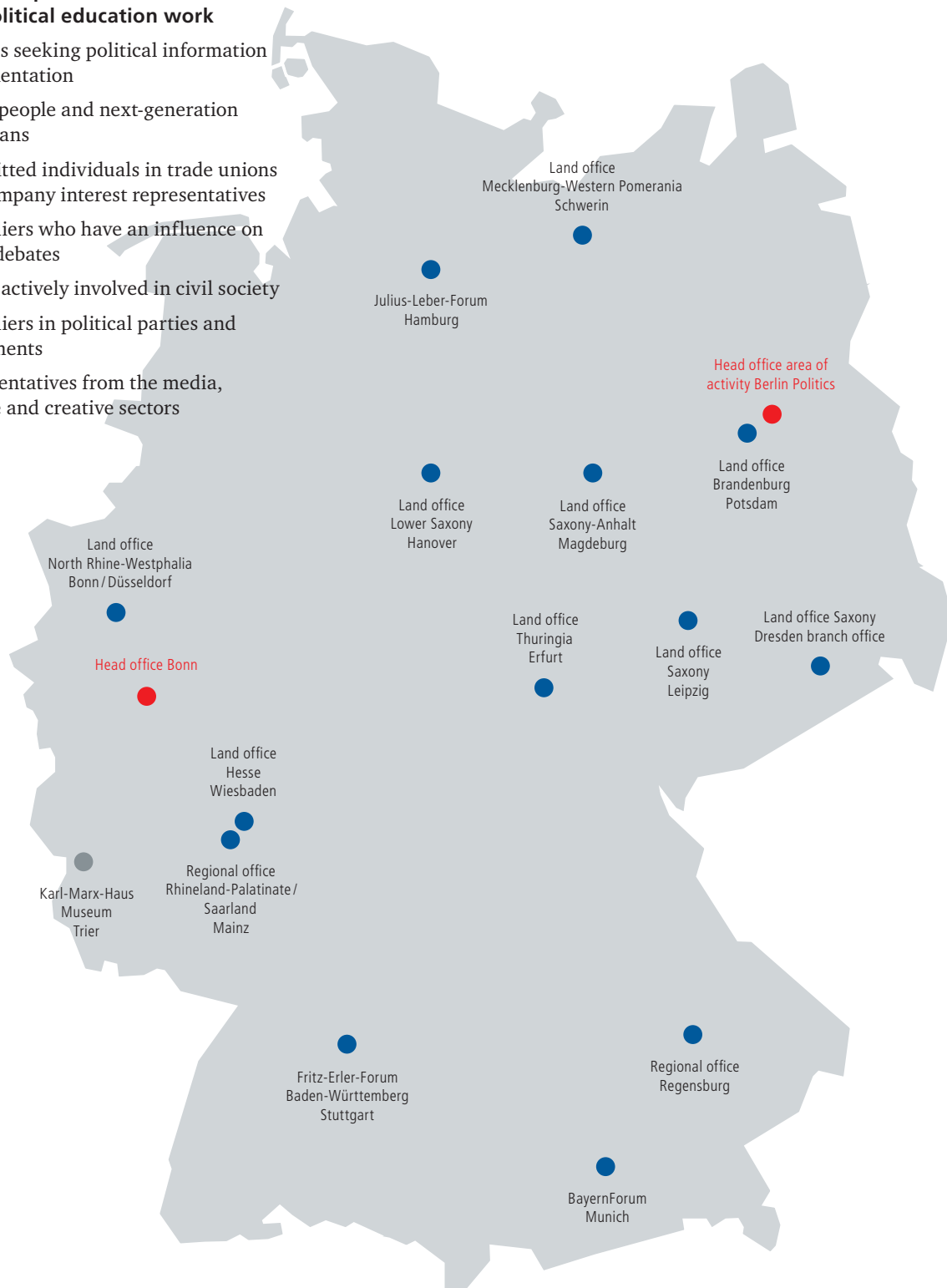
The updated and expanded new edition

Henning Lahmann,  
Jan Engelmann

## THE FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG IN GERMANY

### Target groups in civic and socio-political education work

- Citizens seeking political information and orientation
- Young people and next-generation politicians
- Committed individuals in trade unions and company interest representatives
- Multipliers who have an influence on social debates
- People actively involved in civil society
- Multipliers in political parties and parliaments
- Representatives from the media, culture and creative sectors



Other examples of topics in 2020 were the expansion of the interactive chat for young people, called “e-Bert”, to include “Myths in Climate Policy”, online articles and contributions by JournalistenAkademie, KommunalAkademie and Akademie Management und Politik, the new policy paper “Weiterdenken NRW” and publications and activities in the thematic field of media policy and public service broadcasting in Europe.

## Political Dialogue

During the year, Political Dialogue offered around 35,000 interested people almost 910 events online and offline. In addition, there were 200 publications, mainly online formats and e-paper series.

The Political Dialogue Division (PD) provides civic and socio-political education and advice in northern and eastern Germany as well as on selected national policy issues in Berlin. The department seeks to interest citizens, especially young people, in democratic politics, to enable them to engage in socio-political activities and to promote the dialogue between the policy-making realm and the public. By providing policy advice at federal and *Länder* levels, PD strengthens the capacity of political partners to make judgments and take action. The *Länder* and regional offices take up federal, *Länder*, municipal and European policy issues, collating and organising these in a decentralised approach, including in rural areas, for a broad public. The Berlin sections of the Forum for Politics and Society and Forum Berlin focus on selected Federal policy issues. The innovative concepts and online services already developed in previous years in the interdepartmental FES project “Digital Political Education and Consultation” and the experience gained enabled Political Dialogue to rapidly convert all analogue

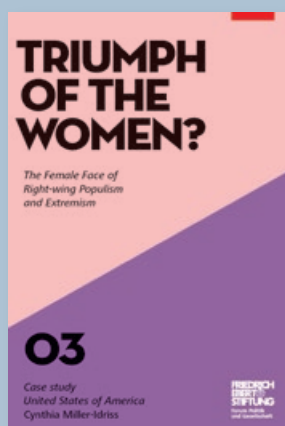
programmes to digital beginning at the end of March. Some of the regional offices were able to resume their full-scale and digital event operations as early as April.

During the lockdown, podcasts proved to be successful educational formats. In Hamburg, Bremen and Schleswig-Holstein alone, for example, the podcast series: “Friedrich on the road – in search of solidarity” reached over 8,400 listeners with 24 episodes. Other audio contributions included “Reboot 2020 – Thüringer Perspectives” and “History of fundamental values in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania”. The FES debate portal sagwas.net, which has been in operation for several years, supported politically engaged people and associations with new content. Other examples of work include the e-paper series “Democracy in a state of emergency. How is Corona changing law, politics and society?” and the qualitative study “In search of the lost dialogue”.

## Economic and Social Policy (WISO)

In 2020, more than 60 reports were published in German and English and also distributed digitally via the WISO electronic newsletter.

The Economic and Social Policy Division (WISO in the short form) advises policy-makers and society on issues relating to economic, social and ecological development. It organises events at which representatives of policy-making and society meet with experts to discuss basic issues and current problems. In three publication series – WISO Diskurs, WISO direkt and WISO Argumente – the department publishes extensive expert reports and brief action-oriented analyses for a specialist audience. It prepares critical discussions of economic topics for a broad readership.



### TRIUMPH OF THE WOMEN?

The Female Face of Right-wing Populism and Extremism

Cynthia Miller-Idriss



### PARI... WHAT?

Questions and Answers on Gender Parity and Parity Laws

Ed. Uta Kletzing

Focal topics include labour, social affairs, education / research, spatial development, finance, economy and climate / energy / environment. In addition, there are cross-cutting themes such as trade unions, migration / integration, consumers, companies / SMEs, gender / family / youth / senior citizens, demographic change, digitisation, as well as European and global economic and social policy. The subject areas map WISO-relevant committees in the German Bundestag, making close intermeshing with actors involved the legislative process possible in tune with needs. Activities are organised in flexible thematic working groups or in established discussion groups.

