

UN in Focus

**FRIEDRICH
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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As the year is coming to an end, it is our pleasure to thank you for your interest, contributions, solidarity and support - and, for the last time in 2017, draw your attention to our latest activities.

2017 has been a challenging year for all those who believe in international dialogue, diplomacy, reason and peace. Despite all odds, we at the New York office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) do like to believe that we made some

progress on this path!

Wishing you and your loved ones peaceful and pleasant holidays and all the best for 2018!

On behalf of the entire FES New York Team,

with best regards,

Bettina Luise Rürup

Executive Director

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung - New York Office

Recent Events

"UN Security Council and Climate Change: Bully Pulpit or Bull in a China Shop?"

December 20, 2017

United Nations HQ - New York

Delegates Dining Room

Amid growing concerns that climate change will affect international peace and security, over the last decade the issue has emerged on a regular basis on the agenda of the UN Security Council. A [new FES New York publication](#) therefore examines options for meaningful Council action on climate-related challenges to peace and security.

The discussion event, co-hosted by the Missions of Germany and Uruguay to the UN and FESNY, featured the publication's lead author Ken Conca from the American University in Washington. His presentation of the paper was the starting point for a discussion that also addressed whether action on climate change could trigger transformation and reform of the Security Council.

[Agenda](#)

"Knowledge and Politics in Setting and Measuring SDGs"

November 20-21, 2017

The New School, New York

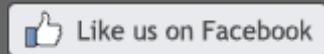
While the negotiation over the Sustainable Development Goals was a hotly contested political process, the selection of indicators and the generation of data is supposedly a technocratic process. Yet the choice of indicators, and the definition and methodologies of data collection can shape the way that the goals are interpreted. Indicators can in turn shape narratives that frame the policy discourse. Through these processes, SDGs - and global goals in general - can have unintended consequences that distort policy priorities and thinking.

In this context, the aim of this workshop was to analyze the political economy of the formulation of the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals, with particular attention to the selection and use of indicators. Together with our

partner, The New School, UNDP and the University of Oslo, FES New York was pleased to co-host this event and support this independent research initiative involving 15 researchers from around the world.

[Concept Note](#)

[Agenda](#)



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