

Annual Report
2021

Who we are
What we want
How we work

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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.

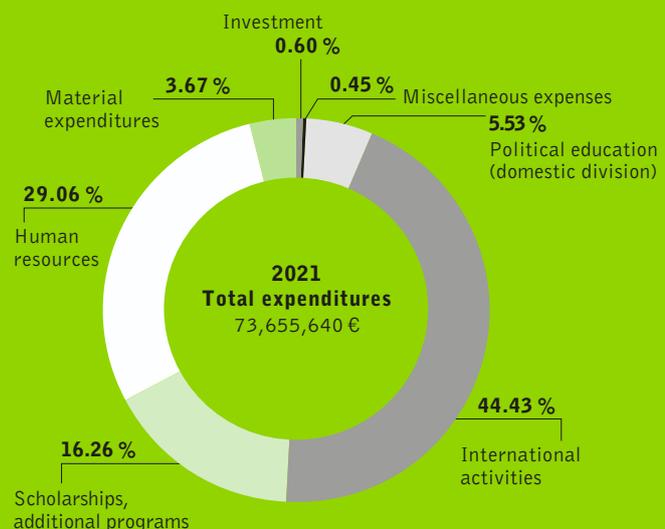
The Heinrich Böll Foundation works independently and nurtures a spirit of intellectual openness. We currently maintain a worldwide network with 33 international offices at 31 locations.

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 2021, the Foundation's income increased by 9% to 80.3 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 Mexico City (Mexico)
- 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

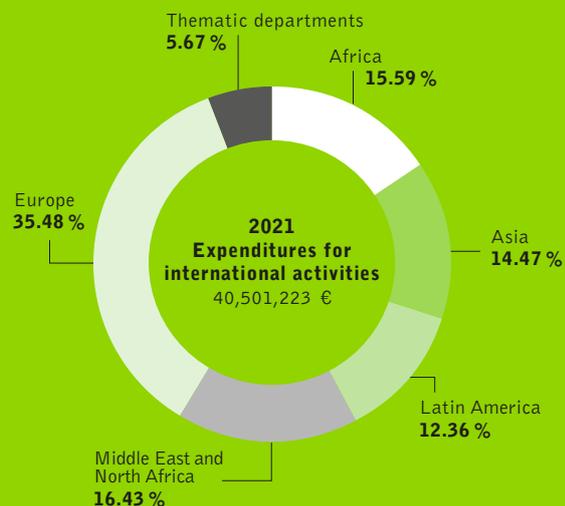
- 34 Moscow (Russia) *

* In April 2022 Russia's Ministry of Justice cancelled the accreditation of our Moscow office

International cooperation

In 2021, the Heinrich Böll Foundation received approximately 32.15 million euros in funding from the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, including roughly 637,000 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 6.7 million euros from the Federal Foreign Office. In addition, the Federal Foreign Office provided roughly 711.600 euros in special funding for activities in Tunisia, Morocco, and for Belarus.



Foreword



Dr. Ellen Ueberschär Photo: Bettina Keller



Barbara Unmüßig Photo: Bettina Keller

As we write this in March of 2022, our review of the year 2021 is overshadowed by Russia's brutal war of aggression against Ukraine. Because of this, not only foreign policy, but also domestic politics have now entered a new era. In addition, two other serious crises are keeping the world in their grip: the climate catastrophe and the continued implications of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are facing enormous challenges that also have a strong impact on our work here at the Foundation. The pandemic has exacerbated social inequality, poverty, and hunger worldwide. Gender inequalities have become starker and more apparent, as have the consequences of the climate crisis: Due to droughts and floods, people are losing their livelihoods, their shelter, their homeland. The war in Ukraine is destroying an emerging, free country, forcing millions from their homes. It goes without saying that we are working intensively to address these issues.

The Foundation is a place where people collaborate with a variety of domestic and international partners to make the world a place that is more peaceful, more democratic, and more livable. In the German federal elections of 2021, the voters elected The Green Party into government. We, as the Foundation with close ties to the Green Party, are ready to take ownership of this heightened responsibility.