In dialogue with politicians, social partners, associations and research, the FES develops new concepts for Decent Work, a sustainable expansion of political and economic employee participation and an innovative, social and effective labour market policy. The precarious situation of individual self-employed workers in terms of labour and social law – against the background of the growing importance of the platform economy – is becoming an increasingly pressing issue in the labour market policy debate. In the thematic focus on social affairs, for example, the FES worked with experts to develop proposals for effective and viable future social security systems. A study on a fundamental reorientation of old-age social security was presented.

The majority of the expert seminars could be held as face-to-face, hybrid or digital events in 2020. Large events and congresses were redesigned as smaller online and offline events. One highlight of the year was the online event “Digital Capitalism”.

## Central Tasks / Managers Group

**In 2019, Managers Group organised 91 events at 13 venues, more than half of them at regional level. 52 of these took place online.**

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung’s Managers Group (Managerkreis – MK) brings together some 950 managers, entrepreneurs and representatives from business associations and policy-making who are affiliated with Social Democracy. The FES offers them the opportunity to exchange ideas and contribute their entrepreneurial expertise and operational experience to the economic policy discourse. Managers Group develops recommendations for action in the area of innovative, ecologically and socially just future economic policy. It organises panel discussions and expert talks, produces position and impulse papers. In addition, background discussions are organised to foster an exchange and networking of members. Managers Group is divided into five working groups (Economy / Digital, Finance, Transport / Mobility, Environment / Energy and Health), which draft proposals on how Germany can be made sustainable as a centre of business and industry. Eight regional groups coordinate their programme with the *Länder* offices of the FES.

Face-to-face meetings remain the first choice, but the possibility to participate online without travelling boosted nationwide participation in 2020. The events organised exclusively for women (Business Meetings) and Young Leaders were very successful.

Managers Group offers coaching for FES scholarship-holders on business-related courses, which is very well received. Since April, 15 episodes of the podcast series “Managerkreis-Impulse – Wirtschaftsdialoge zum Mithören” have been produced.



**Wirtschaft. Weiter. Denken.**

Hans-Matthöfer-Preis für  
Wirtschaftspublizistik  
Award Ceremony



**Small and medium-sized enterprises in the platform economy**

More fairness for SMEs  
in digital markets

Christoph Busch



# International work of the FES

Global trends that have been destabilising the international order for some time are also being exacerbated by the Corona pandemic and its aftermath. For example, multilateralism, the centre-piece of the post-war liberal order, is in a serious crisis as parochial national approaches are challenging multilateralism's values, objectives and processes. Country-first strategies, unilateral reflexes and a return of major power politics are eroding trust between states. The European Union must protect its fundamental values and try to fill the vacuum left by the US withdrawal from global politics.

In short, the pandemic is like a stress test for democracies, all the more so in countries whose democracy has been under pressure for some time. From Russia to China, to Turkey, Venezuela and Belarus, dictators and autocrats are unscrupulously using old and new (digital) methods of repression to cling to power. However, social inequality and poverty, as well as climate change, remain the biggest global challenges.

Covid-19 reminds us that dialogue and international cooperation are essential to effectively counter the crisis. This is where the FES' work abroad comes in: this supports fragile democracies in maintaining democratic processes even in times of crisis. FES international and European cooperation programmes seek to reshape globalisation. In numerous country-specific and global approaches, the Foundation works to ensure that economic stimulus funds are used in a democratically managed manner and to support the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

With its dense network of offices abroad, the FES makes an effective contribution to building trust and confidence in international politics and exploring opportunities for cooperation. To this end, it uses its excellent access to political and social actors and its broad range of dialogue opportunities. The topic of "Decent Work Worldwide" is a top priority. Together with national and international trade unions, the foundation works for fair working conditions, corporate responsibility and trade union rights, including in supply chains. Important formats in-

clude the annual Tiergarten Conference for progressive foreign and security policy, the Global Green Deals Forum for socio-ecological change and the digital ipg-journal (Internationale Politik und Gesellschaft).

## International Dialogue

The European Union, its neighbourhood and transatlantic relations are at the centre of the work of the International Dialogue Division. It organises educational and advisory services for politicians, associations and non-governmental organisations in a variety of formats, from bilateral briefings to major international conferences. The foreign offices work on four strategic topics across borders, supported by thematic offices in Brussels and Vienna: peace and security policy, socio-ecological transformation, work of the future as well as democracy and democracy promotion. In the process, the progressive European and international FES network is also strengthened and young multipliers are promoted.

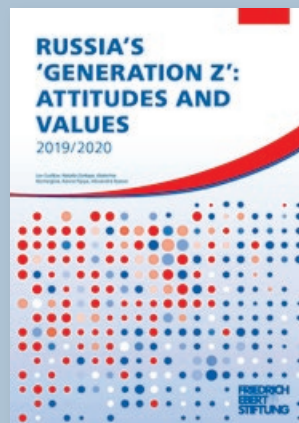
In 2020, the work of the Brussels office was dominated by debates on the EU's multi-annual financial framework and the blueprint for building Europe. As long as the rules of Brexit, the UK's exit from the EU, were not clear, this also remained a central issue. In 2020, Germany played a decisive role through its presidency of the European Council.



**Climate action.  
Socially. Just.**

A manual of  
arguments for a  
fair and ecological  
society

Published by the  
"Dept. for Central  
and Eastern Europe"  
of the Friedrich-Ebert-  
Stiftung



**RUSSIA'S GENERATION Z:  
ATTITUDES AND VALUES  
2019 / 2020**

Lev Gudkov,  
Natalia Zorkaya,  
Ekaterina Kochergina,  
Karina Pipiya,  
Alexandra Ryseva

The situation in Belarus, the newly flared-up conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, migratory pressure from the Mediterranean region and military muscle-flexing between Turkey and Greece are just some of the challenges.

Looking at the USA, it became painfully clear once again that one of the oldest and most successful democracies in the world has manoeuvred itself into crisis through a populist president, a dysfunctional two-party system and outdated electoral and governmental structures.

The Corona pandemic shows that solutions to global challenges can only be found together. An America-first or Europe-first strategy is doomed to failure in the face of global climate change, worldwide migration flows or conflicts. The European Union must become more active in global politics. The agreed “Next Generation EU” reconstruction programme, endowed with EUR 750 billion, could help the Union to emerge from this crisis stronger and more united.

The ipg-journal, the online publication of the FES, contributes to a pluralistic discourse on all these topics. The ipg’s Internet portals in German, English and Russian achieve almost 5.5 million page views each year.

## International Development Cooperation

The worst recession since the Great Depression 90 years ago: This is how the International Monetary Fund views the consequences of the Corona crisis for the global economy. Global poverty could rise for the first time in 30 years and affect an additional half a billion people.

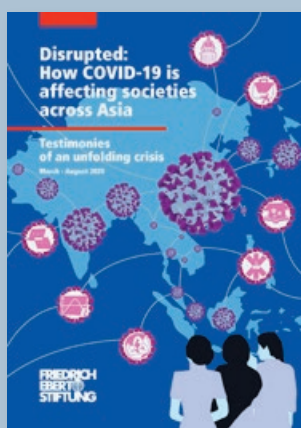
In many regions, food security is at stake; there is a threat of further famines. In particularly vulnerable societies, the

virus acts as an accelerator of crises and conflicts. Humanitarian and medical aid is not being provided due to border closures, peace negotiations have been suspended and parties to conflicts are instrumentalising the pandemic. As a result, social conflicts are intensifying, while the wounds from past violent conflicts which had been painstakingly healed are being re-opened.

There was a lively demand for advice worldwide on questions relating to the right social and economic Corona strategy. The International Development Cooperation Division (IEZ) was able to respond to these needs efficiently and topically due to its firm footing in numerous countries, both with country-specific and cross-continental project strategies.

