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What We Want

Fostering democracy and upholding human rights, taking action to prevent the destruction of the global ecosystem, advancing equality between women and men, securing peace through conflict prevention in crisis zones, and defending the freedom of individuals against excessive state and economic power – these are the objectives that inspire the ideas and actions of the Heinrich Böll Foundation. We maintain close ties to the German Green Party (Alliance 90 / The Greens) and, as a think tank for green visions and projects, we are part of an international network encompassing partner projects in approximately 60 countries.

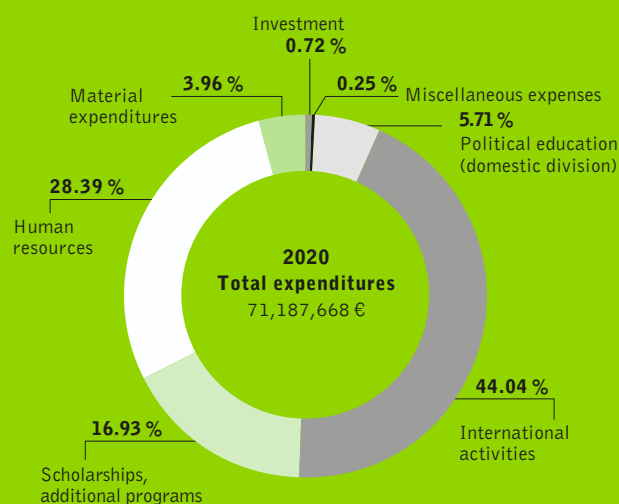
The Heinrich Böll Foundation works independently and nurtures a spirit of intellectual openness. We currently maintain a worldwide network with 34 international offices at 33 locations.

We cooperate closely with the Böll Foundations in Germany's federal states, and we support talented, socio-politically engaged undergraduate and graduate students in Germany and abroad.

We gladly follow Heinrich Böll's exhortation for citizens to get involved in politics, and we want to inspire others to do the same.

Sources and Allocation of Funding

The Heinrich Böll Foundation e.V. is mainly funded through public grants. In 2020, the Foundation's income increased by 4.6% to 74.6 million euros (preliminary figures). Over two-thirds of the Foundation's overall worldwide spending goes toward program and scholarship activities, and our international activities continue to account for the largest share of expenditures.



Heinrich Böll Foundation Worldwide



Africa

- 1 Cape Town (South Africa)
- 2 Abuja (Nigeria)
- 3 Nairobi (Kenya)
- 4 Dakar (Senegal)

Asien

- 5 Bangkok (Thailand)
- 6 New Delhi (India)
- 7 Beijing (China)
- 8 Phnom Penh (Cambodia)
- 9 Yangon (Myanmar)
- 10 Hong Kong (China)

Europe

- 11 Belgrade (Serbia)
- 12 Berlin (Germany)
- 13 Brussels (Belgium)
- 14 Istanbul (Turkey)
- 15 Kiev (Ukraine)
- 16 Paris (France)
- 17 Prague (Czech Republic)
- 18 Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- 19 Tbilisi (Georgia)
- 20 Thessaloniki (Greece)
- 21 Tirana (Albania)
- 22 Warsaw (Poland)

Latin America

- 23 Bogotá (Columbia)
- 24 Mexiko City (Mexiko)
- 25 Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
- 26 San Salvador (El Salvador)
- 27 Santiago de Chile (Chile)

Middle East and North Africa

- 28 Beirut (Lebanon)
- 29 Ramallah (Palestine)
- 30 Rabat (Morocco)
- 31 Tel Aviv (Israel)
- 32 Tunis (Tunisia)

North America

- 33 Washington, DC (United States)

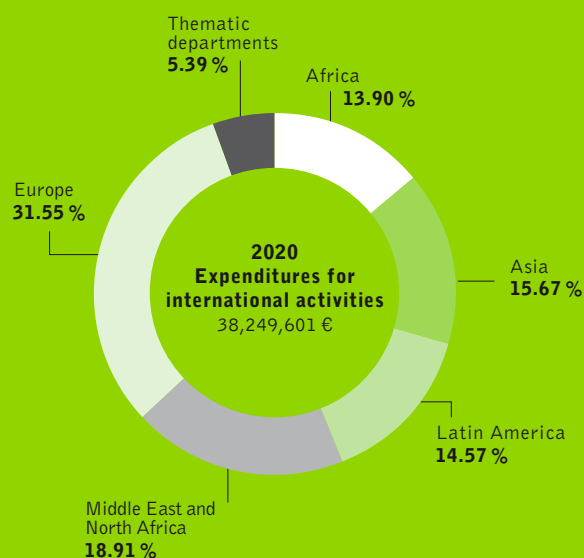
Russian Federation

- 34 Moscow (Russia)

International Cooperation

In 2020, the Heinrich Böll Foundation received approximately 30.8 million euros in funding from the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, including roughly 605,000 euros for measures to mitigate climate change in developing countries. Approximately 1.1 million euros in additional funding from the ministry's special program was targeted toward projects in Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Kenya.

Our International Cooperation Division received approximately 5.2 million euros from the Federal Foreign Office. In addition, the Federal Foreign Office provided roughly 540,000 euros in special funding for activities in Tunisia, Morocco, and for Belarus.



Preface



Dr. Ellen Ueberschär Photo: Bettina Keller



Barbara Unmüßig Photo: Bettina Keller

The year 2020 marks the beginning of an unprecedented pandemic that continues to hold us all in its grip. In many countries, the health crisis is intertwined with political, economic, environmental, and social crises. Inequality, poverty, and hunger are rising sharply. Climate change is leaving its mark all over the world. Fortunately, it has become a priority issue in Germany, Europe, and on the global agenda too.

Yet, joint action is made harder by reactionary political developments. The rise of autocracies means tighter restrictions on freedom and human rights. All of these developments have shaped our Foundation's global efforts in new ways, challenging us and our partners around the world.

People are resisting the dismantling of their democratic rights, and they are fighting against hatred and racism, for freedom, and to preserve the foundations of their very livelihoods. We network with them wherever possible. In a global pandemic, this means acting faster, more flexibly, and more cooperatively than ever, because otherwise the global health crisis and its economic effects will shake civil societies in many countries more deeply still. We are creating proposals for a revolution in energy, agriculture, and transport, phasing out plastic production, and for a novel approach to using resources, and we are supporting ideas and initiatives that will boost democratic participation, gender equality, and diversity around the globe.

This year, we have witnessed how our employees and project partners showed great flexibility. In many areas, we used digital communication to strengthen our networks for environmental protection, human rights, and democracy. Our nationwide work on public spaces and infrastructure has met with a great response, showing us the power a sense of community can create – and how important it is to bolster it. It suddenly became clear that we must prioritize such public services whose continuous functioning is vital to people of all ages – be it hospitals, health authorities, schools, cultural institu-

tions, or public transport. The pandemic has driven home to us just how high the stakes are, not least in Europe.

The crisis is not over yet, still, it has given us a clear idea of what we need to do to preserve and further develop the European Union and its neighborhood. With this in mind, we set our agenda – a Green Deal that is worthy of its name, restoring the rule of law in all EU countries, media freedom, sustainable migration, and integration policies, and enforcing fundamental rights and human rights for women and LGBTIQ+ people across Europe. Both in Germany and in Europe, there is a greater awareness that communities are key actors across all policy areas. They are the driving forces of change – a change towards greater solidarity, better health, and more participation.

The pandemic has turned everything that was once familiar and routine on its head. We, too, had to make the rapid switch to digital or hybrid formats. It quickly became apparent that this shift also came with many positive effects: Not only did we reach more people, but our interactions with colleagues from our various state foundations and international offices also intensified, creating a greater sense of solidarity in a time of physical distance.

Every day, around the world, our 500+ employees are working for the Foundation's objectives with great dedication and a high level of productivity and this, at times, under very difficult circumstances. We thank you for that! We would also like to thank our partners for their perseverance, their courage, and their efforts. And, last but not least, we would like to thank all those who are working as volunteers on our committees. Your commitment enriches our Foundation, making it diverse and appealing.

Berlin, June 2021

Dr. Ellen Ueberschär and Barbara Unmüßig
Presidents, Heinrich Böll Foundation



Berlin, September 25, 2020: About 20,000 people took part in the first "Fridays for Future" demonstration since the beginning of the Corona pandemic.
Photo: Lutz Jaekel/laif

Climate Justice – Now!

Heat waves, forest fires, tropical storms – these are the tangible consequences of global warming. In 2020, the average global temperature was approximately 1.2 degrees above pre-industrial levels. Major greenhouse gases, such as CO₂ or methane, in the Earth's atmosphere also reached record numbers. To limit global warming to a tolerable degree, CO₂ emissions must be cut to zero by 2050, and this will require faster and more decisive climate protection measures, Green economic policies, and, above all, the political will to finally take action.

Five years later – Happy Birthday, Paris Climate Agreement?! 📅 📄

December 12, 2020 marked the fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Paris Climate Agreement – an occasion for us to take a look back. Since 2007, we have been following the UN Climate Conferences (COPs) very closely. We know, international conferences alone cannot protect the climate. Still, we also need a multi-lateral, rights-based climate policy that is anchored in international law. At the conclusion of each UN climate

conference, we and our partners have released in-depth political analyses. These documents are available at boell.de/klima.

Originally scheduled for November 2020, COP 26 in Glasgow, Scotland, was postponed by a year due to the pandemic. It is expected to be the most important climate conference since Paris because Glasgow will show whether the Paris Agreement is working as planned. The agreement requires countries to submit new, more ambitious, climate plans every five

📺 Video series and publication "Radical Realism for Climate Justice"

boell.de/en/radicalrealism

📄 A scenario for achieving the 1.5°C climate target

boell.de/societal-transformation-scenario

years. Even though it is now clear that the fossil fuel industry's business model has no future, the shift towards renewable energies is not progressing fast enough. The fossil lobby still wields great power and influence over political decision-making processes. In many parts of the world, oil companies are pushing ahead with the development of new fossil deposits and governments are investing heavily in building new infrastructures. However, if we are to contain global warming, we need not only a rapid phase-out of coal, but also of oil and fossil gas.

