

UN in Focus



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As another eventful year comes to an end, it's our pleasure to present some recent highlights of our work at FES New York.

In November, we were delighted to host a [roundtable discussion with Lars Klingbeil](#) alongside the American Council on Germany and Penguin Random House. Coming on the heels of meetings with key decision-makers at the United Nations in New York, the German SPD Co-Chair met with participants to discuss the reorientation of German economic and foreign policy.

30 years after Francis Fukuyama's famous hypothesis on the "End of History," great power rivalries intensify and geopolitics are shifting again. [Are we witnessing a Return of the West?](#) And if so, what does it mean? In a collection of essays, leading experts explore this question from different perspectives to kickstart a much-needed debate.

[2022 saw an unprecedented wave of protests](#) about affordability and access to the basics needed for everyday life. A new study by researchers Jeffrey Hallock and Naomi Hossain takes a closer look at over 12,500 protest events about food, energy, and the rising cost of living in 2022, signaling a global economic failure to deliver goods at prices people can afford.

Is China taking over the United Nations? Our recent study with IDOS shows that [China's engagement with the UN development pillar](#) has expanded but remains selective and overall moderate.

Please scroll down below or visit our website for more highlights from our work. As always, we thank you for your interest and welcome your feedback.

Wishing you all happy holidays and an excellent start to 2023,

Michael Bröning
Director, FES New York





Lars Klingbeil in New York: On November 16, Bundestag Member and SPD Co-Chair Lars Klingbeil met with about 30 participants from different international organizations as well as private sector representatives to discuss the reorientation of German economic and foreign policy in times of "Zeitenwende". Jointly hosted by the American Council on Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, and Penguin Random House, the event came on the heels of Mr. Klingbeil's visit to New York and Washington D.C. [Learn more.](#)



The Return of the West?: 30 years after Francis Fukuyama's famous hypothesis on the "End of History," geopolitics are shifting once again. Are we witnessing a "Return of the West"? And if so, what does it mean? In a new collection of essays, leading experts explore this question from different perspectives to kickstart a much-needed debate. [Learn more.](#)



Food, energy & cost of living protests: 2022 saw unprecedented protests about affordability and access to the basics needed for everyday life. A new study by Naomi Hossain and Jeffrey Hallock takes a closer look at over 12,500 protest events about food, energy, and the rising cost of living in 2022, signaling a global economic failure to deliver the basic goods people need at prices they can afford. [Learn more.](#)



China's Expanding Engagement with the UN Development Pillar: Is China taking over the United Nations? Our new study with IDOS shows that China's engagement with the UN development pillar has expanded but remains selective and overall moderate. However, China can make use of an asset that Western member states do not have at their disposal: the combination of its roles as a superpower and a UN programme country. [Learn more.](#)

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