The long-standing cooperation not only with international social democratic forces, but also with national and international trade unions and non-governmental organisations has proven its worth. In addition, the IEZ was able to draw on its numerous regional and international training and networking opportunities specifically for young people from the global South (such as the UN Fall Academy), which were conducted online in 2020. At the same time, the IEZ used the year to make its work even more efficient and collaborative.

Its programme included two major events: The Global Solutions Summit, supported by the FES and attended by over 5,000 online participants, addressed among other things the question of how progressive tax systems can be advanced. And the FES hybrid format “Global Green Deals Forum” held on 1 October invited around 2,300 participants to debate on how social and ecological issues can be reconciled.



### Disrupted: How COVID-19 is affecting societies across Asia

Testimonies of an unfolding crisis

Published by the “Office for Regional Cooperation in Asia” of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung



### The Mobility Transition in the MENA Region.

Comparative Policy Perspectives.

Ali Attari,  
Ronja Schiffer,  
Mohamed Hegazy,  
Hazem Zureiqat,  
Rami Semaan,  
Prof. Sameer Abu-Eisheh

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- 41 Bucharest
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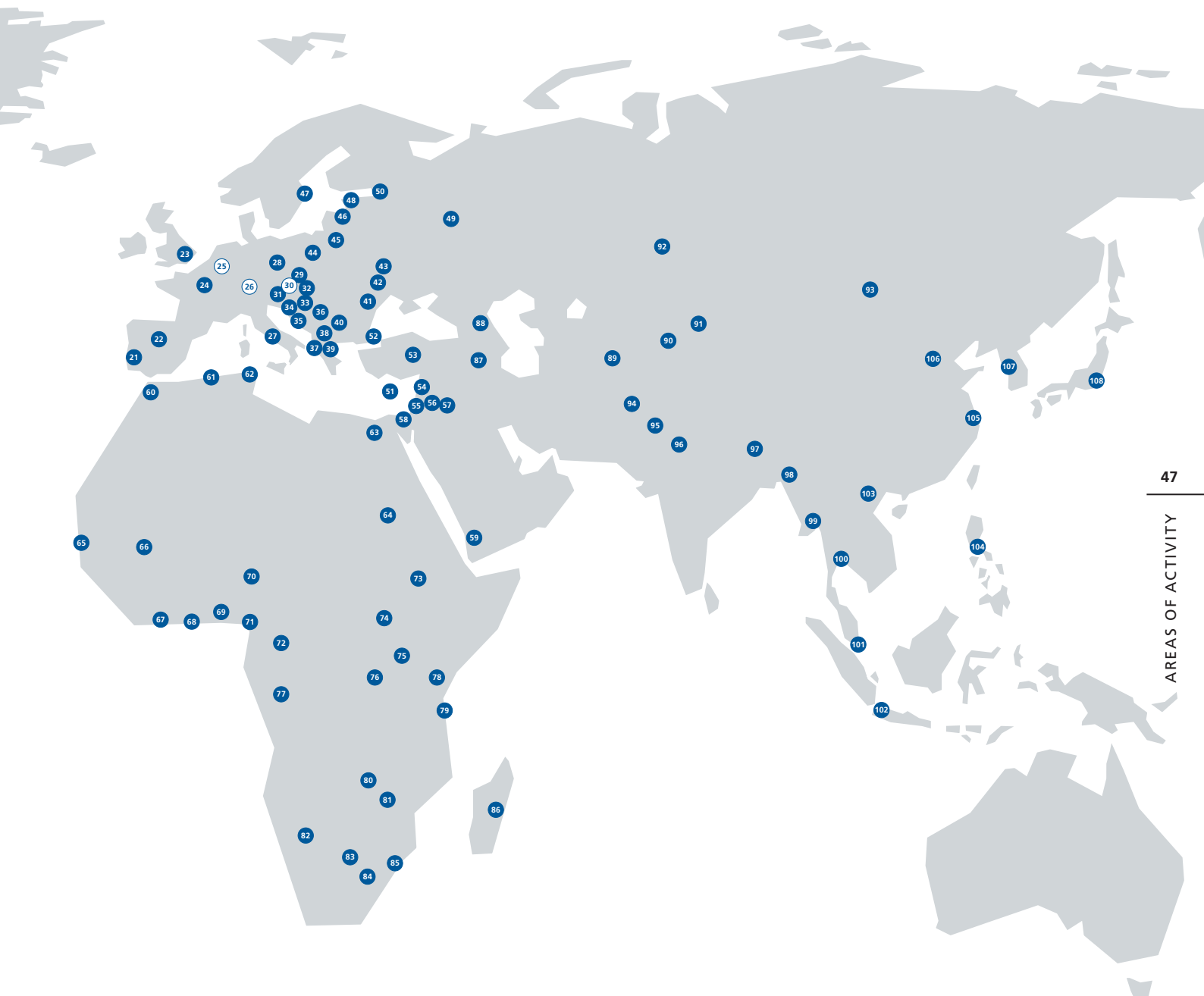
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- 83 Gaborone
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- 95 Islamabad
- 96 New Delhi
- 97 Kathmandu
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- 99 Yangon
- 100 Bangkok
- 101 Singapore
- 102 Jakarta
- 103 Hanoi
- 104 Manila
- 105 Shanghai
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- International/Regional Offices
- Liaison Offices with international organisations

STATUS AS OF: MARCH 2021



# Academic Activities

The FES organises and supports scholarly work, consulting and talent through the Scholarship Programme, the Archive of Social Democracy and the library. The Scholarship Programme provides funding to talented and engaged students from Germany and abroad who feel a commitment to Social Democratic values while contributing to the debate on education and higher education policy. The collective memory of social democracy and the trade unions is kept alive in the Archive of Social Democracy.

## Scholarship Programme

For more than 95 years, the task of the Scholarship Programme has been a twofold one: The Foundation supports young people for their own sake. But it also supports students and doctoral candidates because politically committed young people are essential to the future of a (social) democracy – regardless of whether they later work in politics, trade unions, business, the media, schools, research or science. During and after their studies, FES scholarship holders stand out for their socio-political commitment and exceptional services. As a network of solidarity, the FES Scholarship Programme was able to face the challenges posed by the pandemic in a special way. With tremendous commitment on all sides, it was possible to find answers to new questions and individual solutions to difficult situations. In many cases, the financial support of the scholarship holders was more than ever of existential importance. Personal assistance and advice were even more important to scholarship-holders than before. Thanks to digital formats, not only the support and selection interviews, but also civic education events took place in virtual space.

Education is fundamental to equal opportunities, participation and social justice. It is with this in mind that we pay particular attention to first-time academics, women, students at universities of applied science, students in MINT

### Solidarity Fund

The Solidarity Fund was established in 1971 at the behest of German and international scholarship-holders and alumni. Since then, it has served as an important instrument providing rapid support without red tape to foreign students who find themselves in need or face persecution.

Donations to the fund can be made under the rubric:  
“FES Solidarity Fund”.

IBAN DE52 1007 0000 0938 4744 00 | BIC DEUTDE33XXX

subjects and students with a migration background when making our selection.

More than 50 percent of FES scholarship holders receiving funding from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) are politically active in the party.

Even after a scholarship, the Foundation encourages many of its approximately 23,000 alumni to continue their socio-political involvement and to help shape the network of Social Democracy.

The Education and Science area of activity is concerned with the systematic analysis, consultation and networking of actors in *Länder* and federal politics, ministries, science and school practice. In 2020, the focus was on the major challenges posed by the Corona pandemic for schools.



### Ein ganzer Tag Ganztage

Auf der Suche nach Chancengleichheit

Hrsg. Burkhard Jungkamp  
Martin Pfafferott

The publication provides insight into the topic of all-day schooling in Germany



### Feuerwerk statt Brennpunkt

Was brauchen Schulen in benachteiligten sozialen Lagen?