In our series "Radical Realism", we explain in the course of three YouTube videos that radical changes are necessary across different sectors (such as the fossil industry, circular economy, and global agriculture) in order to cope with the climate crisis and pave the way for an ecologically sustainable and socially just world.

Our global transformation scenario, published jointly with the "Konzeptwerk Neue Ökonomie" in December 2020, shows how we can stay below 1.5°C without resorting to high-risk technologies such as carbon capture and storage (CCS), geoengineering, and nuclear technology, namely, by liberating ourselves from our current economic system, which is based on an endless spiral of production and consumption.

Geoengineering – no way to solve the climate problem ↗

Back in December 2015, at the Paris Climate Conference, we co-signed an appeal clearly backing the 1.5°C target but warning against measures that involve dangerous geoengineering technologies. For this, we took a lot of heat. Doubts about geoengineering, that is, the technological manipulation of the climate at a massive scale, have now entered the mainstream of the climate debate. We lend both financial and organizational support to "Hands Off Mother Earth" (HOME), the leading international campaign in the fight against geoengineering. So far, the HOME manifesto has been signed by 180 civil society and grassroots organizations. Its main demand is an immediate halt to all open-air experiments. Jointly with the ETC Group and Biofuelwatch we also operate the platform *Geoengineering-Monitor*, which offers a wealth of information on the topic, including podcasts and an interactive world map of geoengineering projects.

CO₂ pollution must have a price 📄

In 2020, CO₂ pricing was one of the top issues in the debate on climate protection. The basic idea is plausible: Those who pollute the atmosphere with greenhouse gases should have to pay for it, which then creates an economic incentive to reduce emissions. We asked climate and energy expert Felix Chr. Matthes to examine

the key features of a CO₂-pricing strategy and assess the scheme's design criteria and mechanisms. The study, which has also been translated into English, is a must-read to anyone who seeks to evaluate, design, and take ownership of a viable CO₂-pricing system.

Based on the study, we set up expert discussions, posted online contributions, and held an online introductory class in 2020. These initiatives met with a great response. Stay tuned for more!

Climate lawsuits as an instrument for greater climate justice

More and more people take legal action to fight the climate crisis, for example, by suing large companies to make them liable for losses and damages caused by their products, or to make them share in the costs of necessary adaptation measures. Here, litigation is usually only one of many instruments within larger political strategies and campaigns. In this way, in recent years, the construction of dozens of new coal power plants has been prevented, nature reserves have been saved, and livelihoods protected. Climate lawsuits are pending at the European Court of Justice, the German Federal Constitutional Court, as well as at some lower-level courts. In November and December 2020, we discussed some important cases with students in a series of online seminars, which we held jointly with the "Arbeitskreis Kritischer Jurist*innen", "Green Legal Impact (GLI)", "ClientEarth – the Planet's Lawyers", and "German-watch". The great resonance of our online seminar on climate change litigation shows that young legal professionals are increasingly looking for opportunities to use their skills towards the cause of environmental and climate protection.

Taking action for a future worth living – Youth Congress

"Fridays for Future" became a surprise political success. Within a very short time, the "Generation Climate" mobilized millions of people around the world. Even though Covid-19 has dominated the political debate in 2020, the pandemic will eventually end, yet the climate crisis will remain and will keep generations to come busy. More and more teenagers and young adults want to actively shape their future and save the world from a climate crisis. Our "Generation Climate" Youth Congress on September 25-26, 2020 was open to young activists as well as young people who are still looking for ways to get involved. The conference was held in cooperation with "BUNDjugend", "WWF-Jugend", "UnternehmensGrün" and in collaboration with "Fridays for Future" Germany.



Berlin, January 18, 2020: "We are sick of it" – about 27,000 people demonstrated for more nature conservation and less industrial agriculture. Photo: Stephan Röhl

Protecting biodiversity and alternative agriculture

Up to one million species are at risk of extinction, many of them within the next decades. Industrial agriculture is one of the main causes of biodiversity loss. In countries like Brazil, monocultures of fodder crops for industrial livestock farming are driving deforestation. Agricultural deserts are spreading all over the world, destroying biodiversity, not least because of pesticide use. Only an intact ecosystem can provide vital necessities such as clean water, pure air, or healthy soil that stores carbon.

Agriculture done differently – our Green Week

Intensive agriculture exacerbates many of our global ecological and social crises – with devastating consequences: deforestation, loss of fertile soils, decimation of insects through pesticides, ruinous producer prices – to name just a few. Many farmers are under economic pressure and deeply concerned about the future. The ecological change we need must offer them a positive outlook. For our event series titled "Our Alternative

Green Week" (*Grüne Woche* is the name of Berlin's annual agricultural trade fair), we invited a wide variety of stakeholders in January 2020, with the aim of exploring possible scenarios for an agriculture of the future – a type of agriculture from which farmers, environmental organizations, and consumers alike could profit. Here, one debate was particularly productive, as it pitted representatives of two associations against each other, on the one hand "Land schafft Verbindung" and, on the

other, “Meine Landwirtschaft”. While the first group consists of rather conservative farmers who oppose stricter environmental rules and want to see current agricultural policy continue unchanged, the other group is advocating for the socio-ecological restructuring of agriculture. Many farmers and politicians attended, and the lively debate that followed the panel discussion showed how important it is to facilitate such an exchange.

Agroecology – a new perspective on agriculture and nutrition

Agroecology has the potential to transform agricultural and food systems in ways that are, at once, equitable and ecological. Imitating and effectively optimizing natural processes, this approach relies on locally available resources and nutrient and energy cycles that are as loss-free as possible. Agroecology is thus based on the principles of organic farming, including preservation of soil fertility, the interactions between soil, plants, animals, and humans, and on farms that are independent from external inputs. In 2020, we held a number of events and supported German civil society and private European foundations in building their own agroecology strategy. Agroecology could really make a difference, especially in times of Covid-19 and the expected increase in worldwide hunger – the FAO expects that globally more than 100 million additional people will go hungry. Also in 2020, our South African Office helped set up an agroecological network. Its primary objective is to support small farmers in cultivating and marketing their agroecologically grown produce. At the same time, the network emphasizes the constitutional right to food and tries to hold the government accountable. In South Africa, the pandemic has left many living below the poverty line and reliant on food donations and other aid. Organizations and activists are therefore pushing for reforms, calling for an equitable food system with shorter food marketing avenues and for local circular economies.

Nature in need of protection

Natural habitats worldwide are being destroyed and biodiversity is lost at an alarming rate. Researchers are already warning of a sixth mass extinction. As early as 2010, the international community pledged to halt the global loss of biodiversity by 2020 as part of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). This target was missed. The next Conference of the Parties (COP 15) is therefore of enormous importance and the potential for conflict great. Our multilingual online series “Embattled Nature: Land Use, Climate Protection, and New Genetic Technologies in the Debate on Protecting Biodiversity”, held in cooperation with “Brot für die Welt”, “Save Our Seeds”, and FDCL, focused on issues

that often receive little attention in debates on conservation. One example are gene drive technologies, a new form of genetic engineering that threatens to genetically modify, replace, or even eradicate wild animal and plant populations or even whole species. Using the example of gene drives to combat malaria, we showed how the technology works, who develops and finances it, the risks it entails, and why the UN Convention on Biological Diversity is struggling to attain a global moratorium on its use. All audio and video recordings of the conference series are available in our Biodiversity Dossier.

Insect Atlas — facts and figures on beneficial and harmful insects in agriculture


There is an unimaginable amount and variety of insects in almost every ecosystem in the world. A very large proportion of plants depend on insect pollination. Insects also improve soil quality by utilizing manure and dead plant matter and they help control plant pests. There is no doubt that insects are vital for our agriculture and food production. Nevertheless, the very foundation of their existence is increasingly being destroyed by intensive agriculture. The scientific evidence for the decline in insect populations is alarming. Our “Insect Atlas 2020”, which we presented in January 2020, showcases the diversity and beauty of the world of insects and why it is worth protecting. To complement our Atlas, we also created a podcast series and an explanatory film. The Atlas is now available in German, English, and Chinese.

Film festival that educates on the environment – Morocco

Morocco has become a pioneer in climate policy, especially in solar energy, but outside of expert circles, environmental policy is rarely a topic. The population at large remains quite unaware of environmental issues and often lacks the necessary knowledge. In order to change this, our Rabat Office partnered with the local human rights organization ARMCDH in organizing the virtual film festival “Right to the Environment” in the summer of 2020. It featured international and Moroccan films and documentaries, as well as debates with directors and environmental activists. In doing this, our Rabat Office focuses on a combination of human rights and environmental issues. An intact natural environment is not a luxury that emerging countries such as Morocco cannot afford, it is the right of all citizens. Some of our other Moroccan partner organizations have taken this up and made the “right to the environment” part of their agenda.

 **Biodiversity Dossier**
boell.de/en/dossier-biodiversity

 **Insect Atlas 2020**
boell.de/en/insectatlas

 **Film “What is the right to the environment?”**
youtube.com/watch?v=1NihP0yBQvU



Recycling facility in Bassum, Germany: Sorting of plastic waste by hand. Photo: Lars Berg/laif

For a responsible resource policy

Natural resources such as water, land, fossil and mineral resources are in greater demand than ever before. In the race for these raw materials, governments and companies ruthlessly assert their interests – with nature conservation and human rights often falling by the wayside. Global plastics production is also a growing concern. Plastic is harmful to the climate, the environment, and to human health – yet its production continues to increase and only a small fraction of plastic waste is recycled.


12 Arguments for a Raw Materials Transition

The extraction, processing, and consumption of raw materials are causing a wide range of problems for populations and the environment. Increased efficiency, improved recycling systems, and new technologies alone will not solve these problems. In the brochure "12 Arguments for a Raw Materials Transition", which we co-published with eight development aid and environmental associations, we make the case for a fundamental rethink of raw materials policy. We show what metals we use in our daily lives, how they are extracted,

the dangers they pose to populations living near mines, and concepts for a fair use of raw materials. One central demand is a drastic reduction of raw material consumption in Germany and the enforcement of human rights and environmental standards during extraction.