Current events underscore the urgent need to renew our economy, socially and ecologically. We must attain independence from fossil fuels, end the overexploitation of our planet, and protect biodiversity. We need a new peace order in Europe. We need to strengthen international law and improve security cooperation. These changes must be wrought in a responsible manner. We must ensure that the ecological restructuring of the economy will not exacerbate social inequalities. Social and economic policy must be considered as one.

In this necessary process of reflection, we want to make the diverse voices of the Global South and our young generation heard – at events, in publications, and in other media. The three major crises of our time are occurring against the backdrop of an ongoing rise

of autocracies, a massive restriction of democratic liberties almost everywhere, the end of media freedom in many places, and the repression of civil society. These are the harsh realities. Despite all this, democratic movements are standing up for their rights, fighting corruption and repression, and challenging governments – some of them with our support. To us, the election of Chile's new President is such a sign of hope.

We are intensifying our work in the Western Balkans by sending a clear signal in favor of a proactive and pro-democratic EU enlargement policy, as this is what many people in the region, and particularly the young, hope to achieve.

More and more frequently, we are asked to provide aid and support to partners in humanitarian crises, be it in Afghanistan or Myanmar, and now also in Ukraine – including requests for individual assistance. We try, as best we can, to support exiles in their political work. Structurally, we are reinforcing our efforts in the field of migration and for refugees worldwide.

In the past two years, our employees in Germany and abroad have been working under enormous pressure. We would like to thank them for their commitment and personal dedication, for their perseverance and productive cooperation during this time. Throughout the pandemic with all its resulting problems, we not only managed to keep the Foundation operational but responsive to innovation and resilient to change. Last but not least, we would like to thank all those who volunteer their time on our committees. Your support enriches our Foundation, makes it diverse, lively, and all the more appealing.

This is the last Annual Report for both of us as we are about to pass the torch to Imme Scholz and Jan-Philipp Albrecht. We wish them success, a lucky hand, and joy in their work for this wonderful institution.

Berlin, March 2022

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



Glasgow (Scotland), November 5, 2021: *Fridays for Future* protest at the *World Climate Conference*
Photo: picture alliance/empics/Andrew Milligan

Radical realism – now!

The climate crisis is not a problem of the distant future. As little as 1.5 degrees Celsius of global warming leads to loss of biodiversity and ecosystems as well as extreme weather events such as tornadoes and floods, endangering the livelihoods of millions. A warming of more than 1.5 degrees would bring further, irreversible damage. That's why effective policy action is needed – now! Global CO₂ emissions need to be drastically reduced. This requires a rapid and consistent phase-out of all fossil fuels, namely coal, oil, and gas.

“World Climate Conference” in Glasgow: Sham solutions instead of ambitious action ↗

The 26th UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 26) took place in Glasgow, Scotland, from October 31 to November 12, 2021, after having been postponed by a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many civil society groups had asked to postpone the conference even further, as the pandemic made it difficult for them to participate – yet to no avail. In the end, participation by civil society organizations from the Global South was

rather low, and the Foundation did not send a delegation either. Among other things, the conference focused on member states' national climate plans, which urgently need to become more ambitious. The demand for a significant increase in financing for climate mitigation and adaptation also received ample attention. Regrettably, the summit adopted numerous declarations, yet no resolutions for immediate action to avert a climate catastrophe. Calls for justice for those most severely affected by the climate crisis also went unheard. We

↗ COP 26 Dossier

boell.de/en/cop26

partnered with the *Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)* to issue a dossier and various analyses on the conference.

Seminar: Legal action to save the climate ↗

Since the *Paris Climate Agreement* nearly every country in the world has made a commitment to implement effective climate protection under international law. The problem is that international treaties usually do not include sanction mechanisms. That is also true of the *Paris Climate Agreement*. Promises and announcements are political instruments but, in the end, we need to do more than proclaim ambitious goals, we need results. Environmental law uses the term “enforcement deficit” to describe the often inadequate results. In order to prevent this deficit from growing even larger, we need tools to monitor governments and bind them to their own standards and goals. In terms of climate protection, action can be enforced via lawsuits, that is, by bringing legal action against states who fail to act, or to act sufficiently, against climate change. This year, same as last year, we organized a three-part online seminar in partnership with *Client-Earth*, *Green Legal Impact*, *Germanwatch*, and *AK Kritischer Jurist/innen* in order to make more young and aspiring lawyers aware of climate and environmental lawsuits. Recordings of these seminars, which are in German and partly in English, are available online.

