

UN in Focus



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As people in New York and elsewhere are heartened by the progress of vaccination campaigns and a gradual return to 'normalcy,' dramatic developments in India and other parts of the globe are stark reminders that to defeat the pandemic anywhere, we have to defeat it everywhere.

Today, our core commitments to international solidarity and cooperation are as important as ever. The need for a fair and truly global strategy against the pandemic will feature prominently during this year's Global Solutions Summit, where UN Secretary-General António Guterres and FES President Martin Schulz will meet virtually for a high-level conversation on global vaccine justice.

Recent polling by FES New York and YouGov shows that people across the globe want more and better international cooperation. As the pandemic has laid bare the fragilities within countries and between them, it is up to leaders everywhere to heed that call.

The critical importance of constructive multilateral cooperation is also made clear by the recent escalation of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We believe that the time to invest political capital into a peaceful solution is now, and international organizations like the United Nations have an important role to play.

We hope you enjoy this issue of UN in Focus and appreciate your feedback.

Sincerely,

Michael Bröning
Director, FES New York



ANTÓNIO GUTERRES
SECRETARY-GENERAL, UNITED NATIONS

UN Photo



MARTIN SCHULZ
PRESIDENT, FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG

Global Solutions Summit: As a knowledge partner of this year's Global Solutions Summit, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung will co-host two important panels on global vaccine justice. For a live discussion with UN Secretary-General António Guterres and FES President Martin Schulz, tune in Friday, May 28, 4:00 - 4:30 PM (CET) / 10:00-10:30 AM (ET). [Learn more.](#)

05/26/
2021

TIERGARTEN
CONFERENCE
2021

**HOW SOVEREIGN
IS EUROPE?**

Effectiveness and Reality
of the European Idea

Tiergarten Conference 2021: Europe's top politicians never tire of repeating that more European sovereignty is needed to survive as a global actor on the world political stage. But how sovereign is Europe and what ideas are German and European Social Democrats pursuing to make the EU fit for the 21st century?

These and other questions will be addressed at the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung's Tiergarten Conference 2021. [Learn more.](#)



LOADING...

The Folly of Vaccine Monopolies: Escalating health crises in India and other parts of the world have made it painfully clear that the Covid-19 pandemic is far from over. In her new blog post for FES New York, internationally renowned trade expert Lori Wallach explains why patent protections on Covid-19 vaccines need to be lifted now. [Learn more.](#)



Opinion Poll on Multilateralism: Climate change, inequality, Covid-19 – there are many reasons to argue that the world is in crisis. But is it too early to throw in the towel? Recent polling by FES New York and YouGov suggests that despite an unprecedented crisis of global health, the reputation of the United Nations is largely intact, and global support for international cooperation is strong. [Learn more.](#)



US Re-engagement Gives Boost to CSW65: Leading the US delegation to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), Vice President Kamala Harris became the first female VP and the highest-ranking US government official ever to address the UN's primary body on women's rights and gender equality. International reporter Stephanie Fillion summarizes the highs and lows of this year's CSW. [Learn more.](#)



Will we be ready for the next pandemic? On 11 March last year, the WHO declared Covid-19 a global pandemic. We asked former CDC director Tom Frieden for his thoughts on the global response to this unprecedented health crisis, the role of the WHO, and what must be done to increase preparedness for the next pandemic. [Learn more.](#)

MAY 2021

FESNY
IN THE
NEWS

Media Clippings

Good Global Citizens:
Is the end of corporate tax evasion and tax havens finally in sight? In an

Gaza Crisis:
In an interview with [Politico](#), FESNY Director Michael Bröning stresses

The "TikTok intifada":
In previous rounds of conflict, Palestinians and their allies have often

interview with the [Equal Times](#), FESNY Senior Policy Analyst Sara Burke talks about the increasing momentum for more corporate accountability: “Developing countries want to know if multinational corporations are good global citizens. Are they paying the fair amount of taxes, and are they paying them in the right places?”

the lack of positive multilateral involvement in the Middle East: “It’s not fate that the Middle East has to remain trapped in cycles of violence forever, but it will take political capital. I don’t see anyone in the U.S. or Europe willing to spend that capital, to exert that political pressure.”

struggled to get their narrative through online. This time around, the dynamic has shifted. In what Michael Bröning calls the “TikTok intifada,” young Palestinians are taking to social media to tell their side of the story. Read the full article on [Vox](#).



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