Colombia: A radio novela about resistance against a planned gold mine

In Latin America, the Covid-19 pandemic caused GDPs to drop by an average of 7.1 percent in 2020. As countries cope with the economic crisis, the governments

 [Brochure for a Raw Materials Transition](https://boell.de/en/12-arguments-raw-materials-transition)
boell.de/en/12-arguments-raw-materials-transition

 [Radio novela "Tierra de Agua"](https://co.boell.org/es/santa-maria-de-la-luz)
co.boell.org/es/santa-maria-de-la-luz

of Latin America focus even more on exploiting their natural resources for export (extractivism). Today, any previously agreed consultation and participation rights are on the chopping block. Protests against such policies are often criminalized, and environmental activists and human rights advocates are threatened or even murdered. In order to reach the rural population during the pandemic, our Colombia Office joined forces with the organization SOS Ambiental, the association of community radio stations Fedemedios, and the Universidad de los Andes to produce a 40-part radio novela “Santa María de la Luz – Tierra de Agua”, which features many well-known actors. It tells the story of a fictitious community whose many women activists fight back against a planned gold mine by organizing a municipal referendum. The radio novela was broadcast by 400 local stations, reaching an estimated audience of 12 million! The story of the fictional village and its heroines quickly gained fame and popularity – and the radio novela was even broadcast outside Colombia, for example on public radio in Orlando, Florida (USA).

Mexico: gender perspectives on raw materials exploitation – a toolbox

As in all of Latin America, mining is also on the rise in Mexico, with all the dire consequences it entails for people and environment alike. Women are affected differently than men. Since 2015, our Mexico Office has done pioneering work on gender and extractivism. Among other things, this led to the creation of a work group on “Territory, Gender, and Extractivism”, which presented its “Gender and Extractivism Toolkit” at an online conference in August 2020. The toolkit addresses real-life issues of the (often indigenous) communities that are affected by mining. “What if this forest or that river ceases to exist or gets contaminated? How will it affect the lives of women here? And how about men?” Our partner organization “Mujer y Medio Ambiente” has already successfully used the toolkit, for example in a mountainous region of Oaxaca, the site of a proposed open-cast gold and silver mine. For the time being, a court has stopped work on the project. The “agricultural authorities” of the indigenous communities, exclusively staffed by men, were made to attend mixed-gender workshops, listen to the women’s concerns, and understand that they cannot exclude women from the decision-making processes. The work group on “Territory, Gender, and Extractivism” has sparked interest beyond the country’s borders.

Ways out of the plastic crisis – civil society demands

Plastics have become an integral part of our daily lives. Plastic products make many things easier, but they also pose a threat to our health and litter the environment, especially the oceans. Trade in plastic waste has become a booming business: A large part of Germany’s plastic

waste is exported to Southeast Asia, where disposal systems are often inadequate and the waste ends up polluting the landscape. In February 2020, we joined an alliance of German civil society and scientific institutions and published the paper “Ways out of the plastics crisis – 15 demands of German civil society”, which calls for decisive action from the German government.

The Plastic Atlas goes global

Our Plastic Atlas, which we published in German and English in 2019, has now been released in sixteen additional languages, partly in cooperation with partners from the “Break Free From Plastic” network. It is available in Khmer, Georgian, Burmese, Bulgarian and Russian, in four different French-language editions (for France, Morocco, Senegal, and Tunisia), in Arabic and English for the MENA region (Middle East and North Africa), as well as in country editions for Nigeria, Brazil, and China. The websites of our international offices also feature online dossiers, video clips, and other formats. When Senegal declared a national emergency due to the pandemic, our Dakar Office switched to TV spots during Ramadan, presenting key messages on the plastic crisis in Wolof at prime time just before the breaking of the fast.

Our Paris Office published a multi-part comic book on plastic on Instagram. Comic books are very popular in France and considered the Ninth Art. Using the Plastic Atlas as a basis and source of inspiration, well-known comic authors Capucine Dupuy and Terreur Graphique illustrated how plastic permeates our lives, threatening nature and the oceans – and presented a vision for a world without plastic.

Senegal: hope for a country free from disposable plastic

In Senegal, plastic waste is part of the landscape. In April 2020, the country passed a ban on all single-use plastic and had also planned to introduce a deposit system. Implementation is still a challenge, however. Our Dakar Office brought together various civil society organizations, artists, and companies who are working together to enforce the ban. Jointly, they asked experts to analyze the new law, they set up a digital campaign, and they held meetings with representatives of the ministries responsible. In addition, well-known Senegalese artist Ndongo D. created rap podcasts and animated videos on the subject of plastic. Together with the organization “zéro déchets” (zero waste) and a network of activists, our Dakar Office is also working on the island of Ngor off Dakar to ensure that the dream of a plastic-free Senegal soon becomes reality. In workshops, we tried to develop alternatives to all kinds of plastic, in the hope that the example of this small island may soon be emulated elsewhere in Senegal.

Toolkit “Gender and Extractivism”

mx.boell.org/es/2020/07/15/herramientas-de-genero-y-extractivismo

Plastic Atlas

boell.de/en/plastic

Short film on plastic waste in Senegal

youtube.com/watch?v=ZJnTeuJmCNY



A pilot facility for agrovoltatics in Heggelbach, Germany – 720 double-sided solar modules with a peak output of close to 200 kilowatt. Photo: Paul Langrock/laif

For a Green Economy

We need to overhaul our economic system, both socially and ecologically, in order to reduce CO₂ emissions and achieve climate neutrality. To preserve the livelihood of future generations, our lifestyles and commercial activities must become more sustainable. We already possess the technology necessary to do just that. The many profound structural changes we are facing have to be made socially acceptable, otherwise people will not get on board.

Hydrogen as the great new hope – technical aspects and an introduction

The European Union and many countries have pledged to become climate neutral by 2050. Alongside Green electricity, energy savings, and energy efficiency, hydrogen is considered the fourth pillar of a climate-neutral energy system. Hydrogen can be used to store and generate high levels of energy – high enough even for steel production. Yet only Green hydrogen, that is, hydrogen generated through electrolysis and using Green electricity, is truly sustainable. “Blue hydrogen”, on the

other hand, is produced via steam reforming and using natural gas – which is a fossil fuel.

A future-proof and sustainable hydrogen economy needs clear, climate-friendly rules for the production, promotion, import, and distribution of this precious commodity. In October 2020, we held “Green Party strategy talks” on the right policies towards a hydrogen market ramp-up.

Also in October 2020, we launched a two-part online introduction titled “What you need to know about hydrogen and how to discuss it”. This course,

which met with great interest, offered insights into chemistry, the German government's and the EU's hydrogen strategy, the interests and policies of certain economic and industrial sectors, and the ecological challenges surrounding hydrogen.

Towards a socio-ecological transformation – a European project ↗

The global Covid-19 pandemic has abruptly exposed the great vulnerabilities of our societies. Alongside the citizens' movement Finanzwende ("financial turnaround"), we launched the network and research project "Transformative Responses to the Crisis" in spring 2020. In this, various European organizations and academics propose reforms towards a just, sustainable, and resilient transformation of our economy. We kicked off the initiative by asking policymakers to minimize the massive risks of the climate, health, and financial crises by pushing for a more rapid and consistent energy transition through massive investments in public health, an agricultural transition, and by imposing stricter rules on the financial markets.

Debt relief for a Green recovery ↗

The Covid-19 pandemic has plunged the world into a global economic crisis that is without precedent in recent economic history. In many countries of the global South, a new debt crisis threatens to undermine progress in development and climate policy. In our project "Debt Relief for a Green and Inclusive Recovery", we propose a comprehensive, global debt relief. In return, we demand that indebted countries make greater efforts to implement the Paris Climate Agreement and commit to the Global Sustainability Goals. We presented this idea to the public in mid-November 2020, shortly before the G20 summit, and we will further elaborate the details in 2021. Our partners in this initiative are the Global Development Policy Center at Boston University and the Centers for Sustainable Finance at SOAS University of London.

Ecological Transformation in Corporations – a conference

Is the eco-social market economy in need of an update or does it require a complete overhaul? – thus the main topic of the virtual annual conference of UnternehmensGrün, which was co-hosted by the Heinrich Böll Foundation and took place on November 5, 2020. To the approximately 200 participants, Foundation Co-President Dr. Ellen Ueberschär explained that the ecological transformation of our economy requires a broad societal consensus, and that we need to build the right strategic alliances to achieve this. BDEW President Dr. Marie-Luise Wolff concluded: "A few updates to our personal favorite apps are not enough

to protect the climate. We need an update of the entire operating system. And that means: We need to muster the courage – and the energy – to make real changes." Here, numerous best-practice examples show that a lot is already happening, and some companies have already changed their business practices in order to tackle challenges such as New Work, the Purpose Economy, Climate Neutrality, and Responsible Ownership.

How do we overhaul our transport system? – an online series

In a modern society, mobility of people and goods is not only an expression of freedom and self-determination, it is vital for value creation and prosperity. Many citizens are dissatisfied with the current transport policy and they demand changes: climate-friendly propulsion technology, fewer cars, better bus and rail connections, and safe transport routes. In our online series "I do care – but how can we do it?", we looked at key fields of action for sustainable mobility. We asked mobility experts the following questions: How can we achieve better mobility that is less harmful to the environment? What political frameworks do we need at the federal, state, and community level? Which are the most effective tools? In 2020, almost 1100 participants attended our online events on transportation – more than we would have reached with comparable in-person formats!

The future of mobility – educational materials

Among a growing number of students the "Fridays for Future" movement has generated interest in climate issues and the transport revolution. Our digital education toolkit "teaching the transport revolution", provides texts, images, and audiovisual media on key policy areas to do with sustainable mobility. The materials are designed for students aged 16 and older. Teachers can use the materials straight out of the box without much prior knowledge or training. For example, "Stop and Go!" is a simulation game on freight transport. When we mention sustainable mobility, we usually first think of electric cars, more bicycles, and the expansion of local public transit. Freight transport hardly ever comes to mind, though this rapidly growing sector is key to the transport revolution: If you place an online order today, you can expect free delivery tomorrow. The consequences for human health and the environment are disquieting: more emissions, more noise, more congestion. In our simulation, representatives of transport and environmental associations debate how to organize freight transport as efficiently and environmentally friendly as possible. The game thus serves both citizenship and environmental education. It can be used both in analog and digital formats.