Our Beijing Office is also active on this issue. At the end of October 2021, it helped our long-standing partner organization *CLAPV* hold a multi-day workshop focusing on environmental law and litigation by environmental associations. More than 20 Chinese NGOs participated. *CLAPV*, which is affiliated with *Beijing University of Political Science and Law*, supports victims of environmental pollution. Almost simultaneously, our Beijing Office held a digital exchange with a university in Fuzhou. Among others, Bremen-based attorney Prof. Gert Winter presented the role of court rulings in German and European climate policy.

Geoengineering – an extremely hazardous technology 🚫

Geoengineering encompasses a variety of technologies that facilitate very intensive, even extreme interventions in the global climate. Solar geoengineering, for example, is an attempt to reflect sunlight back into space to prevent global temperatures from rising. In science and politics, as well as in the media, such technologies increasingly gain attention, yet their inherent risks are usually downplayed, including more frequent extreme weather events and potentially devastating damages to ecosystems that will impact food production for millions around the world. The Foundation helped organize two panel discussions in June, providing a unique opportunity to learn more about the risks and

impacts of solar geoengineering and other experiments. The high-profile panelists included international experts from the scientific community, the climate movement, and indigenous groups, including Michael Mann, Raymond Pierrehumbert, Jennie Stephens, Tom Goldtooth, Åsa Larson-Blind, Naomi Klein, Bill McKibben, Vandana Shiva, and Greta Thunberg. A few months prior, we worked with our partner organizations to run a campaign against geoengineering called *Hands Off Mother Earth* that pointed out the risks of a controversial solar geoengineering field experiment conducted by the Harvard research project *SCoPEX* in Sweden. The experiment was subsequently discontinued.

Morocco: Energy transition – a simple guide ↗

Morocco is a pioneer in climate and energy policy. The Kingdom has committed to an ambitious energy transition and is making plans to produce green hydrogen for export in the future. So far, however, Moroccan energy policy has been confined to the expert community. Citizens hardly participate in the debate about future energy production, partly because of a lack of accessible and comprehensible information. Our Rabat Office therefore created the information campaign *État d'urgence énergétique*, featuring easy-to-understand short films to explain the differences between fossil and renewable energy sources, uses of renewable energy in Morocco, and how to bring about a successful energy transition. The fun posts reach a wide audience via social media, providing the very first set of energy-related educational materials in Darija, that is, the Arabic spoken in Morocco. The campaign was created in collaboration with local energy and communications professionals as well as students.

Japan: Ten years after Fukushima

On March 11, 2011, a strong earthquake rocked north-eastern Japan. Around 18,500 people lost their lives or have gone missing. The earthquake and subsequent tsunami also caused the collapse of several cooling systems at the Fukushima nuclear power plant. To this day, it is impossible to accurately estimate the extent of nuclear contamination. An international conference in Tokyo, supported by a broad civil society alliance, commemorated the triple disaster at Fukushima on March 21, 2021. Its main organizer was *Peace Boat*, a Japanese partner organization of our Hong Kong Office. In addition to in-person events in Tokyo, there was a live-streamed visit to Fukushima and various online panels, totaling more than 75 individual sessions. The event was a great success, garnering 15,000 online views on the day of the conference alone. Its highlight was a joint declaration against nuclear energy by five former Japanese prime ministers, advocating renewable energies with the objective of achieving a climate-neutral society.

↗ [Online seminar on climate change litigation](https://boell.de/klima)
boell.de/klima

📺 [Recording of the event on geoengineering](https://youtube.com/watch?v=0Vs8juLCYyQ)
youtube.com/watch?v=0Vs8juLCYyQ

↗ [Web dossier on the energy transition in Morocco](https://ma.boell.org)
ma.boell.org



Afghanistan, October 2021: A World Food Program convoy. 22.8 million people could go hungry next winter – more than half the population.
Photo: Victor J. Blue/The New York Times

For alternative agriculture and sustainable development

One million species could be extinct by the end of the century. Along with the climate crisis, loss of biodiversity is one of the major threats to our livelihoods, as both directly impact global food security. Ten per cent of the world's population is already going hungry. World market prices for food keep hitting new record highs. Clear political rules and strategies are needed to counter these developments – as well as a radical redesign of our food and agricultural system.

