

April 2013

NEWSLETTER

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The Geneva Office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES Geneva) presents its newsletter, designed to inform you about our activities and publications as well as recent and upcoming events and developments at the Geneva-based international organizations. If you do not want to receive this newsletter, please [unsubscribe](#).

Das Genfer Büro der Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES Genf) freut sich, Ihnen unseren jüngsten Newsletter vorzustellen. Dieser enthält Informationen über unsere Veranstaltungen und Neuerscheinungen und bringt Sie auf den neuesten Stand von Entwicklungen in Genfer internationalen Organisationen. Sollten Sie diesen Newsletter nicht erhalten wollen, dann können Sie ihn [hier](#) abbestellen.

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[//Upcoming Events](#)

FES-WTO incoming for African and Asian journalists 22 to 26 April 2013, Geneva, Switzerland

What exactly is the World Trade Organization and what is it not? How does the multilateral trading system function? What are the most current developments at the WTO? Which other international organizations based in Geneva are involved in trade policy? And how do non-governmental organizations and trade unions assess developments in and around trade policy? These and other questions will be dealt with during an intense week of information for English-speaking journalists from African and Asian countries.

International Security Forum 2013 22 to 24 April 2013, Geneva, Switzerland

The biennial International Security Forum brings together over 800 distinguished individuals who make and shape decisions relevant to international security, among them diplomats and other government officials, military, academics and representatives of international and non-governmental organizations from all over the world. The conference offers the international security community high-level cutting-edge analyses, briefs, and debates on the most relevant topics of international security.

FES will be present with an information desk at the forum and is co-organizing the panel discussion [Leaving Afghanistan: A Political and Security Vacuum in the Making?](#)

[Information on the ISF](#) [ISF-Program](#)

**Study Visit on the Occasion of the 102nd International Labour Conference
10 to 14 June 2013, Geneva, Switzerland**

Trade union coordinators from seven FES country offices in Latin America will be in Geneva during the second week of the 102nd International Labour Conference (ILC). How do the ILC and the ILO function? What are the current major topics in the international working world? How are trade unions' topics linked to trade and human rights policies? These and more questions will be at the heart of this one-week study visit.

[Information](#)

**FES Breakout Session during the UNCTAD Public Symposium on "Framing Global Finance for a Post-2015 Development Agenda"
24 June 2013, 2.30 to 4.00 p.m., Geneva, Switzerland**

The Millennium Development Declaration did not include Global Monetary Governance as a building block. In the post-2015 development debate it has been put on the agenda. Developing countries need both a clear framework to develop their financial sectors in a sustainable way, and they need to be assured of a healthy international financial system. This breakout session will focus on the following questions: What steps are still missing in the financial reform process since the Great Recession? Why is global financial reform vital for the post-2015 development agenda? Why and how should financial regulation be better integrated in the post-2015 agenda?

[Information](#)

//Recent Events

**Core Team Meeting of the NGO Coalition for a Social Protection Floor
08 to 09 April 2013, Château de Bossey, Switzerland**

In June 2012, the International Labour Conference (ILC) voted in favor of a Recommendation for a Social Protection Floor (SPF). A Joint Statement of NGOs was written to support the adoption of a strong, autonomous ILO Recommendation. Many NGOs involved in this process want to keep this momentum for future joint activities. Thus, the core team of the [NGO Coalition for a Social Protection Floor](#), comprised of NGOs from all over the world, met – together with trade unions – to develop future strategies and joint activities to help achieve real social protection based on human rights in all parts of the world.

[Presentations](#)

[Program](#)

[List of Participants](#)

Security Governance—The Case of Thailand

22 March 2013, Geneva, Switzerland

During its trip to Europe on invitation of FES Bangkok, a group of high-ranking personalities of the Thai security sector visited International Geneva. Focal points were the study of international political institutions of arms control, disarmament and the democratic control of armed forces.

Informal NGO Meeting on Human Rights Obligations Related to Environmental Protection

07 March 2013, FES Geneva Office, Geneva, Switzerland

In 2012, the Human Rights Council established a Special Procedure on human rights and the environment and mandated Professor John Knox as Independent Expert. This meeting at FES premises in Geneva brought together various NGOs to discuss with John Knox the scope, direction and possible outcomes of this new mandate.

[Preliminary Report by John Knox
Program](#)

Boosting economic dynamics and job growth: The potential of industrial policies

04 to 05 March, Jiva Hill Park Hotel, Crozet, France

Many developing countries are formulating and implementing New Industrial Policies with the aim to boost economic dynamics and achieve development goals. While old style industrial policies have been criticized for aiming at “picking winners,” using heavy-handed trade protection or creating inefficient “trophy industries,” New Industrial Policy approaches take a different perspective. Governments are challenged with building developmental capacities and policy-making capabilities to enhance the potential scope and effectiveness of industrial policies.

The seminar addressed the following questions: How can the state and private sectors work together to promote new production, trade and job opportunities? What are effective policy design and implementation procedures and institutions to accelerate productivity and decent work while preventing political capture and limiting rent-seeking?

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

Side Event at the 22nd Session of the Human Rights Council: A Critical Review of MDG Targets for Human Developments and Human Rights
04 March 2013, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

This public side event provided opportunities to discuss human rights in the post-2015 MDG process. Not only can human rights provide guidance as cross-cutting issues or in the form of specific goals, but they are also of prime importance in the formulation of targets and indicators of any follow-up development framework after the MDGs.