↗ **Research project**

transformative-responses.org

↗ **Project on debt relief**

drgr.org



October 17, 2020 in Beirut, Lebanon: Thousands protest against corruption and in tribute to the victims of the August 4 explosion disaster in the Port of Beirut. Photo: Lucien Lung/Riva Press/laif

Strengthening democracy and human rights

Human rights have never been a matter of course. Every day, somewhere in the world, government critics are arrested, journalists murdered, minorities expelled. In many countries, people are excluded and persecuted, and sometimes even face death threats because of their sexual orientation and identity. Yet resistance is stirring: Around the world, people are taking to the streets to fight against corruption and bad governance as well as for more democratic participation.

Worldwide, women are facing poverty and violence as a result of the pandemic

Covid-19 has exacerbated poverty for those with a low income and who were already struggling to make ends meet before the pandemic. Many governments are not in a position to provide them with a social safety net. Women are particularly hard hit by the pandemic – economically, socially, and also in terms of health. They are more likely to lose their jobs because they often work in the informal sector, and they are at a higher risk of being infected because they make up a large

proportion of care workers. Following are three reports from our offices in Chile, Lebanon, and South Africa.

Worsening violence against women in Chile: At the beginning of the pandemic, the Chilean government imposed a strict lockdown. People were only allowed to leave their homes for limited periods of time and with a police permit. As a result, violence against women spiked sharply. The women's emergency hotline saw a 70% increase in calls during the first weekend of quarantine. The mayor of Providencia, a municipality in the Santiago de Chile metropolitan area, reported

that during quarantine, calls to the local women's center increased by 500%. However, formal reports of domestic violence dropped by nearly 20%, which, according to prosecutors, doesn't mean that crime actually dropped, but rather that it was more difficult for victims to report them. To draw attention to the precarious situation of women, our office in Santiago de Chile partnered with Radio Universidad de Chile and local radio stations to support the campaign "Cuidado, el machismo mata" (Beware, machismo kills) of the Red Chilena contra la Violencia hacia las Mujeres (Chilean Network against Violence against Women).

Economic collapse and increase in poverty in Lebanon:

The situation in Lebanon was already dire before the pandemic. A strong political protest movement formed against corrupt elites, the economy was at the brink of collapse, the currency in free fall, and banks froze accounts and savings for months. The pandemic made this difficult situation even worse. The poorest sections of the population were hit particularly hard, among them refugees from Syria who live in precarious circumstances and have little access to education or health care. In order to improve their situation, our Lebanese partner organization Damma began training Syrian women in ways to deal with the pandemic. Damma developed an online training course that provided information about the dangers of the new virus and how it spreads. In a second phase of the project, the women were trained as coaches so they could pass on their basic medical knowledge to others. In Lebanon, there is no state support for Syrian refugees, which makes the work of such initiatives all the more important.

Hunger in South Africa: In South Africa, the pandemic has triggered a hunger crisis. Most people with no or low incomes receive no support from the state. At least 600,000 jobs were lost in the pandemic. Women and young people are particularly affected. Even before the pandemic, the country counted over ten million unemployed. Our partner organization Black Sash – one of South Africa's oldest human rights organizations – has therefore long been calling for a uniform social security system that guarantees a basic income for all people living in South Africa. As a first step in this direction, special subsidies were introduced in the wake of the pandemic. Black Sash now wants to see them increased, made permanent, and accessible without means testing. Even extremely modest incomes that may be as low as ten rand (about 59 cents) can disqualify applicants from receiving any support.

The pandemic has hit the South African population hard, but it has also rallied dedicated people from a wide range of backgrounds. Pooling their forces as a powerful lobby, they are now pushing to implement the recommendations of the UN Social Covenant on the right to social security.

"reGain Space – The Future is Now!" –

A democratic awakening in Africa

"I know very well that safety is very important. But then I know that can't stop me from saying or doing the work that I am doing," says Ugandan activist Ssenfuka Joanita Warry about her fight against homophobia in her country. Many courageous people like Warry stand up for political participation, human rights, as well as environmental and gender justice on the African continent. We introduced some of them in our series "reGain Space – The Future is Now!", which we launched in 2020. To kick off the series, we invited activists from Ethiopia, Sudan, and Eritrea to Berlin in February, where they spoke about what motivates them to demand and drive political change in their countries – despite the many personal risks involved.

The pandemic forced us to continue our series online. In Season II "Loud & Proud", we spoke with (queer) feminist activists from Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and Uganda about the queer struggle for rights and freedom. In Season III "Environment and Justice", we spoke with environmental activists about global issues that specifically affect the African continent: Resource exploitation, climate change, and loss of biodiversity. African environmental activists are at the forefront of the battle against the climate crisis and the fight to protect natural resources. So far, their voices have not been adequately heard in the international climate movement.

In our online dossier documenting this series, you can read or watch interviews with some of the activists.

Successes in the fight against gender-based violence in South Africa and Namibia

In 2020, South Africa and Namibia scored important successes in combating gender-based violence. The South African government began to strengthen the legal framework to prosecute such crimes so as to afford the judiciary greater scope of action. Our office in Cape Town and some of our partner organizations had put forward proposals and were able to push important recommendations.

For example, they averted a legal obligation to report suspected domestic violence against women, which means that women remain free to decide for themselves whether or not to press charges. A legal obligation to report such crimes would have discouraged many women from turning to organizations for help.

In October 2020, in Namibia, hundreds of predominantly young people took to the streets under the slogan #ShutItAllDown to protest the government's failure to combat sexual violence and femicide. It was one of the largest mass protests since the country's independence. Our partner organization Sister Namibia has been working on this issue for years. Their



OluTimehin Adegbeye Artwork: Niklas Hughes



Ssenfuka Joanita Warry Artwork: Niklas Hughes

10-point action plan received a lot of national and international attention, putting considerable pressure on the government to act.

Ambassadors for women's rights – women academics in the Gaza Strip

The Gaza Strip is a tiny enclave on the Mediterranean between Israel and Egypt, 42 kilometers long and only a few kilometers wide. More than two million people live there under an Israeli blockade that cuts them off from the rest of the world. A far lesser-known fact is that this overpopulated and impoverished region enjoys a high level of education and one of the highest literacy rates in the world. Around 600,000 children attend its 737 schools; 85,000 students are enrolled in its five universities and six colleges. About half of the students are young women, who are exposed to daily discrimination at the universities because of their gender. Women are also far underrepresented among the university teaching staff. To combat prejudice against female academics and to strengthen women's rights at universities and in society, our office in Ramallah initiated the project "Ambassadors for Women's Rights" in partnership with the Community Media Center (CMC). The project produced a comprehensive study on the situation of women in academia as well as Gaza's first female academics' forum where women can share their experiences and jointly advocate for their rights and demands.

The country needs new men – podcast and guide for young Moroccans

Thanks to the Moroccan women's rights movement, legal equality between men and women has been gradually improving in recent years, yet gender roles, and in particular notions of masculinity, remain basically unchanged. In 2020, our Rabat Office joined our Moroccan partner organization *Médias et Cultures* and a group of dedicated young women and men to develop a guidebook on issues of housework, childcare, and sexuality. Aimed at young men (and women), the publication promotes a new, emancipated understanding of masculinity. Our office also joined forces with the collective *Ellile* to produce the podcast series "Machi Rojola". In ten episodes, prominent Moroccan artists, musicians, activists, and experts discuss "toxic" masculinity, the relationship between Islam and masculinity, and alternative concepts of masculinity. The first episodes had over 10,000 listeners and were widely reviewed in the Moroccan media. Another season is already in the works for next year.

Radio talk show promotes greater understanding of LGBTIQ+ in Cambodia

In Cambodia, discrimination, abuse, and harassment are part of everyday life for many LGBTIQ+ people (Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Intersex, and Queer). While the government has committed to introducing an anti-discrimination law and legal protections for LGBTIQ+, the necessary reforms have yet to get underway. The situation is particularly dramatic for transgender people, who are denied basic civil rights. For example,

they cannot exercise their electoral rights according to their identity because they are not legally recognized. LGBTIQ+ people are also rejected by the majority of society. Rape of lesbians, forcible separation of same-sex partners, and forced marriages of LGBTIQ+ persons to people of the opposite sex are widespread. A radio talk show sponsored by our office in Cambodia and the Cambodian Center for Human Rights (CCHR) aims to fight societal prejudice against LGBTIQ+ people and build confidence among the LGBTIQ+ community. The show not only features activists and representatives from NGOs and government agencies but also family members of LGBTIQ+ people. Many people hear about the plight of the LGBTIQ+ community on this show for the very first time. The government is supportive of the project because it knows that broader social acceptance is a necessary precondition for introducing legal human rights protections for sexual minorities. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the show was particularly important for LGBTIQ+ people, as lockdowns further exacerbated their social isolation. The message

of solidarity coming over the airwaves bolstered their self-confidence and faith in a better future.

Together against discrimination – LGBTIQ+ platform in Morocco

In Morocco, women and LGBTIQ+ persons face many levels of legal and social discrimination. Activists have been calling for criminal and family law reforms for years. Their approaches are manifold, and due to diverging priorities, ideological conflicts, and generational differences, they have yet to find a common strategy. In order to bring together the various civil society initiatives and activists, our office in Rabat set up an intersectional online platform with a group of queer feminist activists. Since the fall of 2020, this has been offering a variety of opportunities to address the legal and social discrimination suffered by women and LGBTIQ+ people in Morocco. It contains videos, cartoons, and audio stories on the current abortion ban, the criminalization of extramarital sex, or the situation of trans people in Morocco.

Democracy needs feminism – now more than ever!