Hrsg. Burkhard Jungkamp  
Martin Pfafferott

What do schools in disadvantaged social situations in Germany need?

A 22-member interdisciplinary expert commission presented recommendations on this in May, which generated a broad media and political resonance. Another research policy focus was an e-paper series on the importance of science communication in times of the Corona pandemic.

### Archive of Social Democracy

The Archive of Social Democracy (AdsD) is the historical memory of Social Democracy. It is in the tradition of the party library and archive founded by August Bebel in 1878. In 1969 it became the AdsD brand and has migrated its tradition and work into the digital world of the 21st century. The collection, safeguarding, preservation, indexing and making available of printed and unprinted documents and other artefacts of Social Democracy are its core services. With its holdings, (digital) services and products, the AdsD is an easily accessible, internationally known repository of knowledge. It works in accordance with international standards and plays a leading role among the archives of the German political foundations in terms of long-term digital archiving and services. Information, education and advisory services are actively offered in various formats and channels; this facilitates a deeper historical understanding of current topics. The AdsD promotes networking and acts as an impartor of democratic values as well as an actor promoting science and historical-political education.

### Study support 2020



**2,646**  
scholarship-holders

**52 %**  
of whom were women

**529**  
of whom were new

**270**  
of whom were  
foreign students

The historical perspective on major industrial transformations helps to better specify the challenges posed by digital transformation and co-determination rights of workers and trade unions.

For this reason, one focus in 2020 was on the “transformation of the world of work” with digitally driven automation. In 2020, one focus of the AdsD was on more intensive cooperation between the Archive and Library areas of work,



### Digitale Industrie Algorithmische Arbeit Gesellschaftliche Transformation

Wolfgang Schroeder,  
Ursula Bitzegeio,  
Sandra Fischer (Ed.)  
Dietz Verlag

Digital industry  
Algorithmic work  
Social transformation



### Gutes Klima – Gute Gesellschaft!

Die ökologische  
Frage in der Sozialen  
Demokratie

Peter Beule (Hrsg.)

Ecological issues and  
Social Democracy

which were merged in 2018. In the Archive area, the introduction of a new archive information system in particular required a great deal of attention. In parallel, the library expanded its service offerings and digitisation activities. For example, the “Onleihe” has grown significantly. This allows FES colleagues worldwide to read daily newspapers, weekly magazines and e-books directly in digital form. The web infrastructure developed for the digitisation of the social democratic central organ “Vorwärts” was used to digitise further key titles from the historical social democratic press, which means that a total of 16 central historical newspaper titles in the field of social democracy from the Empire, the Weimar Republic and its exile during National Socialism are now available for full-text research.

Since July 2020, the library has been examining its “founding holdings”, i. e. the party library of the SPD, which was rebuilt by 1969, as well as purchases of older works up until 1977, in terms of their provenance portfolio as part of a project in the field of provenance research funded by the German Centre for the Loss of Cultural Property. A total of almost 18,000 books are being systematically analysed over a period of two years in terms of their provenance. For property clearly identified as looted (by the Nazis), “a just and fair” restitution is to be sought in accordance with the Washington Principles.

The review of holdings is making possible the reconstruction of the SPD party library before 1933, which contains approximately 30,000 titles.

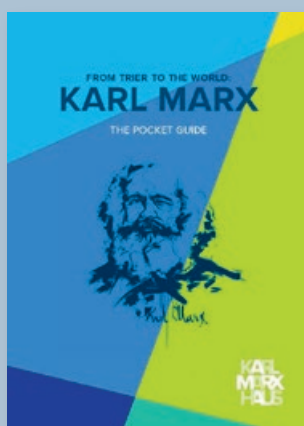
### Archive of Social Democracy 2020



**56,000** metres  
of archive holdings

**1** million  
publications in the  
library collection

Museum Karl-Marx-Haus, a unique historical place to learn about the life, work and impact of the universal scholar, attracted 22,000 visitors. Since the museum had to remain closed for months, the digital offerings of the Museum were greatly expanded.



**From Trier to the  
World: Karl Marx.  
The Pocket Guide.**

Museum Karl Marx



**Babylon Berlin  
und der Anfang  
vom Ende der  
Weimarer Republik**

Wie eine moderne  
Fernsehserie  
Geschichte erzählt

Olaf Guercke

“Babylon Berlin and the beginning and end of the Weimar Republic”, a television series tells a story

# Prizes awarded by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung e.V.

Award ceremony for "The Political Book" held at FES Berlin on 17 September 2020 – the prize-winner was the sociologist and researcher on the phenomenon of right-wing extremism Matthias Quent

## The Political Book

The 2020 prize went to Dr. Matthias Quent for his book "Deutschland rechts außen. Wie die Rechten nach der Macht greifen und wie wir sie stoppen können". The author uses a wealth of facts to reveal the strategies and aims of the radical right and shows why a strong democracy must not allow itself to be hounded by right-wing populists. The jury justified the selection with the words: "Matthias Quent impressively shows us how current and real the dangers are to which democracy and open society are exposed – and at the same time encourages the silent majority to oppose the strategies from the far right. This is a book for all those who understand the threat to our liberal democracy and do not want to stand by and witness it without standing up." Dr. Quent is a sociologist, distinguished researcher on right-wing extremism and director of the Institute for Democracy and Civil Society at the Amadeu Antonio Foundation in Jena.

The "The Political Book" prize is one of the most important non-fiction prizes in the German-speaking world and is endowed with EUR 10,000. The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung awards this prize each year for an outstanding new publication that critically examines current socio-political issues and provides trend-setting food for thought and impetus for debate. The decision is made by an independent jury.

[www.fes.de/preis-das-politische-buch](http://www.fes.de/preis-das-politische-buch)



## The Hans Matthöfer Prize for Economic Publishing

"Wirtschaft.Weiter.Denken." ("Economy.Think.Deeper") That is the name of the Hans Matthöfer Prize for Economic Publishing, with which the Hans and Traute Matthöfer Foundation within the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung each year pays tribute to economists and social scientists who come up with innovative answers to current challenges. This year the main prize was awarded to Julie Froud, Michael Moran (†), Sukhdev Johal, Angelo Salento and Karel Williams for their book "Die Ökonomie des Alltagslebens – Für eine neue Infrastrukturpolitik". The authors show the extent to which public infrastructure has been offered only based on financial returns in recent years, and they point out the negative effects of this policy. They call for new forms of cooperation between private and public actors in order to create properly functioning infrastructures for the economy and society.

The special prize was awarded to Hubertus Bardt, Sebastian Dullien, Michael Hüther and Katja Rietzler for their joint article "Für eine solide Finanzpolitik: Investitionen ermöglichen!" The authors demonstrate how weak investment in Germany can be reversed by bold economic policy. In their work, the economists succeeded in overcoming former ideological boundaries between workers' and employers' interests.

[Further information](#)

## The FES Human Rights Award

The FES Human Rights Award 2020 was presented to the Prime Minister of Northern Macedonia, Zoran Zaev. At the award ceremony held in Berlin in November, Federal Foreign Minister Heiko Maas praised Zaev's commitment to the Prespa Agreement with Greece. This paved the way for North Macedonia's NATO membership and the commencement of accession negotiations with the EU. Kurt Beck praised Zaev's domestic political commitment to a free, open and social society. Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, EU External Relations Commissioner Josep Borrell and other colleagues and counterparts also conveyed their congratulations.

Prime Minister Zaev said he was proud to receive a prize bearing the name of Friedrich Ebert, who to this day has been "an inspiration for all social democrats".