Hunger and malnutrition ↗

There is less than ten years left to make the objective of eliminating hunger by 2030 a reality. In 2015, heads of state and government adopted the global *Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)* that stipulates that by 2030 everyone in the world ought to be able to eat a sufficient, balanced, and healthy diet. We still have a long way to go to reach this goal. According to UN projections, in 2030 some 800 million people will still go hungry if there's no radical redesign of our food and agricultural systems. Given the war in Ukraine and rising food prices,

the situation is likely to worsen. In September 2021, the United Nations held its first ever summit exclusively dedicated to global food systems. However, despite the demands of civil society organizations it brought no fundamental change. Structural problems, such as inequitable power relations, limited access to land, or a ban on toxic pesticides, went largely unaddressed; instead, the primary focus was on technical approaches to fighting hunger. Voices from both civil society and academia therefore criticized the summit as a missed opportunity.

↗ Brochure "Power Poverty Hunger"

boell.de/en/power-poverty-hunger

In cooperation with Berlin-based think tank TMG, we published various materials on the occasion of the UN Food Summit, including the brochure *Power Poverty Hunger*, featuring facts and figures on hunger and crises, conflicts, power imbalances, malnutrition, and food poverty in Germany, and a podcast series of the same title.

Kenya: Campaign against hazardous pesticides

The use of pesticides is increasing worldwide - and that despite their well-known effects on health and ecology. To date, the African continent has been using significantly less pesticides than other regions of the world, yet its 33 million small farmers are increasingly falling under the sway of pesticide companies, which also sell them products that are prohibited in the EU. Since 2018, our Kenya Office has been working with numerous Kenyan NGOs, scientists, and members of parliament to ban toxic substances in pesticides. The joint campaign "Toxic Business" was taken up by the health committee of the Kenyan parliament. Its demands were referred for review to the relevant ministries and the *Pest Control Products Board (PCPB)*, which is in charge of certifying such substances. In 2021, the *PCPB* initiated a process to review substances that are potentially harmful to health and the environment, issuing a public call for submissions of relevant reports. Our Kenya Office submitted a scientific expert opinion that was recognized by the *PCPB*. The *PCPB* now plans to scientifically review 32 substances. It is likely that at least two of them, but hopefully many more, will no longer be approved, and that toxic pesticides will be taken off the market.

"Unpack! Plastic, waste & me" – our book on plastic for kids and teens ↗

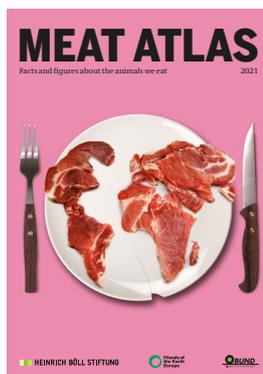
Plastic is everywhere – at the bottom of the deepest ocean and atop the highest mountain. We come into contact with it every day, we ingest it, we put it on our faces, we wear it. More than ten billion tons of plastic have been produced since 1950 – and the pile of plastic continues to grow. Only a tiny fraction of this

is ever recycled. Far too much is burned instead, ends up in landfills, or in our environment – and thus also in our stomachs. Along its entire life cycle, plastic not only poisons soil, air, and water, but also threatens human and animal health. Our May 2021 publication *Unpack! plastic, waste & me* provides easy-to-understand answers to 70 questions about plastic, explaining why we urgently need to curb its production and consumption. We developed the book with award-winning book designer Gesine Grotrian and in close cooperation with young people. The book is available in German and English, and there is also a bilingual interactive website: plastic.boell.org

The book follows in the footsteps of our *Plastic Atlas*, which, since its release in June 2019, has been published in a number of languages. These atlases are complemented by online dossiers and video clips, available on the websites of our international offices.