The Gunda Werner Institute (GWI) at the Heinrich Böll Foundation emphasizes that feminism is deeply rooted in and an integral part of the Green movement. We ask ourselves and others what a gender-democratic society should look like and what policies and strategies are needed to get us there. Gender democracy thrives on debate and dialog with and between all genders – following Gunda Werner's mantra: "Mental taboos are strictly taboo!"

gwi-boell.de/en



Podcast "Our Voices, our Choices"

"Our Voices, our Choices" is our international gender politics podcast series. It tells stories of women's and LGBTIQ+ human rights, of people whose voices are often unheard and whose rights are restricted.

soundcloud.com/boellstiftung/sets/our-voices-our-choices-en



Panel of the Annual Foreign Policy Conference 2020 (from left to right): Arndt Freytag von Loringhoven, Omid Nouripour, Daniela Schwarzer, and Jan Techau
Photo: Stephan Röhl

Towards a sustainable foreign and security policy

The international order is starting to show cracks: Multilateral institutions are becoming less relevant while ever more countries are returning to old-school superpower politics: Russia is expanding its influence from Libya to Syria, to the Black Sea and the Baltic; Turkey is acting aggressively in the Mediterranean; and China is making territorial claims in the Asia-Pacific region. As a result, the world has become less safe. While the US wants to resume a global leadership role, it remains the responsibility of the European Union to ensure stability and reliable procedures in its own neighborhood.

Multilateralismus 2.0 – Annual Foreign Policy Conference ↗

Our 20th Annual Foreign Policy Conference in January 2020 was all about the “Alliance for Multilateralism”, a new initiative launched a year earlier by Germany

and France. The alliance was born out of the realization that many global issues are becoming less and less manageable in this age of new rivalries between superpowers such as the US, China, and Russia. With this new alliance, middle powers such as Germany, France,

↗ [Dossier on the conference](#)

boell.de/foreign-policy-annual-meeting-2020

Canada, Japan, South Africa, Brazil, and India are trying to restore some stability and reliable procedures in policy areas from which the rivaling superpowers have largely withdrawn, for example, regulating world trade, combating the climate crisis, or securing freedom of maritime navigation. Our annual conference addressed the prospects of success for this initiative, as well as the question whether international principles, rules, and laws (global governance) can function at all without US involvement. We created an online dossier on the conference, featuring numerous articles on the topic, an English-language conference reader, and a podcast (in German only) outlining the current challenges facing German foreign policy.

“No Women. No Peace” – taking stock on occasion of UN Resolution 1325’s 20th anniversary

When UN Resolution 1325 was adopted on October 31, 2000, it was a milestone, achieved thanks to tireless lobbying on the part of dedicated women. Our Gunda Werner Institute for Feminism and Gender Democracy has monitored the Resolution from the beginning, raised awareness for it in Germany, and helped build networks to exert pressure on politicians to implement it. To mark its 20th anniversary, we published a web dossier entitled “No Women. No Peace” showcasing women from 20 countries and their commitment to peace and security – as politicians, soldiers, police officers, diplomats, or activists. The dossier also contains short video interviews and articles.

New technologies and their impact on democracy and security policy – “German-Israeli Tech-Policy Dialog”

In 2020, we launched the German-Israeli dialog on new technologies. In this multi-year program, we want to bring Israeli and German experts together to discuss how new technologies affect democratic culture and security policy in Israel and Germany. The first event within this program was held in November 2020 on the subject of “mass surveillance”. Ahead of the dialog, we published three German and three Israeli case studies. Our main focus was the problematic practice of surveillance by national intelligence services and how it can be democratically controlled. As the event took place in the middle of the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, Israeli and German experiences with Covid tracking and tracing apps were also a major topic.

The political system in Iran – dossier and film

On January 3, 2020, the United States conducted a targeted missile strike in Iraq that killed the commander of the Al-Quds Brigades, Kassem Soleimani, who was considered the key strategist of Iran’s military engagement in the region. Iranian leaders and the Revolution-

ary Guards announced harsh retaliatory strikes. Iran and the US keep clashing – and not just diplomatically. Our dossier “Playing with Fire. The US and Iran on the brink of war” provides information on the background of the conflict, the nuclear agreement, and reactions on all sides. On the occasion of the Iranian parliamentary elections that took place on February 21, 2020, we also commissioned a three-minute film to explain the political system in Iran. The clip is one of the Foundation’s most popular videos.

Also in 2020, we published a study entitled “Double Pressure on Iran”, in which David Jalilvand examines whether economic sanctions may be misguided and mainly harmful to civilians.

German-Polish exchange on issues of Eastern European policy

Geopolitically, Eastern Europe remains one of the major but also one of the most unpredictable regions for the European Union. Both Germany and Poland support democratic reforms and economic development in their eastern neighborhood, the foreign policies of the two countries, however, often follow different trajectories. This creates opportunities for undemocratic actors to manipulate and/or destabilize the already fragile region for their own political gains. In order to develop unified responses to such foreign policy challenges, our Warsaw Office partnered with the Jan-Nowak-Jeziorański-Osteuropakolleg in Wrocław, the Stiftung für deutsch-polnische Zusammenarbeit, and the Deutsch-Russischer Austausch e. V. and held a number of discussion with German and Polish experts on Eastern Europe. In 2020, four online debates addressed topics such as how to deal with Belarus, German and Polish views of Ukraine and the Donbas conflict, and the role of Russia and China in Eastern European policy.

Recommendations for a European policy towards China

The European Union’s relations with China are in a state of flux. Many reiterate that the EU needs a coordinated, common China policy, and this set high expectations for Germany’s EU Presidency in the second half of 2020. Yet how do other European countries’ view China? Which issues and priorities determine their national policies towards China? And what do these countries expect from the EU? In a joint project with the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR), we discussed these questions in five digital workshops with representatives from politics, business, and academia in Bulgaria, Poland, Spain, Italy, and France. ECFR has published its findings in an internationally noted policy paper titled “The new China consensus. How Europe is growing wary of Beijing”, which we presented and discussed in Berlin and Brussels.

 **Dossier “No Women. No Peace”**

boell.de/en/no-women-no-peace

 **Dossier “German-Israeli Tech-Policy Dialog”**

il.boell.org/en/german-israeli-tech-policy-dialog

 **Informations on Iran**

boell.de/iran



"The Future is Europe" – 30 meters of street art in Rue de la Loi, Brussels. Photo: picture alliance/Zoonar/Silvia Eder

Shaping the future of Europe

Be it climate policy, energy production, digitization, or new social policy, the European Union must act as one. Germany, as the largest and strongest economy, must contribute its fair share to enable the EU to face the challenges of our time. By building and pooling environmental, social, and economic expertise at the European level, Europe can play a key role in making our economies more environmentally friendly and in addressing the climate crisis by working towards the 1.5-degree target.

New Beginnings for Europe in Times of Crisis – Annual European Policy Conference

On July 1, 2020, Germany assumed the EU Council Presidency for a six-month period. This should have marked a "Fresh Start for Europe", as envisioned in the German government's coalition agreement. At our Annual European Policy Conference in May 2020, which was held online in cooperation with the Green European Foundation (GEF), experts and politicians from a number of EU countries outlined what they expected of the German Council Presidency – especially in the areas of

the European Green Deal, democracy and human rights, and asylum and refugee policy. Another important topic was the handling of the pandemic and its economic and social impact on the EU. A Franco-German proposal, made just days before the conference, to create a reconstruction fund financed through joint borrowing was well received. Most speakers made a point that such a multi-billion-dollar economic stimulus package should be made contingent upon environmental and social criteria.

In April, in the run-up to the conference, we published a study titled "European, of course!? The Mission

 Study "European, of course!?"

boell.de/en/2020/03/20/european-of-course

 Dossier on green ideas

eu.boell.org/en/green-ideas-future-european-union

for the Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2020”, which indicated that Germans would like to see more commitment to European policy from their government and that they are very willing to spend more on joint programs with other EU partners.

Green ideas for the future of Europe

Due to the pandemic, the German EU Presidency faced great challenges, including adopting a new EU budget and developing joint responses. Crisis management, particularly in the early phases of the pandemic, had many shortcomings. Our Brussels office, in a web dossier, presented recommendations by Green MEPs and civil society initiatives on how to lead the European Union out of the crisis and provide it with new impetuses. “Green Ideas for the Future of Europe”, published by our Brussels Office, addresses the same topic by taking up the EU Commission’s political guidelines on the European Green Deal and on the future of the EU and its role in the world.

The future of European migration and asylum policy

On September 23, 2020, the European Commission presented its long-awaited proposal on how to reform the Common European Asylum System. “Dublin is dead!” Vice-President of the Commission Margareta Schinas announced earlier this year. In practice, however, the “New Pact on Migration and Asylum” did not scrap the Dublin Regulation but rather perpetuates and even tightens it. In its proposal, the European Commission pleads for “flexible solidarity” and so-called repatriation sponsorships, while the constructive and vital role that cities and towns could play in redistributing refugees is not even mentioned. Moreover, the EU Commission does not plan to resume European sea rescue operations in the Mediterranean. The Libyan Coast Guard keeps having to rescue people in distress at sea – even though, under international maritime law, Libya clearly is not a safe place for those rescued. This is clearly shown in a study published by our Brussels office and titled “Places of Safety in the Mediterranean: The EU’s Policy of Outsourcing Responsibility”. Our web dossier “The New EU Pact on Migration and Asylum” is a questioning, yet constructive contribution to the future of European migration and asylum policy.

Queer European Asylum – empowering refugees

Queer asylum seekers are disproportionately affected by violence. They are in peril almost anywhere, facing violence from many sides, be it homophobic refugees, family members, employees in shelters, or right-wing extremists. The pandemic has made the situation of queer asylum seekers much worse. In the course of four



digital conferences held by our Gunda Werner Institute in cooperation with the network Queer European Asylum and the Magnus Hirschfeld Foundation, avenues of how to help these refugees were explored and, in particular, what Germany could do. The approximately 2,000 participants demanded that politicians finally take action. In collaboration with the University of Bristol, the Queer European Asylum network developed recommendations, which have since been published as a policy paper.

An attack on democracy? Anti-gender movements in Europe

For decades, the European Union’s gender and equality policies were considered a success story. In recent years, however, right-wing populist movements have emerged across Europe, mobilizing against gender policies and sexual self-determination. Hard-won rights and practices of open democratic societies, for example in terms of sexual and reproductive self-determination, are once again being challenged. Right-wing populist parties in the European Parliament have become more vocal and they are increasingly influencing debates. Well-connected transnational political groups utilize the Parliament as a stage to undermine a key feminist achievement, namely the foundations of EU gender policy. A web dossier presented by our Gunda Werner Institute describes current developments in Spain, Italy, Turkey, Greece, and at the EU level, revealing what actors are mobilizing against gender politics and what their strategies are.

