

UN in Focus



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As world leaders meet at this year's UN General Assembly in New York, it's our pleasure to share recent examples of our work. The sad truth is: If anyone on the progressive side needed a reminder of the importance of global cooperation, the last few months served as a stark reminder of what the flipside of global cooperation and multilateralism entails.

Against the backdrop of unprecedented developments, we are pleased to share the findings of a unique systematic assessment of multilateralism - the *Multilateralism Index* - which was developed by the International Peace Institute and is supported by FES.

Coinciding with the UNGA high-level debate, we are also proud to share the findings of our very own YouGov opinion poll shedding light on what people around the world expect from global institutions. Spoiler alert: they do think that international institutions such as the United Nations have a key role to play in settling violent conflict.

As always, we would like to thank you for your interest in our work and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Michael Bröning
Director, FES New York

Opinion Poll

GLOBAL CENSUS

PUBLIC OPINIONS ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

FRIEDRICH
EBERT
STIFTUNG
NEW YORK OFFICE

Global Census Poll 2022: Together with YouGov, we are pleased to present the third annual *FES Global Census Poll*, which gauges public opinion on pressing global issues in 15 countries across 5 continents. After last year's poll showed signs of cautious optimism about a 'return to normal' after the pandemic, public opinion has taken a more pessimistic turn amid recent global events. Still, belief in international cooperation remains stable, and most support helping Ukraine against Russian aggression. [Learn more.](#)



Multilateralism Index: Pilot Report

September 16, 2022

The Multilateralism Index: While there is consensus that multilateralism is being challenged, the scope and magnitude of this crisis are largely unknown. The Multilateralism Index aims to fill this gap by measuring participation, performance, and inclusivity across key areas of international cooperation, such as peace and security, the environment, and human rights. [Learn more.](#)



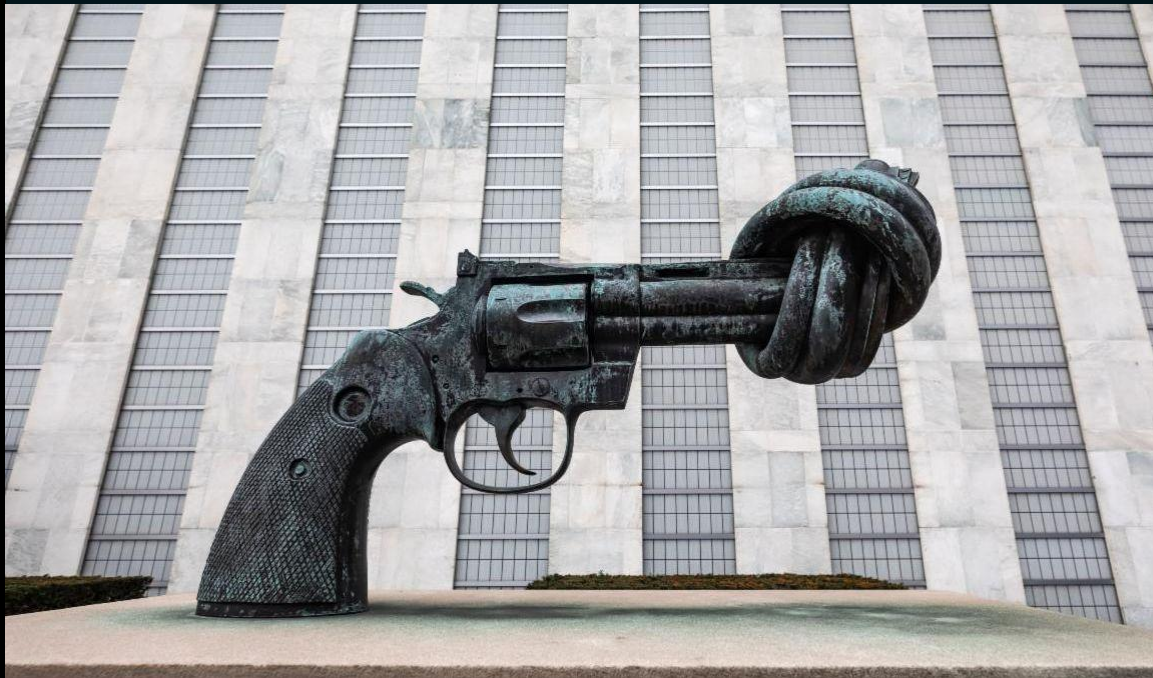
Forsaken Futures: Recently, the climate debate has shifted from questions of “if” and “when” global warming will reach a certain point to the question of just how bad things will get. Organized by *Project Syndicate* and supported by *FES New York* and others, the "Forsaken Futures" virtual event on September 14th brought together leading voices to discuss what must be done now to address and mitigate the ever-intensifying climate crisis. [Watch here.](#)



Function before Form: This new study by security policy expert Larry Attree finds that UN counter-terrorism efforts - led and bankrolled by undemocratic states with deep pockets - are increasingly opaque, unaccountable, and out of step with other UN priorities. Evaluating the UN Office of Counter-terrorism (UNOCT), Attree calls on Member States to reject the proposed seven-fold budget increase and address the office's underperformance on terrorism and human rights. [Learn more.](#)



Humanitarian Action on Nuclear Weapons: The August 2022 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was overshadowed by geopolitics, and State Parties once again failed to achieve consensus on an outcome document. In this publication, disarmament expert Matthew Brey Bolton argues that a focus on the humanitarian and environmental impacts of nuclear weapons may be the way forward. [Learn more.](#)



Hegel on the Hudson: What does the future hold for the United Nations? Published by [Global Policy](#), this essay by FESNY director Michael Bröning explores the dilemma of the world organization, as the gap between aspiration and reality widens, and universalist idealism and realpolitik are destined to clash. A German language version was published in [Internationale Politik](#).

MEDIA MENTIONS

Media Mentions: From a review of our World Protests study to Op-Eds on the United Nations and global affairs, find an overview of our latest media mentions [here](#).

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