Meat industry: harmful for the climate, antisocial, and resistant to change

Despite scandals in recent years and the climate emergency, the global meat industry is unwilling to change. On the contrary, factory farming, the decline of small farms, feed imports, and the use of pesticides continue unabated. If the meat industry continues to grow at the current pace, the world will produce and consume nearly 360 million metric tons of meat per year by 2030. The consequences are hard to imagine because, even today, we are living beyond the ecological limits of our planet. Our *Meat Atlas 2021*, which we presented in January, looks into conditions inside the meat industry, highlighting the disastrous misuse of antibiotics in animal breeding, the devastating consequences of pesticides in feed cultivation, and it explains why meat consumption continues to rise despite all this. According to a survey conducted for *The Meat Atlas*, three quarters of young people in Germany criticize current meat production and overconsumption. Forty percent of young respondents stated that they consume little meat, with 13 percent eating an exclusively vegetarian or vegan diet – twice the overall average.



"Meat Atlas 2021"

The five largest meat and dairy companies emit as much harmful climate gas as the world's largest oil multinational. Hardly any food pollutes our environment and climate as much as meat, especially beef. Our *Meat Atlas 2021* provides facts and figures on the problems stemming from industrial meat production.

The atlas is available in German and English. A podcast series is also dedicated to the topic.

boell.de/en/meat-atlas

↗ "Plastic Atlas"

boell.de/plastikatlantent



Freiberg (Germany): Quality control on a production line for solar modules at *Meyer Burger Technology AG*.
Photo: picture alliance/dpa/dpa-Zentralbild/Sebastian Kahnert

For a sustainable economic system

The European Green Deal puts climate protection, ecology, and sustainability at the center of the European Commission's political agenda. The ambitious plan is meant to make the EU a global leader in climate neutrality by 2050. The challenges, however, are enormous, as this requires an extensive restructuring of the European economy and its financial system. For the public to accept them, these necessary structural changes must come about in ways that are socially viable.

Towards a "future-proof industry" – a conference ↗

Digitization and climate policy are driving Germany's key industries to change their value chains, products, and business models. At our online conference *Towards a future-proof industry #1* on May 27, and June 1/2, 2021, experts from industry, politics, labor unions, science, and civil society discussed how key industrial sectors may become ecologically and economically sustainable. One example was the chemical industry: Many everyday items rely on industrial chemical processes, which is why it is so important to create a framework that offers the

right conditions for a sustainable, competitive, and pollution-free European chemical industry. Regarding climate and resource protection, the chemical industry is part of the problem, yet it may become part of the solution. This, though, would require new forms of interaction between the various players and, ideally, a "master plan" incorporating these interrelationships into value chains. A panel discussion on the topic concluded that transformation is needed, both in terms of raw material sources and energy carriers. Other key industries discussed at the conference included automotive and construction.

↗ Dossier and podcast "Future-proof industry"

boell.de/baustelle-zukunftsfeste-industrie

The conference was documented in a dossier that also includes a three-part podcast on the topic.

Beyond growth – presentation of the OECD report

The global financial crisis and a growing awareness of environmental and climate issues has given rise to criticism of prevailing economic policy concepts. OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría, who has since left office, appointed a high-level expert group to develop economic reform policy proposals. The central message here was that growth should not be seen as an end in itself, but as a means of achieving social objectives, such as environmental sustainability, equal opportunities, and well-being for all.

To stimulate the debate on transformative economic concepts, we published a German translation of this report. On February 15, 2022, co-author Michael Jacobs, Professor of Political Economy at the Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute, presented the report in a video conference to over 600 participants.

Sustainable fiscal policy. How to invest in the future – recommendations for action

The financial management of challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, fighting climate change, and demographic shifts requires in-depth analyses and new pathways toward a truly sustainable fiscal policy. Our fiscal policy group published a report entitled *Sustainable fiscal policy – investing in the future* that discusses avenues for achieving such fiscal policies and, namely, measures that are fiscally and ecologically sound. It stipulates, for example, a debt ceiling with an investment deficit limit, which means that debt for net investment as well as catch-up gross investment should generally be admissible as long as growth rates remain above interest. Beyond that, the European Community must jointly finance EU Green Bonds in order to meet the ambitious European climate protection targets. This would secure the states' ability to act at all federal levels, enabling sufficient and targeted revenue generation. We presented this report during an online event on June 15, 2021 to a large audience of scientists, policymakers, and experts.