Hidden Memory? – Women in World War II in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe

Today, 75 years after the end of World War II, its stories are mostly told in political, military, and legal terms. In our history books men are the dominant actors and decision-makers: dictators, heads of state, soldiers, partisans, and resistance fighters. Only occasionally do we find a woman among the heroes who are revered in the various nations. The European History Forum 2020 set out to change this with a focus on Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. It explored the role of women in the region during that era, revealing their struggles for survival, their triumphs, and their hardships. A critical comparison of historical discourses in the different countries revealed that prevailing role models and political opportunism have a strong influence on whether women’s wartime experiences are appreciated or tabooed. This applies, for example, to Soviet women fighter pilots, women partisans in Yugoslavia, or women on the home fronts in the South Caucasus or in Ukraine. Several articles, an artistic film contribution, and Zoom recordings of the event are available as part of our web dossier.

 **Dossier on migration and asylum policy**
eu.boell.org/en/new-eu-pact-migration-and-asylum
 **Policy Paper on queer refugees**
queereuropeanasylum.org/

 **Dossier on anti-gender movements**
gwi-boell.de/en/attack-democracy-anti-gender-movements-europe
 **Dossier on the European History Forum**
boell.de/en/node/66673



The Covid-19 pandemic pushed ICU nurses to their limits. Many are now thinking of leaving the profession.
Photo: Laetitia Vancon/The New York Times/Redux/laif

Participation strategies – developing public spaces and networks

Infrastructures enable access to the necessities of daily life. Equal access to high-quality infrastructures for all citizens is a matter of justice for us living today, as well as for future generations. The way we design our environment strongly determines how we will live tomorrow, which is why infrastructure must be planned with universal accessibility and ecological sustainability in mind.

Infrastructures are crucial for the future

During the Covid-19 pandemic we all learned what it means when childcare centers and schools close for months on end, when movie theaters, clubs, and stages remain shuttered, and hospitals and digital networks are stretched to their limits. Public infrastructure that works well offers access for all and is key to making our economy and society environmentally and socially sound. The way we design infrastructure today strongly determines how we will live tomorrow. The purpose of

our *Infrastructure Atlas* is to give these vital facilities the attention they deserve. For some time now, the Foundation has focused on the topic of infrastructure, which was not only at the center of our 2019 Green Academy and 2020 New Year's Conference, but we also dedicated the final event of our "What is the Green Narrative?" series to the topic of "Public Spaces and Infrastructures". In addition, the project "Shared Spaces", which we hosted with our Co-Foundations at the state level, showcased examples of spaces as

nodes of social interaction and explored strategies for greater participation.

netz:regeln 2020 – ethics and participation in our digital society

What are the social benefits of equitable access to digital networks? Will a lack of equitable access cause social rifts? And how can tech giants be compelled to commit to value-based business models? We discussed these and other questions with nearly 100 participants at the conference “10 years of netz:regeln” on January 30, 2020. Although there is much debate about internet use and regulation generally, we often lose sight of fundamental values in the digital world and the wider implications of social and political developments that occur on and because of the internet. “netz:regeln” is a place where net policy actors, the IT industry, and stakeholders and activists in net policy and civil rights can debate their ideas and concepts.

Black Lives Matter – interconnections and continuities of racism

The brutality of George Floyd’s murder by police officers, caught on camera in Minneapolis on May 25, 2020, sent shockwaves through the US and around the world. The event led to weeks of protests and fierce confrontations with police in the US. The slogan “Black Lives Matter” was heard, seen, and read everywhere. Despite the pandemic and restrictions, tens of thousands of people took to the streets in many German and European cities to protest against structural racism and police violence. In our online project “Black Lives Matter”, we asked authors from Germany, Great Britain, France, and the US, among them Gary Younge (The Guardian), Dr. Vanessa E. Thompson (researcher),

and Hadija Haruna (journalist) to help us better understand the events by presenting their views on historical developments and current social movements. German society has, in many ways, indeed become more diverse, modern, and liberal, still, the widespread perception that racism is a marginal phenomenon in Germany is wrong – and our project, with its multiple formats, set out to document this. The participants managed to illuminate historical continuities in the context of current developments and outlined perspectives for a better future.

Project “Vietnamese Life in the GDR and Today”

The year 2020 marked the 40th anniversary of an agreement between the GDR and Vietnam, under which war-scarred Vietnam sent young people as so-called contract workers to the German Democratic Republic for a certain period of time. After the collapse of the GDR, a renewal of residence permits was negotiated, and about a quarter of the approximately 60,000 contract workers stayed on. Although some of the terms of this agreement have been criticized, it did mark the beginning of significant Vietnamese immigration to Eastern Germany, with effects that are still tangible today. While the original generation of contract workers has been mostly politically inactive, their children are making their voices heard by taking a stand against racism and for intercultural diversity. To commemorate this 40th anniversary, we set up a dossier on our website – in cooperation with the Gesellschaft für Interkulturelles Zusammenleben gGmbH (Society for Intercultural Coexistence), the Berlin Senate Department for Integration, Labor, and Social Affairs, and the Berlin Landeszentrale für politische Bildung.

GreenCampus – Practicing successful politics

GreenCampus – the political training academy of the Heinrich Böll Foundation and its Co-Foundations at the state level – pools our diverse spectrum of advanced training programs in the field of political management. GreenCampus offers skills development, capacity-building, and management consulting for people active in politics – whether they work as volunteers, in political parties, or in organizations. In this way, we make a key contribution toward building and upgrading the skills that people need to engage in successful political work and effective social participation.

greencampus.boell.de

Arts and Culture

Art can anticipate, simulate, or critically observe social developments. It triggers emotions, raises questions, and often helps us see beyond the narrow constraints of our everyday lives – in short: it enriches our society. We therefore promote art and culture as expressions of social self-exploration.



Container – art project on slavery past and present Photo: Simon Wood (simonwoodfilm.com/container)

Art project on slavery past and present ↗

The transatlantic slave trade was one of the greatest crimes in human history. From the 16th to the 19th centuries, European slave traders abducted over 17 million people from Africa to the Americas. Millions more lost their lives – while resisting enslavement, being transported on the African continent, or during the transatlantic crossing. Slave trade and slavery still exist today, in modern form. Hardly any other place symbolizes this historical continuity as much as Cape Town. Right outside the country's second largest port, where hundreds of containers are loaded daily, lies the wreck of a slave ship that sank in 1794 with over 200 shackled people aboard. Our office in South Africa supported the project "Container" by artist Meghna Singh, which spans an arc from historical to modern slavery with a mix of documentary and constructed reality. The project explores the interface of virtual reality and installation art. Wearing a virtual reality headset, visitors step into a shipping container where they navigate various scenes of a seemingly endless cycle of servitude of black bodies: cheap labor forced into dependency.

"Container" shines a spotlight on a hidden world where people are reduced to commodities. The film that accompanies the project premiered at the 2021 Venice Film Festival.

Voices from Belarus – young intellectuals report

After the presidential election on August 9, 2020, thousands took to the streets across Belarus to protest against massive electoral fraud. The arbitrary arrest of thousands of people and the use of brutal force and torture sparked further peaceful protests that developed an unprecedented momentum. The protesters, mainly women, formed chains of solidarity along the main streets, and workers went on strike in the country's major industries. However, even the rallies that followed – the largest in the history of the young state – did not bring about a breakthrough. President Alexander Lukashenko, who has been in power since 1994, uses his repressive police apparatus to hold on to power, making no concessions and locking up unwelcome opponents. Our project "Voices from Belarus" documents the events by translating selected texts by Belarusians who expose electoral fraud, comment on the protests and their significance, and report on the strikes. Excerpts from our online reading "On the verge of freedom – voices from Belarus" from September 2020 are available as a podcast in our series "Böll. Fokus".

↗ More about the film "Container"

simonwoodfilm.com/container

#zuhauselesen – literature a transitional space

Soon after the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, it was clear that artists would be hit particularly hard: Performances and gigs were canceled; government support failed to adequately mitigate the situation. The arts and culture sector has been hit particularly hard by the Covid-19 pandemic. With our new format #zuhauselesen (reading at home), we give (post-)migrant authors the opportunity to present work they did during the lockdown, thus offering the public new ways to access (post-)migrant literature and culture. In six short videos, which we posted once a week on YouTube and Instagram starting in late May 2020, artists filmed themselves at home reading from their novels, short stories, and poems, and commenting on current events. The project, curated by artists Safiye Can and Hakan Akçit, is a component of our program "Zwischenraum für Kunst" (a transitional space for the arts), which has been an integral part of our web portal "Heimatkunde" for many years.

"World in Transition" – the hackathon experience

The pandemic has forced us all to rethink and reorganize events in new and different ways. How may we get together without actually being together?; how do we touch each other without physically touching? In April 2020, we held our hackathon "World in Transition". Based on an idea by game designer Christiane Hütter this was an experiment to jointly develop hacks and ideas for performing stage plays online. Around 50 independent artists, dramaturges, game designers, and hackers from the "Chaos Community" took part in this hackathon that was conceived as a democratic forum in which individuals may interact as equals. With its focus on collaboration rather than representation, the project turned out to be a success. All groups reflected, discussed, and worked together, and the result was some great ideas

such as online bars, digital foyers, video conferencing games, and best practices for online symposiums. For many, this first "World in Transition" forum was just a prelude, as new constellations and teams came together – and will continue to pursue their projects. In February 2021, the Academy of Arts in Berlin archived the project website www.weltuebergang.net as part of its "Theater during the Pandemic" series, which is meant to preserve beacon projects for future generations.