[www.fes.de/en/human-rights-award](http://www.fes.de/en/human-rights-award)



# Dependent foundations and special funds

## Erich Brost Special Fund

Erich Brost (1903–1995), a journalist from East Prussia, was a leading Social Democrat before and after the Second World War. In 1948 he founded the Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung (WAZ) with journalist Jakob Funke. Erich Brost was editor-in-chief until 1970 and then publisher of WAZ until his death. Founded in 1994, the Erich Brost Foundation was transferred to the assets of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in 2006 as “Sondervermögen Erich Brost” and, in the spirit of Erich Brost, supports activities dedicated to the following topics: Cooperation between Germany and its eastern neighbours, especially Poland, support for the process of European unification, coming to terms with the experiences from the two dictatorships in Germany, civic engagement, educational policy and inclusion.

In September 2020, the “31st Bautzen Forum” was staged. The topic: “30 years of German unity and the heritage of the SED dictatorship”. Similarly, the German-Polish dialogue was also continued in the border region between Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania and the region of Szczecin with expert conferences on environmental and climate protection in the Baltic region and experience with transformation in eastern Germany and eastern Europe.

## Franziska and Otto Bennemann Foundation

Otto Bennemann (1903–2003) was a leading Social Democrat before and after the Second World War, and was later Lord Mayor of Braunschweig (until 1959) and Minister in the Government of Lower Saxony from 1959 to 1967. He was married to Franziska Bennemann (née Stellmacher, 1905–1986), Member of the Bundestag. Established in 1990, the Franziska-und-Otto Bennemann Foundation promotes research into the philosophy and practice of democratic social law in state and society, including the ethical values upon which it is based.

In 2020, the Foundation supported the symposium “A basic income security system free of poverty and repression as an important component of a different distribution policy” held in Gladenbach. In addition, events and publications were funded, with the main topics being digitalisation and new business models in industry, private over-indebtedness, the start-up and labour market potential of refugees, and the energy transition through the phase-out of coal. The third component of the funding was the establishment of a platform for the discussion and development of a new economic and social paradigm in the New Economy Forum.

## Hans and Traute Matthöfer Foundation

Hans Matthöfer (1925–2009) was a leading German trade unionist and Social Democrat. Between 1974 and 1982 he served a minister in several federal governments, including four years as minister of finance under Helmut Schmidt. The dependent Hans and Traute Matthöfer Foundation (HTMS) in the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung concentrates not only on promoting historical and contemporary research, but also on publishing works that deal with fundamental problems of economic and social policy, technological development and its consequences for society.

Additional guiding themes include the importance of social actors, especially trade unions, the communication of aspects of globalisation and contributions to the further development of the theory of Social Democracy. The Foundation awards the Hans Matthöfer Prize for Economic Publishing each year.





## APPENDIX

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# Organisational Chart

STATUS AS OF: JANUARY 2021

EXECUTIVE BOARD					
	<b>President</b> Martin Schulz	<b>Vice-Presidents</b> Daniela Kolbe, Michael Sommer		<b>Secretary Generals</b> Dr. Sabine Fandrych, Dr. Roland Schmidt	
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	<b>Online Academy</b> Sara Schinowski	<b>Hesse</b> Wiesbaden Severin Schmidt	Democratic constitutional state, public safety, countering right-wing extremism, politics in Berlin, politics in Eastern Germany, integration and participation, empirical social research, culture and policy, religion and policy	<b>Lower Saxony</b> Hanover Stephan Meuser	<b>Migration/ Integration; Gender, Family, Young People, Seniors</b> Susan Javad
<b>Business Process Management<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Youth and Politics Forum</b> Ina Koopmann Kerstin Ott	<b>North Rhine-Westphalia</b> Bonn/Düsseldorf Petra Wilke		<b>Saxony</b> Leipzig Matthias Eisel	<b>Consumers, Firms / SMEs</b> Dr. Robert Philipps
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<b>Works Council</b>					
Central Works Council Jochen Reeh-Schall					
Works Council Bonn Toni Henseler					
Works Council Berlin Monika Schneider					

<sup>1</sup> Direkt der Geschäftsführung unterstellt

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				Board of Trustees	
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<b>Latin America and Caribbean</b> Valeska Hesse Trade Unions: Dominique Klawonn	<b>International Policy Analysis</b> Catrina Schläger	<b>Counselling</b> Elena Espinosa	<b>Personal Records and Collections</b> Harry Scholz	IT-Basic Services Peter Bujny IT-Process Support Volker Schäfer	<b>Organisational Development and Digitisation Human Resources</b> Anja Minnaert
<b>Middle East, North Africa</b> Elisabeth Braune Trade Unions: Jannis Grimm	<b>Editorial Board Internationale Politik and Society / IPG-Journal</b> Claudia Detsch Nikolaos Gavalakis	<b>Doctoral Scholarships</b> Dr. Markus Trömmner	<b>Public History</b> Dr. Ursula Bitzegeio	<b>Financial Accounting</b> Janine Schmidt	<b>HR Service Sector Domestic Germany</b> Naima Becker Sener Dogan Bettina Pohl
<b>Global Politics and Development</b> Jochen Steinhilber Globalisation: Elisabeth Bollrich Peace and Security: Konstantin Bärwaldt Climate and Energy: Manuela Mattheß Gender/ Social Justice: Natalia Figge Human Rights: Hajo Lanz	<b>Coordination Tasks</b> Trade Unions: Dr. Marc Meinardus	<b>Foreign Scholarship-Holders</b> Judith Illerhues	<b>Karl-Marx-Haus Trier</b> Elisabeth Neu	<b>Project Accounting</b> Jutta Klemm	<b>HR Service Sector International</b> Laura Gelenkirch Katharina Kuhlmann Ariane Rödel Sabina Tariq Sascha Wolter
<b>Coordinating Tasks</b> International Trade Union Coordination: Mirko Herberg		<b>Seminar Programme</b> Nyat Mebrahtu	<b>Library</b> Jacques Paparo Catalogue and Academic Services: Regine Schoch Periodicals/ Utilisation: Jacques Paparo	<b>Central Services Bonn</b> Diana Gohle Building management, postal and shipping services, internal print shop, property management PA, Trier	<b>Vocational Training Programme</b> Bettina Pohl
<b>Evaluation / Quality Management</b> Philipp Kauppert		<b>Alumni, Career Counselling, Young Journalists Programme</b> Rebecca Demars		<b>Central Services Berlin</b> Tino Ernst Building management, procurement, building and property Management PD	
		<b>Liaison Tutors</b> Antje Schnadwinkel			
		<b>Team Communication, Community Portal</b> Ines Herr			
		<b>Education and University Policy</b> Dr. Martin Pfafferott			

### Number of employees compared to previous year

Along the lines of the recommendations issued by the Commission of Independent Experts appointed by the Federal President from 17 February 1993 (Bundestag Printed Paper 12/ 4425), we are disclosing the following data for financial year 2020 (as on 31 December 2020) as supplemental information to the present Annual Financial Statements.

	31 Dec 2019	31 Dec 2020
Employees in Germany	493*	487*
Employees abroad	116*	111*
<b>Total</b>	<b>609*</b>	<b>598*</b>

\* The number of employees has been stated in terms of so-called full-time equivalents (FTE) since 2018. The number of FTEs shows how many full-time positions result from a mixed workforce including part-time employees.



