

UN in Focus



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Ahead of the annual meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, D.C., the world economy is quite literally in shock.

Adding to large-scale economic challenges from the Covid-19 pandemic, Russia's war in Ukraine has palpably worsened outlooks around the world - with inflation, food and energy shortages, and debt distress increasing to dramatic levels.

In these times, we believe that efforts to strengthen social protection on the one hand and programs for debt relief and debt restructuring on the other must now take center stage.

During the Bank's and IMF's annual meetings, FES and partners will co-host a full set of events to discuss and tackle some of the world's most pressing economic issues.

We will hear from renowned economic experts and decision-makers, such as Nobel laureate economist Joseph Stiglitz, Argentina's former Minister of Economy Martín Guzmán, USAID Administrator Samantha Power (tbc), and Germany's Development Minister Svenja Schulze. Please find further information on all upcoming activities below.

As always, we thank you for your interest in our work and welcome your feedback.

Sincerely,

Michael Bröning
Director, FES New York

Joseph Stiglitz

Viviane Akiki

Muchimba Siamachoka

Martin Guzmán

Moderator Sydney Maki

OCTOBER 11th 2022

ZOOM WEBINAR

14:00 NY
15:00 BS AS
20:00 LUSAKA
21:00 BEIRUT

FÜR EINE GERECHTE ZUKUNFT

iPD Initiative for Policy Dialogue

Columbia Business School AT THE VERY CENTER OF BUSINESS™

FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG

The Global South under Debt Distress: After four decades of mismanaged globalization, the world economy has recently been hit by two massive shocks — the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. Many countries in the Global South now face massive challenges and heightened debt distress. Based on recent experiences from Argentina, Lebanon, and Zambia, this virtual event features a comparative discussion with renowned economic experts, including Nobel laureate economist Joseph Stiglitz and Argentina's former economy minister Martín Guzmán. [Register Here!](#)

TOWARD A MORE EQUAL FUTURE

SOCIAL PROTECTION – A DRIVER FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

OCTOBER 14, 2022

12:15 PM - 1:45 PM EDT

AFL-CIO BMZ USAID CGD CENTER FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG

Toward a More Equal Future: On October 14th, this high-level panel featuring German Development Minister Svenja Schulze, USAID Administrator Samantha

Power (tbc), Egypt's Minister of International Cooperation, Rania al-Mashat (tbc), and others discusses how social protection can reduce barriers to equal participation and contribute to achieving the goals of a feminist development policy. [Register Here!](#)



No Safety Net: The IMF & Diminishing Social Protections in the Middle East

Institute for
Middle East Studies
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

FRIEDRICH
EBERT
STIFTUNG

No Safety Net: On October 13th, a panel of researchers from Morocco, Jordan, and Tunisia will discuss the major disparities between the International Monetary Fund's public discourse and its actual practices in the Middle East with regard to the provision of social protection and the implications for the region's development. Join FES and the Institute for Middle East Studies at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. [Register Here!](#)



GLOBAL MACRO AND FINANCE SESSIONS

IMF World Bank fall meetings

Improving the International Debt Architecture: On October 15th, this expert roundtable, co-hosted by the Reinventing Bretton Woods Committee, the Center for Global Development, and FES, will assess the rise of bilateral lending and its geographical distribution, discuss the need for transparency and how to enhance sharing of detailed sovereign debt information, reflect upon whether it is possible to establish principles and benchmarks to streamline future applications for restructuring under the Common Framework, and debate which policy lessons must be taken on board to better manage debt, prevent overborrowing, and promote the constructive participation of the private sector in the context of comparable treatment. By invitation. [Learn more.](#)



**MEDIA
MENTIONS**

Media Mentions: From press coverage of our new FES *Global Census* opinion poll on attitudes toward international institutions and cooperation to the latest essays about global political affairs, find our media mentions [here](#).

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