Publication "Uncovering the Year 1990"

The book "Uncovering the Year 1990" was shortlisted for the Prize of the Leipzig Book Fair 2020, selected as the "Most Beautiful Book" of 2020, and it received numerous positive reviews in all relevant newspapers. It is a collage of pictures and text comprising almost 600 pages that was created by a collective of authors under the guidance of Jan Wenzel and Anne König from Leipzig publisher Spector Verlag, and which offers multiple viewpoints on the period between the Fall of the Berlin Wall and German Reunification. In addition to its splendid aesthetics and high-quality content, the book also is an ideal conversation starter about the events of 1990. The Heinrich Böll Foundation was particularly pleased to support this ambitious project because we consider it to be one of the most innovative contributions to mark the 30th anniversary of German Reunification. Numerous book presentations and debates were held in cooperation with our Co-Foundations on the state level and with the participation of the editors. On October 2, 2020, the book was the focus of an event titled "A Re-montage of Time: On Upheaval and Arrival in the Present Day". Here, on the eve of the anniversary, Jan Wenzel, Annett Gröschner, Sergey Lagodinsky, and Milan Horáček spoke about the year 1990, which was as eventful as it was amorphous in terms of politics of memory.



Annett Gröschner, writer, and Jan Wenzel, ed. of *Das Jahr 1990 freilegen*, (on the right) Photos: Stephan Röhl

The Heinrich Böll House in Langenbroich

In 1966, the Böll family acquired a listed 18th-century farmstead in the northern Eifel region, which they mainly used as a summer home until Heinrich Böll's death. For almost 30 years now, the Böll House has served as a retreat for artists and writers. In successful partnership with the city of Düren and the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, we have welcomed more than 200 guests from Asia, Africa, Latin America, as well as Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. Many of them have been victims of political oppression. During their stint at the house, they enjoy the peace and quiet they need for their creative work. The Heinrich Böll Foundation is part of a worldwide network of institutions that provide help to politically persecuted authors and artists.



Hani al Sawah Photo: private archive

Our guest in 2020: Hani al Sawah, rapper and writer

In 2020, the pandemic made it impossible to host our usual number of residents, which is why Syrian rapper and writer Hani al Sawah was our only guest. Born in Homs in 1988, he began performing music as a teenager. In 2012, he came to Beirut, where he was co-organizer and member of the project "Khat Talet" ("Third Way"), which brings together rappers and producers from all over the Arab world. Since then, he has become a household name in the Arab rap scene. In 2016, he released his debut album "Ard Al Samak/Land of Fish", featuring songs about the Syrian revolution and its impact on society and individuals. In 2018, he co-wrote the photo diary "Salamat Men Idlib" ("From the Heart, from Idlib") with Syrian photographer Tim Alsiofi, which was published by the Heinrich Böll Foundation in 2019. A year later, he released his album "Malahi" ("Ferris wheels") in collaboration

with the Foundation's Beirut office. Shortly afterwards, he left Beirut for an artist's residency at the Heinrich Böll House in Langenbroich. In Germany, he founded his own record label and is currently working on numerous collaborations with Arab and European artists whose productions are soon to be released.

📌 Send your fellowship applications to:

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Josef-Haubrich-Hof 1, 50676 Cologne
E-mail: reckhaus@boell.de

Scholarship and fellowship program – giving a lift to young talent

We provide support to undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students from both Germany and abroad, in all fields of study. Our aim is to find promising talent and help fulfill their potential and to encourage young people to promote the Foundation's goals worldwide: more democracy, solidarity, environmental action, sustainable policies, and human rights.



Graphic recording of a debate held during the alumni salon on November 28, 2020
image: Simon Oesterle, alumnus

Who receives support?

In 2020, we selected 287 new fellows out of 2,627 applicants in a three-stage process. A total of 1,399 students – 1,171 undergraduate and graduate students, 225 doctoral candidates, and 3 postdocs – received financial support. We have a special focus on certain target groups: 62% of the fellows were women; 12% study at technical colleges, art colleges, or music colleges; 28% of the fellows (53% of whom are women) major in STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). Among the doctoral candidates, 24% are pursuing a doctorate in a STEM subject (59% of them women). Of the 76 fellows who have come to Germany as refugees since 2015, 62 hail from Syria.

Non-material support: advice – training – networking

We also offer non-material ancillary support namely, through our events. We thus aim to spur political debate, teach crucial skills, encourage interdisciplinary dialog, help participants prepare for their future careers, and foster our fellows' social and political activism. One of our major objectives is to teach self-organization, critical thinking, and creative skills. The event program is designed for and with our fellows.

Highlights of the event program

We were able to hold a few in-person events in 2020, for example, a study trip to Israel and Palestine, which

took place from February 23 to March 3. The concept of the trip was developed by four fellows and with backing from the Jessica-Bilz-Support Fund – a project grant awarded by the fellows' alumni association. Most of our events, however, took place digitally, including the popular summer academy "Campus" and the new debate format "Politics in Focus", where fellows discuss current affairs with experts from our worldwide network. To mark the 30th anniversary of our programs, we held the first digital alumni salon. It focused on one of our central themes, which is also close to the heart of many of our fellows, namely, strengthening democratic and social participation, as well as promoting equal opportunity and participation of all social groups.

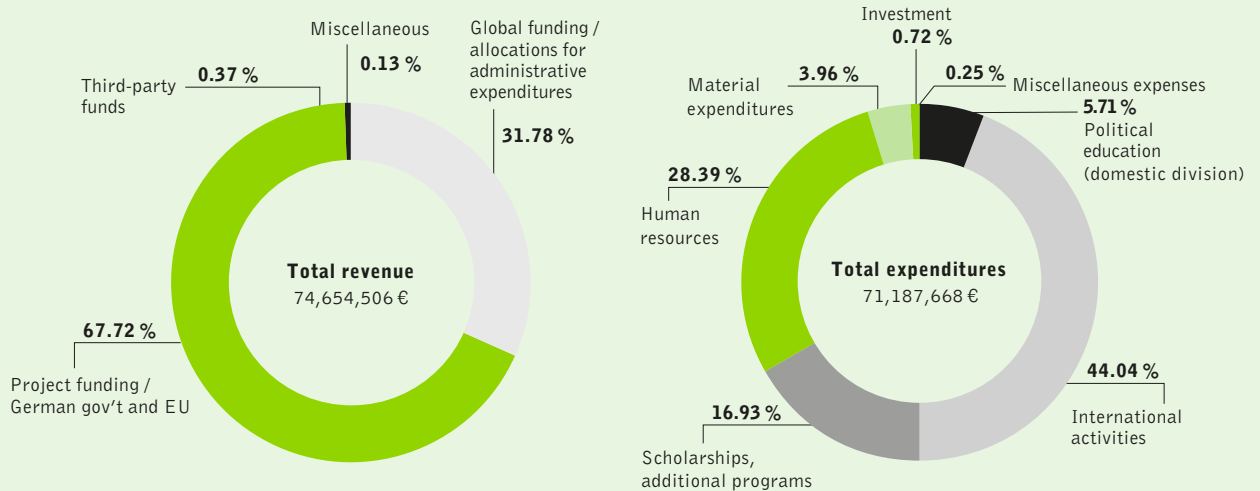
Our support for doctoral candidates

The Studienwerk supports a broad spectrum of research subjects – from agricultural economics to urban design. Our doctoral fellows meet once a year at the Doctoral Students' Forum; in 2020 the focus was on "Science between freedom, independence, and socio-political commitment". Here, approximately 60 doctoral candidates presented their interdisciplinary research projects in 13 panels.

In our research cluster on social and ecological transformation, 40 doctoral candidates from various disciplines are currently working on sustainability issues. Several cooperation partners support the cluster.

Our financial framework

The Heinrich Böll Foundation is an incorporated association registered with the district court of Berlin-Charlottenburg and tax-exempt as a non-profit organization. Our work is largely financed through public grants. Transparency about how we use our funds is of utmost importance to us, which is why our financial reporting goes beyond the legal requirements. We are members of the Transparent Civil Society Initiative and committed to an anti-corruption code of conduct. In addition, we voluntarily prepare an annual financial report, which is guided by the rules of Germany's Commercial Code and have it independently audited.



Revenue in 2020

The Foundation's revenue increased by approximately 4.6 % in 2020, which is mainly due to higher revenues from funds made available for our international programs and in support of undergraduate and postgraduate studies in Germany. There was also an increase in revenue from third-party funding for our international programs, especially on climate change.

Expenditures in 2020

In 2020, about two thirds of the Foundation's expenditures (approx. 47.5 million euros) went into program activities and into scholarship and fellow programs. Allowing for payroll for staff directly involved in programs, this share increased to approximately 88 %. Administrative expenses decreased slightly, as did expenditures for investments and special projects, due to the corona pandemic situation.

Preliminary cash-basis accounting 2020*

Reporting year: January 1 to December 31, 2020 (as of March 18)

	2020 figures preliminary	2019
Revenue towards global budget**	23,479,792	23,389,774
Project funding		
International cooperation	38,429,377	36,671,586
BMZ	32,511,154	30,787,515
German Foreign Office	5,729,959	5,747,653
EU	—	21,605
Other/third party funds for international cooperation	188,264	114,813
Studienwerk	12,313,218	10,746,154
BMBF	11,328,534	9,850,895
German Foreign Office	984,624	874,789
Other	60	20,470
Third-party funds Germany	90,162	134,017
Miscellaneous	93,634	127,599
Total revenue	74,654,506	71,372,557
Specialist expenditures	1,502,483	1,848,898
Transfers to regional foundations	2,559,860	2,878,289
Project funding expenditures		
International cooperation	31,353,945	30,145,348
Studienwerk	12,054,472	10,746,154
EU	—	21,605
Third-party funds	96,667	25,800
Personnel (salaries, including management of foreign offices)	20,207,325	19,416,134
Operating expenditures	2,819,960	2,951,665
Investments	508,499	709,928
Miscellaneous	84,458	399,395
Total expenditures	71,187,668	69,143,217
Annual result	3,466,838	2,229,340
Association revenue	220,066	248,864
Association expenditures	201,329	409,623
Association result	18,736	-160,758

* all figures in euros

** including carryovers from the previous year

BMZ: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, AA: Federal Foreign Office, BMBF: Federal Ministry of Education and Research

Awards

The Heinrich Böll Foundation bestows several awards and co-sponsors various additional honors. Our most important awards are the Peace Film Prize and the Anne Klein Women's Award.