# Annual Financial Statements

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2019

## ASSETS

figures in Euros

	1 Jan. 2019	Additions/ reclassifications	Writedowns/ disposals/ reclassifications	31 Dec. 2019	31 Dec. 2018
<b>A. Fixed assets</b>					
I. Intangible assets	949,354.00	211,650.95	398,512.95	762,492.00	949,354.00
II. Tangible assets					
1. Land and buildings	70,547,317.45	6,035,635.30	2,449,701.30	74,133,251.45	70,547,317.45
2. Operating and business equipment	5,563,527.81	1,098,562.04	918,142.04	5,743,947.81	5,563,527.81
3. Advance payments and assets under construction	5,059,873.02	0.00	5,059,873.02	0.00	5,059,873.02
	<b>81,170,718.28</b>	<b>7,134,197.34</b>	<b>8,427,716.36</b>	<b>79,877,199.26</b>	<b>81,170,718.28</b>
III. Financial assets	39,638,810.13	999,924.16	0.00	40,638,734.29	39,638,810.13
	<b>121,758,882.41</b>	<b>8,345,772.45</b>	<b>8,826,229.31</b>	<b>121,278,425.55</b>	<b>121,758,882.41</b>
<b>B. Earmarked assets</b>				8,547,870.13	8,567,618.02
<b>C. Current assets</b>					
I. Receivables and other assets				1,584,235.49	2,372,225.77
II. Cash in hand and bank balances				17,975,018.04	20,541,787.21
				<b>19,559,253.53</b>	<b>22,914,012.98</b>
<b>D. Deferred income and accrued expenses</b>				61,553.99	85,452.19
				<b>149,447,103.20</b>	<b>153,325,965.60</b>

## LIABILITIES

figures in Euros

	1 Jan. 2019	Adjustments/ accruals	Withdrawals and liquidations	31 Dec. 2019	31 Dec. 2018
<b>A. Reserves</b>					
Earmarked reserves	62,444,903.65	4,041,372.54	5,137,888.62	61,348,387.57	62,444,903.65
of this, reserve in acc. with § 62 (1) (1) German Tax Code (AO) EUR 2,413,122.46 (prev. year EUR 7,551,011.08)					
of this, reserve in acc. with § 62 (1) (3) German Tax Code (AO) EUR 45,155,862.89 (prev. year EUR 41,233,489.04)					
of this, reserve in acc. with § 62 (3) German Tax Code (AO) EUR 13,779,402.22 (prev. year EUR 13,660,403.53)					
<b>B. Special reserve from subsidies and grants for fixed assets</b>					
I. Intangible assets	949,354.00	211,650.95	398,512.95	762,492.00	949,354.00
II. Land and buildings	48,235,761.40	6,035,634.30	1,918,055.57	52,353,340.13	48,235,761.40
III. Operating and business equipment	4,632,510.55	1,098,562.04	911,970.04	4,819,102.55	4,632,510.55
IV. Advance payments and assets under construction	5,059,873.02	0.00	5,059,873.02	0.00	5,059,873.02
	<b>58,877,498.97</b>	<b>7,345,847.29</b>	<b>8,288,411.58</b>	<b>57,934,934.68</b>	<b>58,877,498.97</b>
<b>C. Special item relating to earmarked assets</b>				8,547,870.13	8,567,618.02
<b>D. Pension reserves</b>				2,489,624.00	2,221,838.00
<b>E. Accounts payable</b>					
I. Trade accounts payable				3,608,192.00	6,893,712.28
II. Other accounts payable				784,897.00	901,240.87
				<b>4,393,089.00</b>	<b>7,794,953.15</b>
<b>F. Deferred income</b>				14,733,197.82	13,419,153.81
				<b>149,447,103.20</b>	<b>153,325,965.60</b>

# Income and Expenditure Statement

1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2019

figures in Euros

	2019		2018	
<b>1. Project-tied grants and subsidies</b>				
a) Federal ministries	177,197,131.25		183,102,542.58	
b) <i>Länder</i> and other regional authorities	3,161,906.89		2,991,689.52	
c) Other providers of grants and subsidies	2,440,840.57	182,799,878.71	2,209,011.08	188,303,243.18
<b>2. Donations</b>				
a) General purposes of the Statutes	163,299.40		173,488.50	
b) Research and scholarly purposes	100,000.00		100,000.00	
c) Solidarity fund for Scholarship Programme	323,943.24	587,242.64	322,848.24	596,336.74
<b>3. Income from the release of special items from grants and subsidies to finance fixed assets</b>		3,228,538.56		3,791,187.19
<b>4. Participation fees</b>		647,736.72		626,643.84
<b>5. Other income</b>		1,390,290.65		983,918.87
		<b>188,653,687.28</b>		<b>194,301,329.82</b>
<b>6. Expenditures due to activities in accordance with the Statutes</b>				
a) Scholarships for German and foreign students	27,193,385.19		27,559,431.76	
b) Civic and socio-political education	23,306,443.87		21,005,756.34	
c) International cooperation and understanding	109,869,950.34		114,178,560.97	
d) Research projects	6,774,200.72		6,590,427.51	
e) Promotion of art and culture	70,280.88	167,214,261.00	427,326.65	169,761,503.23
<b>7. Depreciation and amortisation of intangible assets under fixed assets and property</b>		3,764,421.29		4,339,992.06
<b>8. Additions to special items from grants and subsidies to finance fixed assets</b>		2,285,974.27		4,934,145.90
<b>9. Other operational and administrative expenditures</b>		17,006,233.81		12,724,425.40
<b>10. Revenue shortfalls from ongoing operations (previous year: additional income)</b>		-1,617,203.09		2,541,263.23
<b>11. Financial result</b>		560,197.75		508,152.89
<b>12. Result from regular association activities</b>		-1,057,005.34		3,049,416.12
<b>13. Extraordinary expenditures</b>		39,510.74		51,194.69
<b>14. Revenue shortfalls (previous year: additional income)</b>		-1,096,516.08		2,998,221.43
<b>15. Removals from earmarked reserve</b>		1,096,516.08		0.00
<b>16. Additions to earmarked reserve</b>		0.00		2,998,221.43
<b>17. Annual result</b>		<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>

# Complete Overview of all Income and Expenditures expected in the 2021 Budget Year

AS OF: 31 JANUARY 2021

Figures in Euros

<b>I. Income</b>	
1. Grants, subsidies and allowances	
<i>Grants and subsidies from Federal ministries</i>	196,823,708
<i>Grants and subsidies from the Länder and other regional authorities</i>	3,299,000
<i>Other providers of grants and subsidies</i>	2,670,000
2. Donations	500,000
3. Participation fees	500,000
4. Other income	400,000
<b>II. Expenditures</b>	
1. Expenditures from activities/project expenses in acc. with the Statutes	
<i>Support of students and graduates</i>	31,052,364
<i>Civic and socio-political education</i>	24,116,182
<i>International cooperation</i>	119,892,729
<i>Research projects</i>	6,492,795
<i>Promotion of art and culture</i>	100,000
2. Human resource expenses for staff in Germany for information purposes only	38,668,983
3. Material administrative tasks	
<i>Other operating and administrative costs</i>	17,964,738
4. Other operating expenditures	
5. Other costs	
6. Costs of investments	4,573,900
<b>III. Probable annual result</b>	<b>0</b>

\* Human resource expenses for staff in Germany are already contained in items  
1 (expenditures from activities in accordance with the Statutes / project costs) and  
3 (material administrative tasks). This is EUR 38,668,983.  
This includes wages and salaries: EUR 29,965,967  
Social security contributions: EUR 8,703,015



# Additional notes to the Income and Expenditure Statement

## Grants, subsidies and other income

In 2019, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) was again the largest single provider of project-related grants and subsidies.

€ 90.6 million was allocated to support projects of importance to development. In addition, the Foundation received special funds from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development amounting to € 7.4 million for international climate and environmental protection.

All Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development grants and subsidies therefore totalled € 98 million, of which € 13.4 million was for administrative costs.

The Federal Ministry of the Interior is provider of the global grant to promote socio-political and democratic education work. The amount of € 35.7 million was granted for the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung to perform tasks in Germany in accordance with its Statutes, in particular the organisation of seminars, conferences and colloquiums, the procurement of teaching and learning materials, the awarding of research projects with socio-political objectives and the archiving of personal and organisational records of contemporary historical significance to Social Democracy. The global grant is also used to defray staff, administrative and operational costs relating to this area of activity.

In addition, the Foundation received € 0.8 million from the Federal Ministry of the Interior to carry out investment measures.

The Federal Ministry of Education and Research provided € 21.3 million in funding for the award of scholarships to German students engaged in basic or postgraduate studies and for the support of doctoral projects. € 2.6 million was granted as lump-sum allowances for administration, selection and supervision costs.