Next generation central banking — a conference

Since the 2008 global financial crisis, the roles and the tools available to central banks have changed a lot, and, for example, they need to intervene more frequently in order to prevent severe financial crises. Instruments that were once considered unconventional, such as massive purchases of corporate bonds but, above all, government bonds, have become routine. In March 2020, central banks once again played a pivotal role in times of crisis: They took decisive and sweeping action, thus preventing a collapse of global financial markets as a result of the pandemic.

As indispensable as such liberal monetary policy is for stabilizing financial markets, it has drawn criticism from various sides. Climate activists claim that such measures ignore the risks posed by climate change, as they supply the fossil fuel industry with cheap money, and some also blame it for causing real estate and stock market bubbles that result in wealth inequality. All of this and more was discussed at our February 2021 online conference, which featured prominent guests such as economic historian Adam Tooze of *Columbia University* and Claudia Buch, Vice President of the *Bundesbank*. We focused on the question whether central banks should pursue policy objectives that go beyond their traditional mandate, that is, price stability and, if so, how they should go about it. Three background papers were published, including Jens van't Klooster's suggestions on how to modernize the ECB's 30-year-old mandate in order to enable it to redefine its role regarding the social-ecological transformation – yet redefine it in ways that meet democratic principles. The conference was held as part of our collaborative project *Transformative responses to the crisis* in partnership with *Finanzwende Recherche* and a large group of other European partner organizations.

Debt relief for a Green and inclusive recovery – a debt relief initiative for poor countries

A debt crisis is looming in the Global South. The common G20 framework for debt transactions, adopted in 2021, is clearly insufficient for solving the many growing debt problems developing and emerging countries are facing today – not least because of the COVID-19 crisis. At the same time, the world is facing the enormous challenge of embarking on a new path towards sustainable development that aims to protect the climate and preserve biodiversity. Together with the *Centre for Sustainable Finance* at *SOAS University London* and the *Boston University Global Development Policy Center*, we launched the initiative *Debt relief for green and inclusive recovery* in 2020, proposing how debt relief could be tied to intensified efforts to implement the *Paris Climate Agreement* and the *Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*.

In June 2021, we presented *Securing private sector participation and creating policy space for sustainable development*, a report outlining how private creditors might participate in debt cancellation. This report was quick to make an impact: In July, the IMF invited three of its authors and, in October, the V20 (the finance ministers of the *Climate Vulnerable Forum*, which includes 48 countries and represents a population of 1.2 billion), released a statement on debt relief modeled on the proposal by the initiative *Debt relief for green and inclusive recovery (DRGR)*.



Istanbul (Turkey), July 1, 2021: Protest against Turkey's withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence Photo: Emanuele Satolli/contrasto/laif

Strengthening democracy and human rights

Human rights are under threat worldwide and, even in the UN Human Rights Council, they are being misused as a political tool. In many countries, people who champion human rights are criminalized. Cases of arbitrary arrest, torture, and re-education in detention centers are difficult or dangerous to document. In many places, measures to combat COVID-19 have made this task even more difficult. That has to change. People around the world are taking to the streets for freedom, for diversity, and against oppression.

Let's not forget the people of Afghanistan

On August 15, 2021, immediately after the withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan, the Taliban took over. Since then, the humanitarian situation in the country has deteriorated drastically. Women's rights have been progressively curtailed and the country is facing environmental disasters with no functioning government to address them. Given this precarious political and humanitarian situation, we helped some of our (former) local staff leave the country. In total,

almost 50 people (local staff and their immediate family members) were evacuated to Germany via neighboring Pakistan. It is, however, equally important to support those parts of civil society that have stayed behind. When the Foundation's Kabul office closed in 2017, its portfolio was transferred to our local partner organization, The Liaison Office (TLO); our South Asia Office in New Delhi has been coordinating the project since 2020. Our partner organization still represents the Foundation, working mainly in environmental

protection and resource conservation. Over the past several months, TLO has met with numerous NGOs in Kabul as well as in other locations to explore the scope for action under the current regime. As it turns out, it continues to be possible to work on environmental issues without directly supporting the Taliban. We are still in the very early stages, and the item at hand is to bring the various stakeholders back together and work with them to organize activities such as environmental campaigns, or to commission articles and smaller studies on various environmental topics.

