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Dear Friends,

With this month's Newsbrief I would like to inform you about FES New York's recent contributions to two major processes at the United Nations. First, when the third and last Preparatory Committee convened for the 2015 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in April, FES New York co-sponsored a debate on a Middle East Zone free of Weapons of Mass Destruction.

Second, as the international community is currently debating the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, FES New York co-hosted a reflection and strategy session for UN-based NGOs and government representatives about the interdependent roles of peace, security and sustainable development within the post-2015 framework.

Moreover, I would like to draw your attention on a timely FES publication that analyzes China's role as a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

As always, I hope this Newsbrief will make for informative reading and I look forward to receiving your feedback.

With best wishes from New York,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michèle Auga'.

Michèle Auga

Director
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung - New York Office

Past Event: "The WMD Free Zone in the Middle East: Constructive Process by a Six Continent Initiative"

Tuesday, May 6, 2014, 10:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m., Conference Room C, UNHQ, New York
In the context of the third and last preparatory Committee for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference to be held in 2015, FES New York co-sponsored a debate on a Middle East Zone free of Weapons of Mass Destruction. Participants from a six-continent-initiative presented their proposals for such a zone to UN delegates and the disarmament policy makers.

[Download Agenda](#)

Past event following up the General Assembly's Thematic Debate "Ensuring Stable and Peaceful Societies": A Reflection and Strategy Meeting

Friday, April 25, 2014, 1:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Baha'i International Community new York

As the international community is currently debating the interdependent roles of peace, security and sustainable development within the post-2015 agenda, the UN General Assembly explored how peace, key institutions and global partners foster sustainable development. Following upon the GA's Thematic Debate on "Ensuring Stable and Peaceful Societies" on April 24 and 25, 2014, FES New York, the World Federation of UN Associations (WFUNA), Global Action to Prevent War and Armed Conflict, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) welcomed a consortium of UN-based NGOs and government representatives to reflect on core issues and identify synergies for concerted engagement within and beyond the post-2015 framework.

[Download Program Reflection Meeting](#)

[Download Program Thematic Debate, PGA](#)

[Download Concept Note, PGA](#)

[Download Meeting Summary](#)

New Publication: China as a Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council

Xue Lei

FES Global Policy and Development, International Policy Analysis, April 2014

China's role as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council is mostly dominated by such singular events as condoning the military intervention in Libya in 2012 or the blocking of such intervention in Syria. Nevertheless, as this new publication argues, the permanent seat is central to China's foreign policy goals. These goals are more complex than the country's pragmatic reputation for safeguarding principles of national sovereignty and non-interference. For instance, China has increased its involvement in international peacekeeping missions and is now first among the Permanent Five Members in providing troops and ahead of the developing countries in financial contributions: China's commitment reflects awareness of a shifting, increasingly multipolar world order, while at the same time pursuing its national interest and demonstrating its role as a global player. To maintain the Security Council as an integral stabilizing element of international relations, China advocates for

modest Council reform such as more equitable geographical representation, augmented inclusion, particularly of African countries, and more transparent working methods. China's embrace of multilateralism is a principled, incremental transformation of the status quo.

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