The Federal Foreign Office provided € 3 million in funding for the award of scholarships and for the supervision and follow-up support of foreign students and graduates in Germany. € 16.2 million was allocated for international socio-political measures. These projects serve to promote the exchange of information, opinion and experience and to train key social and political groups.

In addition, the Federal Foreign Office granted the Foundation special funds amounting to € 2.2 million, of which € 1.2 million was used to strengthen social justice and political participation in the Middle East/North Africa region.

The Federal Foreign Office accounted for a total of € 2.9 million in administrative grants.

In sum total, federal grants and subsidies, including portfolio carry-forwards, decreased by € 5.9 million compared to 2019, with Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development funds declining by € 4.5 million and funds from the Federal Foreign Office by € 1.4 million, while funds from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research dropped by € 0.4 million, and funds from the Federal Ministry of the Interior rose by € 0.4 million.

The German *Länder* and other local authorities granted earmarked funds of € 3.2 million for the organisation of *Länder*-specific events in the field of civic and socio-political education. At € 1.9 million, the *Land* of North Rhine-Westphalia is the largest provider of funding, inter alia under the German Continuing Education Act (*Weiterbildungsgesetz*).

Under other providers of grants and subsidies, a total of € 122 t. was allocated by various organisations at the local level to implement development policy measures abroad.

Participants' own contributions to education and training events amounted to € 648 t. in the year under review.

The item "Other income" includes income from the staging of guest and third-party events, canteen operations in Bonn (a total of € 469 t.), cost refunds (€ 13 t.), investment income (€ 8 t.), publication and admissions income (€ 216 t.) and income from rentals and leases (€ 29 t.).

## Costs and expenditures

From 1986, grants and subsidies awarded to finance expenses subject to capitalisation have been recognised as special items from grants for construction measures and from 1991 also for other fixed assets as special items from grants and subsidies for fixed assets (see Balance Sheet). This special item is released to income in the item "Income from the release of special items from grants and subsidies to finance fixed assets" in line with depreciation.

The items listed under "Expenditures due to activities in accordance with the Statutes" amount to € 167 m. These items also include staff, administrative and operational costs directly related to the performance of these tasks.

Human resource expenses for domestic staff and staff employed on a temporary basis totalled € 37.8 m., and breaks down as follows: Wage and

salary costs € 29.7 m., social security contributions and other social security expenses € 8.1 m.

Expenditures on civic and socio-political educational work relates to seminars, conferences, congresses, exhibitions and the production of publications. The events took place at the head offices in Bonn and Berlin as well as at venues throughout the Federal Republic.

The item "International cooperation and understanding and partnerships with developing countries" contains expenditures for the Foundation's work abroad in developing countries, the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and in industrialised countries. Human resource expenses for foreign staff included here amounted to € 20.6 m.

The item "Research projects" includes expenditures for the operation of the Museum Karl-Marx-Haus in Trier, historical research, archive documents in the Archive of Social Democracy and on books and journals in the library.

"Other operating and administrative expenses" contains human resource, administrative and operating costs incurred by the overhead centres in Bonn and Berlin.

## Own income and donations

Of particular importance to the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is income from the dependent foundations. These assets from wills or bequests, currently amounting to € 8.5 m., constitute a very special obligation for the Foundation. Income from these assets can be used to perform tasks for which public funds are otherwise not sufficiently available on a permanent basis in the spirit and on behalf of the donors. The same applies to donations received for general and scientific purposes laid down in the Foundation's Statutes and for the Solidarity Fund for the Scholarship Programme. These donations amounted to € 587 t.

# Auditor's opinion

## To the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung e.V., Bonn:

We have audited the Annual Financial Statements, comprising the Balance Sheet and the Income and Expenditure Statement together with the bookkeeping system of Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung e.V., Bonn, for the financial year from 1 January to 31 December 2019 prepared by the Executive Board in accordance with Article 12 (1) of the Statutes.

The bookkeeping and preparation of the Annual Financial Statements in accordance with the statutory provisions and their interpretation by the IDW Statement on Accounting: Accounting for associations (IDW RS HFA 14) is the responsibility of the legal representatives of the association. The bookkeeping is based on the regulations and derived regulations set out in the Federal Budget Code (*Bundeshaushaltsordnung*) and contains cameralistic elements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Annual Financial Statements together with the bookkeeping system on the basis of our audit.

We conducted our audit of the Annual Financial Statements in accordance with the IDW Auditing Standard: Auditing of Associations (IDW PS 750). These standards require that we plan and perform the audit in such a manner that errors materially affecting the presentation of the financial statements are detected with reasonable certainty. Knowledge of the business activities and the economic and legal environment of the association and expectations as to possible errors are taken into account in the determination of audit procedures. The effectiveness of the accounting-related internal control system and evidence supporting disclosures in the books and records and the Annual Financial Statements are examined primarily on the basis of random samples within the framework of the audit. The audit includes assessment of the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by

management, as well as an evaluation of the overall presentation of the Annual Financial Statements. We are of the opinion that our audit forms a sufficiently secure basis for our assessment.

Our audit has not led to any objections. In our opinion, based on the findings produced by our audit, the Annual Financial Statements comply with statutory provisions with the deviations noted below relating to the recommendations in the IDW Statement on Accounting: Accounting for associations (IDW RS HFA 14).

Contrary to general commercial law regulations and recommendations in the IDW Statement on Accounting for Associations (IDW RS HFA 14), no other reserves or provisions are recognised, financial assets are carried at cost, no extraordinary depreciation is made on financial assets and accruals of income and expenditures are made for the reporting year only, with a budgetary accounting range. In addition, extraordinary expenses and the result of ordinary association activities are shown on the Income and Expenditure Statement.

Cologne, 24 August 2020  
Rödl & Partner GmbH, auditing company,  
tax consulting company

signed	
Vogel	Finsterer
Auditor	Auditor

# The self-perception of the political foundations

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung and Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung have described their self-perception and determined their domiciles. Their joint declaration is both an obligation they have jointly assumed and at the same time serves to inform the public.

## **Below is a summary of the declaration:**

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung, Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung and the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung are the political foundations ideologically aligned with the Christian Democratic Union of Germany, the Social Democratic Party of Germany, the Free Democratic Party, the Christian Social Union in Bavaria and the federal party Alliance 90/The Greens. By performing their statutory tasks, they intend to contribute to shaping the future of our community. Their socio-political and democratic educational work, information and policy advice in Germany and abroad, which are based on the principles of a free democratic order and are committed to the principles of solidarity, subsidiarity and mutual tolerance, are particularly aimed at

- stimulating citizens' engagement with political issues while promoting and deepening their political commitment by providing civic and socio-political education;
- developing the basis and foundations for political action through promotion of science, political research and advice and deepening the dialogue and transfer of knowledge between science and research, politics, government and business;
- studying the historical development of political parties and political and social movements;

- promoting the academic education and further training of gifted young people through scholarships and programmes accompanying studies;
- promoting art and culture through events, scholarships and the care and preservation of cultural works;
- supporting efforts toward European integration and contributing to international understanding through information and international meetings;
- providing development aid through programmes and projects and contributing to the establishment of democratic, liberal and constitutional structures committed to human and civil rights.

Another element in the self-perception of political foundations is the desire and intention to use their resources to the greatest possible advantage and to be publicly accountable for this.

Informing the public about their activities and the use of their funds is a self-imposed obligation on the part of the political foundations and strengthens public trust and confidence in their work. For this reason as well, the political foundations have agreed to take up the recommendations of the Commission of Independent Experts appointed by the Federal President without waiting for any legal regulation to be adopted in this respect. In their joint declaration, they describe their self-perception, in particular with regard to the state financing of their work and public accountability.