“Giving up is no way ahead” – a scroll story ↗

On January 14, 2011, after weeks of protests and demonstrations, Tunisian dictator Ben Ali fled the country. The tyrant had been overthrown in the first successful revolution in North Africa and the Middle East. However, ten years later, many activists in the region are still struggling against authoritarian regimes and for human dignity and political reform. At an online event in January 2021, Mona Seif from Egypt, Ola al-Jundi from Syria, and Ramy Khouili from Tunisia talked about why their revolutions must continue – despite immense pressures and sometimes violent repression on the part of the old powers. They told us how their lives have changed since then, what compromises they had to make in their struggle for individual freedoms and equality, how new beginnings turned out quite differently from what they had hoped for in 2011, and why they are unwilling to give up despite the increasingly tough and dangerous struggle for democracy, dignity, and self-determination. This exchange painted three striking, touching, and animated portraits, illustrated by Diala Brisly and presented in the format of a scroll story as a tribute to the region’s many democracy movements.

German-Israeli dialog on digital technologies ↗

Since 2020, we have been organizing a German-Israeli dialog on digital technologies. This event brings together Israeli and German experts and gives them the opportunity to discuss how digital technologies affect democratic culture and security policy in Israel and Germany. In November 2021, we held an online workshop featuring four key topics: the impact of social media on democracy; potentials and strategies for developing democratic resilience in the digital age; ethical perspectives on artificial intelligence; and the geopolitical dimensions of digitization (based on the example of the 5G debate). We published a web dossier on these and other topics, including background reports, commentaries, and interviews on (geo)political, technological, legal and ethical implications of digitization, such as ways to regulate digital media, data privacy,

or inequality in the digital space. The COVID-19 pandemic has, once again, highlighted the importance of addressing digital inequality. This is especially true in poorer countries, where large segments of the population, often women, remain offline, even though access to the internet and digital technologies is critical to sustaining economic and social activity and providing public goods, from healthcare to schooling.

Visions for a digital development agenda ↗

Digital transformation is not just a development issue but at the very heart of geopolitical competition. The US and EU infrastructure initiatives *Build Back Better World* and *Global Gateway* are designed to provide values-based, democratic, and sustainable alternatives to *China’s Belt and Road Initiative*. For the digital transformation to succeed, the term connectivity must be defined more broadly. In addition to physical infrastructures, such as data centers or deep-sea cables, it must also include capacity as well as governance issues such as privacy and ethical ways to harness artificial intelligence. As a contribution to the transatlantic partnership, our Washington, D.C. Office commissioned two expert teams from the US and Germany to spell out their visions for a digital development agenda with a focus on Africa and to set out principles for transatlantic coordination. The two papers, as well as a stakeholder workshop with senior-level participants from the US, EU, and Africa, confirmed the urgent need for investment in digital connectivity in Africa and the common interest in a values-based approach. The project made an important contribution to harmonizing the transatlantic digital agenda, bringing together geopolitical and development policy actors.

Chile: How green is Gabriel Boric’s Chilean government?

On December 19, 2021, Gabriel Boric was elected President of Chile. Boric represents the dawn of systemic change in the country, and his election campaign was fueled by a sense of hope that a feminist and ecological government would meet the demands of the 2019 protest movements. Many believe that rights to education, pensions, and health for all strata of society will put an end to the previous neoliberal and extractivist economic model, which relied on privatization and free trade. The Constitutional Convention is composed of 154 democratically elected representatives, chosen according to the principle of equal representation. They are drafting a new constitution as well as proposals for social and ecological standards, setting programmatic priorities for the newly elected government. Several of our partner organizations (including *FIMA/SCAC* and *Red Chilena contra la Violencia Doméstica y Sexual*)

↗ Scroll story “Giving up is no way ahead”
revolutions.boell.de/en

↗ Web dossier “German-Israeli Tech-Policy Dialog”
il.boell.org/en/german-israeli-tech-policy-dialog

↗ Web dossier “Beyond Connectivity”
us.boell.org/en/beyond-connectivity

submitted proposals for ecological and gender criteria to be incorporated into the new constitution.