Prasanna Gettu
Photo: Stephan Röhl



Samuel Kishi Leopo, Judith Ohene
Photo: Stephan Röhl

Anne Klein Women's Award 2020 presented to human rights activist Prasanna Gettu from Chennai, India ✈

The jury honored criminologist Prasanna Gettu as a courageous champion of human rights and women's rights to a life free of violence and lived in self-determination. In 2001, Gettu founded the International Foundation for Crime Prevention Victim Care (PCVC) to support women affected by violence in India. Her particular focus is on helping survivors of arson and acid attacks. Her organization, PCVC, is also a point of contact for young lesbian women, transgender, and intersex people, who often have to flee their own families and are completely left to their own devices. Prasanna Gettu herself has been subjected to massive personal threats and hostility. The Anne Klein Women's Prize is endowed with 10,000 euros and was conferred at a ceremony in Berlin on the evening of March 6, 2020. The laudatory address was held by Elke Büdenbender.

Peace Film Prize for "Los Lobos/The Wolves" by Samuel Kishi Leopo ✈

The Peace Film Prize of the 70th Berlin International Film Festival went to the largely autobiographical film "Los Lobos/The Wolves" by Samuel Kishi Leopo. From the perspective of two children, eight-year-old Max and his five-year-old brother Leo, it tells a story of poverty, uprootedness, and migration. As a family leaves Mexico for the US, it gets plunged into chaos. The mother tries to restore order to family life by imposing seven rules for living together. The seventh rule is: Hug after every fight! In the end, it is the children who insist on strict implementation of this peacemaking rule. "This sensitively and tenderly told film radically takes the side of humanity. In this film, children speak to children, and even adults cannot help but listen to them. Poetic, courageous and combative, the film shows what it means to build up a new existence in another country," the jury stated. The prize is endowed with 5,000 euros and a sculpture by artist Otmar Alt.

✈ **Anne Klein Women's Award:**
boell.de/en/anne-klein-womens-award

✈ **Peace Film Prize**
boell.de/en/peace-film-prize

Publications 2020



Insect Atlas

Insects are a fundamental part of the basis of life in our world. The extent of insect mortality in Germany, in Europe and worldwide is therefore dramatic.

The Insect Atlas 2020 explains why the industrial agricultural industry in particular is threatening the habitats of insects so massively, what ways out are possible, and many other exciting aspects. It provides data and facts about beneficial and harmful insects in agriculture, formulates criticism of the overly hesitant policy and, especially in view of the 15th World Conservation Conference in China, the urgently needed steps to protect insects.

Download: eu.boell.org/en/InsectAtlas



Unpacked! Plastic, Waste, & Me

Specifically developed and designed for a young international audience, the digital book "Unpacked! Plastic, Waste, & Me" answers 70 questions about plastic in colorful infographics and six true stories. Book designer and author Gesine Grotrian and a team of experts from the Heinrich Böll Foundation together with an advisory board of young people from all over the world have created an exciting non-fiction book for young people aged 12 and over.

Download: boell.de/en/unpacked



Smart Green World?

By Steffen Lange and Tilman Santarius

Smart Green World? provides guiding principles for a sustainable digital society and develops numerous hands-on proposals for how digitalization can be shaped to become a driving force for social transformation.

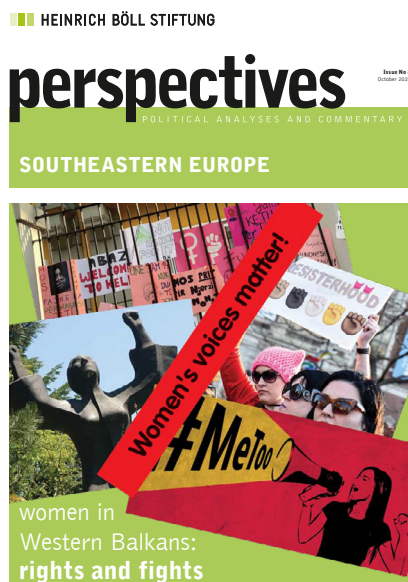
More information: boell.de/en/smart-green-world



Perspectives Asia #9: Two Sides of the Medals
See all issues:
th.boell.org/en/product-series/perspectives-asia



Rapport mondial sur les déchets nucléaires – Focus sur l'Europe
See: fr.boell.org/fr/publications



Perspectives Southeastern Europe #8: Women in Western Balkans – Rights and Fights
See all issues:
boell.de/en/perspectives-southeastern-europe



Perspectivas Latin América, #06: Mentiras, odio y desinformación. Tiempos postfácticos en América Latina (in Spanish)
See all issues:
sv.boell.org/es/perspectivas-america-latina-2020

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The Heinrich Böll Foundation

Mission Statement

Who We Are, What We Do

The Heinrich Böll Foundation is part of the Green political movement that has developed worldwide as a response to the traditional politics of socialism, liberalism, and conservatism. Our main tenets are ecology and sustainability, democracy and human rights, self-determination and justice. We place particular emphasis on gender democracy, meaning social emancipation and equal rights for women and men. We are also committed to equal rights for cultural and ethnic minorities and to the societal and political participation of immigrants. Finally, we promote non-violence and proactive peace policies.

To achieve our goals, we seek strategic partnerships with others who share our values. We are an independent organization, that is, we determine our own priorities and policies.

We are based in the Federal Republic of Germany, yet we are an international actor in both ideal and practical terms.

Our namesake, the writer and Nobel Prize laureate Heinrich Böll, personifies the values we stand for: defense of freedom, civic courage, tolerance, open debate, and the valuation of art and culture as independent spheres of thought and action.

We Are a Green Think Tank

- We promote democratic reforms and social innovation.
- We work on ecological policies and sustainable development on a global level.
- We provide space for presenting and discussing art and culture.
- We transfer knowledge and skills from experts to political actors.
- We provide a forum for open debate and promote dialogue between politics, business, academia, and society.
- We support talented students active on sociopolitical issues both in Germany and abroad.
- We document the history of the Green movement in order to promote research and provide political inspiration.

We Are an International Policy Network

- We are part of the global Green network and promote the development of the Green political movement on all continents.

- We focus especially on the broadening and deepening of the European Green movement.
- We work actively for the development of a political European public.
- We support the participation of civil society in politics and, within the framework of multilateral organizations, take part in conferences and negotiations.

We Are Active on Ecology, Democracy, and Human Rights Worldwide

- We consider ecology and democracy to be inseparable.
- We therefore support individuals and projects that are committed to ecology, human rights, democracy, and self-determination.
- We support respect for the rule of law and democratic participation in all parts of the world.
- We promote the abolition of conditions of dominance, dependency, and violence between the sexes.
- We consider ethnic and cultural diversity to be an essential part of democratic culture.
- We encourage civic and civil society activism.
- We train activists so that they can successfully self-organize and participate in political processes.

Our Culture

Commitment, expertise, social skills, creativity and flexibility are features of our employees, both in Germany and abroad. They are highly qualified, team-oriented and, with their high level of motivation, they constitute the most important asset of the Foundation.

Equality of opportunity and respectful dealings between women and men of different ages, religions, ethnic origins and sexual orientations are constitutive for the foundation. Intercultural competence and a productive engagement with diversity are part of our corporate culture.

Mutual respect and trusting co-operation among ourselves and with our partners are the bases of our business relationships.

We constantly evaluate and improve our work. We undertake and take seriously both internal and external evaluations. We handle the funds at our disposal economically and efficiently and assure transparent operations.

We work in close co-operation with our co-foundations in all of Germany's 16 states.

We are a reliable partner for volunteer work and for cooperation with third parties. As a political foundation, we act independently; this also applies in respect to our relationship with the German Green Party.

We are autonomous in selecting our executive officers and staffing our committees.

■ The Heinrich Böll Foundation, affiliated with the Green Party and headquartered in the heart of Berlin, is a legally independent political foundation working in the spirit of intellectual openness. ■ The Foundation's primary objective is to support political education both within Germany and abroad, thus promoting democratic involvement, sociopolitical activism, and cross-cultural understanding. ■ The Foundation also provides support for art and culture, science and research, and development cooperation. Its activities are guided by the fundamental political values of ecology, democracy, solidarity, and non-violence. ■ Heinrich Böll's call on citizens to meddle in politics is the example upon which the work of the Foundation is modeled. The Heinrich Böll Foundation strives to stimulate sociopolitical reform by acting as a forum for debate, both on fundamental issues and those of current interest. The Foundation places particular importance on attaining gender democracy – signifying a relationship between the sexes characterized by freedom from dependence and dominance. ■ The Heinrich Böll Foundation's educational activities have a political basis, an ethical outlook, and strive to promote various forms of cultural expression. The Foundation supports art and culture as part of its political education work and as a crucial element of each society's self-image. By way of its international collaboration with a large number of project partners the Foundation aims to strengthen ecological and civic activism on a global level, to intensify the exchange of ideas and experiences, and to keep our sensibilities alert for change. ■ The Heinrich Böll Foundation's collaboration on sociopolitical education programs with its project partners abroad is on a long-term basis. Additional important instruments of international cooperation include visitor programs, which enhance the exchange of experiences and political networking, as well as basic and advanced training programs for committed activists. ■ The Heinrich Böll Foundation's Scholarship Program considers itself a workshop for the future; its activities include providing support to especially talented students and academicians, promoting theoretical

work of sociopolitical relevance, and working to overcome the compartmentalization of science into exclusive subjects. ■ Dr. Ellen Ueberschär and Barbara Unmüßig are the current Presidents. Steffen Heizmann is the CEO of the Foundation.

■ The members assembly, comprised of 49 persons, is the Foundation's foremost decision-making organ; its responsibilities include electing the Presidents. Expert advisory boards (7–10 people each) are staffed by independent experts who consult with the Foundation and formulate suggestions regarding conceptual issues raised in the educational programs.

■ The Foundation's by-laws provide for a quota of women and immigrants on all the Foundation's bodies and among its fulltime staff. ■ The Foundation currently maintains foreign and project offices in Brussels, France, Poland, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Turkey, Greece, Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, Bosnia, Albania, Serbia, Israel, Lebanon, the Arab Middle East, Tunisia, Morocco, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, India, China, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, El Salvador and the United States. In 2020, the Foundation had about 74.6 million euros in public funds at its disposal.