**The complete text can be requested from the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung.**  
info@fes.de

## Commitment to sustainability

The topic of sustainability has accompanied the Foundation not only since this year. The installation of a solar power system in Bonn, the leasing of energy-efficient photocopiers, the use of recycled paper, the multiple use of event backwalls are already established practices for sustainable management at the FES. What is new is that the Foundation is now seeking external advice on how these selective measures can be pooled into a comprehensive sustainability strategy. To this

end, a roadmap is being developed on how to systematically improve the ecological, social and economic dimensions of sustainability at the Foundation.

Important building blocks such as the connection of the Bonn building to the district heating network, the development of a mobility concept as well as green roofs and solar power systems on the Berlin buildings are already being implemented.

# Members of the Executive Board

STATUS: MARCH 2021

**President:**

Martin Schulz

**Vice-Presidents:**

Daniela Kolbe,  
Michael Sommer

**Secretary Generals:**

Dr. Sabine Fandrych,  
Dr. Roland Schmidt

**State Premier (ret.)**

MP a. D. Kurt Beck

**Members of the  
Executive Board:**

Prof. Dr. Peter Brandt  
Dr. Barbara Hendricks  
Christina Kampmann  
Barbara Ludwig  
Dr. Rolf Mützenich  
Matthias Platzeck  
Anke Rehlinger

**Address for the Executive Board,  
Association and Board of Trustees***Postal address:*

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung  
53170 Bonn

*Building/delivery address:*

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung  
Godesberger Allee 149  
53175 Bonn

The number and type of leadership positions occupied by Members of the German Bundestag, the *Länder* parliaments and the federal or *Länder* governments or the federal or *Länder* party executive committees were as follows:

Of the eleven members of the Executive Board, there are:

- five members without the aforementioned functions
- four Members of the German Bundestag
- one member of a *Land* parliament
- one member of a *Land* parliament (and at the same time member of a *Land* government).

Management and departmental heads of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung: none of these are in one of the aforementioned leadership positions.

The requirements of the Federal Constitutional Court and the Act on Political Parties (*Parteien-gesetz*) to ensure the independence of the political foundations are taken into account on the basis of the Joint Declaration of the Political Foundations. According to this declaration, “the President of the Executive Board, the Spokesperson of the Executive Board, the Secretary General and Member of the Executive Board, and the Treasurer of a political foundation [...] do not exercise comparable functions in the respective ideologically aligned party”.

# Members of the Association

STATUS: MARCH 2021

Doris Ahnen	Klara Geywitz	Christoph Matschie	Prof. Dr. Hans-Peter Schneider
Dr. Gerd Andres	Dr. Franziska Giffey	Serpil Midyatli	Dr. Herbert Schnoor
Niels Annen	Günter Gloser	Franz Müntefering	Olaf Scholz
Dr. Katarina Barley	Reinhard Grätz	Dr. Rolf Mützenich	Gerhard Schröder
Kurt Beck	Bettina Hagedorn	Andrea Nahles	Günter Schröder
Uwe Karl Beckmeyer	Nina Hauer	Dietmar Nietan	Dieter Schulte
Dr. Christine Bergmann	Dr. Volker Hauff	Aydan Özoguz	Martin Schulz
Erik Bettermann	Hubertus Heil	Johannes Andreas Pflug	Werner Schulz
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Klaus Brandner	Reiner Hoffmann	Konrad Porzner	Rolf Schwanitz
Prof. Dr. Peter Brandt	Dr. Eva Högl	Joachim Poß	Manuela Schwesig
Anke Brunn	Prof. Dr. Uwe Holtz	Florian Pronold	Dr. Carsten Sieling
Ilse Brusis	Berthold Huber	Prof. Dr. Christa Randzio-Plath	Heide Simonis
Prof. Dr. Udo Bullmann	Klaas Hübner	Dr. h. c. Hermann Rappe	Michael Sommer
Dr. h. c. Edelgard Bulmahn	Hedda Jungfer	Anke Rehlinger	Peer Steinbrück
Dr. Jürgen Burckhardt	Johannes Kahrs	Walter Riester	Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier *
Delara Burkhardt	Christina Kampmann	Dennis Rohde	Dr. Wolfgang Thierse
Hans-Martin Bury	Sabine Kaspereit	Wolfgang Roth	Franz Thönnes
Prof. Dr. Herta Däubler-Gmelin	Reinhard Klimmt	Dr. Karl-Peter Schackmann-Fallis	Michael Vassiliadis
Dr. Klaus von Dohnanyi	Hans-Ulrich Klose	Axel Schäfer	Ute Vogt
Heide Dörrhöfer-Tucholski	Daniela Kolbe	Thorsten Schäfer-Gümbel	Dr. Klaus Wedemeier
Malu Dreyer	Walter Kolbow	Rudolf Scharping	Ernst Welteke
Garrelt Duin	Carmen König-Rothemund	Harald Schartau	Frank Werneke
Martin Dulig	Stefan Körzell	Günter Schlatter	Detlef Wetzels
Hans Eichel	Hannelore Kraft	Dr. Nils Schmid	Heidemarie Wiecek-Zeul
Gernot Erler	Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Krupp	Renate Schmidt	Dr. Bettina Wiefel
Petra Ernstberger	Klaus-Dieter Kühbacher	Dr. Roland Schmidt	Klaus Wowereit
Nancy Faeser	Ute Kumpf	Ulla Schmidt	Dr. Monika Wulf-Mathies
Yasmin Fahimi	Dr. Gerlinde Kuppe	Wilhelm Schmidt	Dr. Jens Zimmermann
Dr. Sabine Fandrych	Prof. Manfred Lahnstein	Hubertus Schmoldt	Prof. Dr. Jürgen Zöllner
Elke Ferner	Dr. Jürgen Linde	Carsten Schneider	Prof. Dr. Christoph Zöpel
Sigmar Gabriel	Barbara Ludwig		

\* Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier: his membership is dormant during his tenure of office as Federal President



# Members of the Board of Trustees

STATUS: MARCH 2021

## Chairwoman

MP'in a.D. Hannelore Kraft

## Vice-Chair

Heike Taubert

Wolfgang Altenburg  
Richard Becker  
Dr. Wilhelm Bender  
Klaus-Uwe Benneter  
Ulla Burchardt  
Prof. Dr. Friedrich Buttler  
Harro Uwe Cloppenburg  
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Prof. Dr. h. c. Cornelia Füllkrug-Weitzel  
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Iris Gleicke  
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Dr. Peter Heinemann  
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Prof. Dr. Karl Kaiser  
Dr. Karl Kauermann  
Prof. Dr. Jürgen Keßler  
Prof. Dr. Jürgen Kocka  
Prof. Dr. Heiko Körner  
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Prof. Dr. Jürgen Kromphardt  
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# History

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1925

Social Democrat Friedrich Ebert, first democratically elected *Reichspräsident* of the First German Republic, dies on 28 February at the age of 54.

1925

On 2 March, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is founded. It has the aim of fostering civic and socio-political education of people from all strata in the democratic spirit, supporting talented young people and promoting understanding between Germany and other countries in line with the desires of Friedrich Ebert.

1933

Banned by the Nationalist Socialists

1946

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is re-established.

1956

Opening of the first residential adult education college (Heimvolkshochschule)

1963

Establishment of development cooperation supported by the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation

1969

Opening of the Archive of Social Democracy and the library in Bonn

1990

Establishment of representative offices in the new German *Länder* and the states of central and eastern Europe

1999

Opening of a conference centre in Berlin

2001

The FES OnlineAkademie goes live on the Internet inter alia with the topics of globalisation, right-wing extremism, history and social democracy

2008

First e-learning courses on local politics are offered under the rubric "kommcheckers".

2019

e-Bert, the FES' first AI-controlled chatbot goes live in the field of civic and socio-political education. It conveys skills and abilities in the critical analysis of anti-European slogans or climate myths in a playful manner.

Today

Germany's oldest political foundation, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is a private, non-profit, cultural institution that ascribes to the ideals, philosophy and basic values of Social Democracy.