Information

Presentation by Rolph van der Hoeven

A Critical Review of MDG Targets for Human Development and Human Rights
28 February to 01 March 2013, Château de Bossey, Switzerland

The purpose of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is to draw attention to the urgent priority of ending global poverty and to encourage more action. What has been their impact? Did they shift policy priorities of national governments, multilateral agencies, and other stakeholders? The selection of indicators with regard to the MDGs plays an important role in shaping global development agendas. They influence how priorities are defined, resources are allocated, incentive policies are formulated, and narratives are created. Negligent formulation of indicators can thus even have negative effects.

In the post-2015 goal-setting process, it is important to consider the selection of indicators more carefully on the basis of more rigorous criteria than it was done when the MDGs were first developed. This review tried to undertake an evaluation of criteria and, in doing so, to contribute redefined criteria to current debates about a post-2015 agenda and to the setting of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Program

E-Commerce, SMEs and Development: the perspectives for and strategies of Latin American countries
18 to 19 February 2013, Château de Bossey, Switzerland

In April 2013, the World Trade Organization (WTO) dealt officially with the subject of e-commerce. Thus, especially developing countries should devise their own strategies beforehand. During the seminar, participants discussed, firstly, what role e-commerce should and could play in their economic development, and secondly, how SMEs can be supported in order to access e-commerce as well as use/exploit it to improve their productive, commercial and business performance. More generally, they addressed the current situation of e-commerce worldwide and the question of how the topic of e-commerce should be raised with the WTO.

Program

Presentations

Participants

Side Event on the Human Rights Situation in Botswana at the 15th session of the UPR Working Group

22 January 2013, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

On the occasion of the 15th UPR session Botswana was reviewed by the Human Rights Council. National NGOs presented key issues and suggested recommendations concerning the situation in the country; amongst them a recommendation for a comprehensive human rights strategy linked to the national development principles and priorities of a people-centered, pro-poor, sustainable development agenda. The side event was attended by Dikgakgamatso Ndelu Seretse, Minister of Defence, Justice and Security of Botswana, who assured the audience that the Government of Botswana was willing to engage with local and international partners in order to develop a comprehensive strategy and action plan on human rights.

[Information](#)

[Report](#)

Policy Forum on Regional Governance of Migration

15 January 2013, Graduate Institute, Geneva, Switzerland

This policy forum entitled “A Rights-Based, Gender-Equitable Approach to the Regional Governance of Migration” brought together a panel of experts from diverse fields and professional experience to discuss the status quo and future potential of the regional governance of migration.

The following key questions were central during the forum: What might future arrangements look like? What are the implications of different approaches for social protection, gender equity, labour rights and the political participation of migrants? How feasible is a rights-based, gender-equitable approach to the regional governance of migration?

[Information](#)

[Report](#)

//International Agenda

Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference

22 April to 03 May, Geneva, Switzerland

The Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) will hold its second session from 22 April to 03 May 2013 at the United Nations Office in Geneva. The purpose of the PrepCom is to assess the implementation of each article of the NPT which is regarded as the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime.

[PrepCom Homepage](#)

[PrepCom Calendar of Events](#)

23rd session of the Human Rights Council

27 May to 14 June 2013, Geneva, Switzerland

Finally, human rights and climate change will be again on the agenda of the Human Rights Council at this session. Further topics will include an annual full-day discussion on women's rights; discussions of the reports of the Special Rapporteurs on independence of judges and lawyers; the human rights of internally displaced persons; and the WG on transnational corporations and human rights reporting on the forum held in December 2012 (see FES newsletter Nov 2012).

Among the Universal Periodic Review reports to be adopted is the one on Botswana, a country where FES supported civil society engagement throughout the process (see events section).

[Information](#)

102nd International Labour Conference "Building a future with decent work"

05 to 20 June 2013, ILO, Geneva, Switzerland

Around 5000 delegates representing governments, employers and workers from the ILO's 185 Member States are convening to discuss issues including social protection in an ageing world, sustainable development, and social dialogue.

[Information](#)

Fourth Global Review of Aid for Trade

08 to 10 July 2013, WTO, Geneva, Switzerland

The Fourth Global Review of Aid for Trade's topic is going to be "Connecting to Value Chains".

[Information](#)

//Publications



Performance and Challenges of the UN Human Rights Council

An NGOs' View

Theodor Rathgeber; February 2013



Confronting Risk, Mobilizing Action

A Framework for Conflict Prevention in the Context of Large-scale Business Investments

Brian Ganson/Achim Wennmann; January 2013

More publications are available on our [website](#).

// Jobs

Wir suchen zum 1. Juli 2013:

Bürofachkraft (Finanzen und Administration)—halbtags

Ihre Aufgaben:

Abrechnungswesen nach den Richtlinien und mit der PC-Software der Stiftung;
Assistenz bei der Steuerung des Jahresbudgets in Genf;
Büromanagement (Mietvertrag; Versicherungen; Registrierungen bei den Behörden)

Ihr Profil:

Gute Kenntnisse in PC-Informatik (Standard-Software), Buch- und Aktenführung;
Beherrschung der deutschen Sprache (Bürosprache); Sehr gute Kenntnisse der französischen und möglichst auch der englischen Sprache; Möglichst Erfahrung mit der Arbeitsweise gemeinnütziger Organisationen.

Wir bieten:

Ausgezeichnetes Arbeitsklima im kleinen Team;
Bezahlung nach ortsüblichen Konditionen.

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