Many current government members have previously worked with our Chilean Office, such as the current Minister of Women's Affairs, the Minister of Agriculture, and the Secretary of State in the Ministry of Environment. The greatest challenges will be reconciliation and overcoming the country's disenchantment with politics. Gabriel Boric initiated a Green government agenda by signing the Escazú Agreement, whose objective is to guarantee information and co-determination rights as well as access to justice for all.

Criminalizing human rights advocates in Central America

Human rights organizations are banned, detainees are held for years with no prospect of a fair trial, peaceful protesters are persecuted – these are just a few facets of the drastically worsening human rights situation in Central America. What distinguishes this form of criminalization from other human rights attacks is the targeted use of laws, which gives the reprisals a semblance of legitimacy, making human rights advocates feel the overwhelming power of the state and of large corporations. In 2021, we held several events to raise awareness of the particular threats under which human rights activists operate in Central America. During an online discussion in March, human rights advocates from Guatemala and Honduras reported on the situation in their countries.

At the September meeting *Crises in the Rule of Law*, the participants, including a former special anti-corruption prosecutor who fled Guatemala, discussed the chances of reestablishing regional anti-corruption mechanisms and the relevance of economic sanctions. Support from the international community was highlighted as a key element.

Colombia: “defending freedom” – support for human rights organizations

Between April and June 2021, in the wake of protests against a proposed tax reform and during the pandemic, Colombia saw weeks of disproportionate use of force by state security forces. Numerous demonstrators were killed, injured, arrested, and mistreated. Our Colombia Office supported renowned human rights organizations such as the *Comité de Solidaridad con los Presos Políticos (CSPP)* and *INDEPAZ*, as well as the independent media collective *Cuestión Pública*, in documenting these serious human rights violations. The reports were submitted to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, among others. The *CSPP* accompanied the demonstrations as part of the campaign *Defender la libertad*, offering legal support for

victims of human rights violations. At the end of October, our partner organization and its work were recognized with the Human Rights Award of the Swedish *Diaconia International*.

Mexico: experience and remembrance – a register of victims of human rights crimes

Every day people are being forcibly disappeared in Mexico, and more and more relatives set out on their own with shovels and poles to find their buried bodies. According to official statistics, about 100,000 people are said to have disappeared in the past 15 years, but there are certainly more. However, 2006, the year when the “war on drugs” began to intensify, was not the beginning of serious human rights violations – committed by the state or by organized crime –; they date back to at least the 1960s. Our Mexico Office has created a registry of initiatives, collectives, organizations, and individuals who conduct memory work on these forced disappearances and other serious human rights crimes in Mexico. The registry will soon go online and will be available in 2022 to victims' associations and other organizations and individuals as a resource supporting their work on the issue.

Promoting young feminists – a global feminist pitch

The mission of our *global feminist pitch* is to give young feminists a chance to conduct in-depth work on topics such as transfeminism, reproductive justice, gender-based violence, sexism, and LGBTIQ+ rights. The 2021 project *feminist resilience and resistance on social media* had the aim to increase the visibility of such programs and approaches. Ten feminists from India, Brazil, Somalia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Malawi, Morocco, and Nepal spent six months working on eight projects, which included podcasts, blogs, websites, online platforms, and social media accounts. In two workshops participants learned about digital media, political communication, and digital advocacy from award-winning blogger and founder of *Ms Afropolitan*, Minna Salami, and diversity trainer and political analyst Asanda Ngoasheng.

Thanks to the *global feminist pitch*, our young feminists were able to make contributions to the global feminist debate, as some of their projects also garnered interest from other organizations.

Against hate, sexualized violence, and discrimination on social media

Around the world, efforts to legislate against discrimination and hate speech on social media are underway. With its planned *Digital Services Act (DSA)*, the EU is seeking greater transparency in content moderation

and clearer rules governing liability for illegal content. Similar discussions are in progress in the US. Nevertheless, there is still no consensus on how to protect minorities from content that is legal, yet harmful. With two position papers and a virtual event, our offices in Brussels and Washington, D.C. promoted a transatlantic exchange on the issue of hate and intersectional discrimination online.

The women's rights organization *Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women (ACSVAW)*, with its sister organization *Rainlily*, which is supported by our Hong Kong office, opposes the rampant sexual violence that occurs by non-consensually sharing and disseminating sexualized images on the internet. *ACSVAW's* approach is to raise public awareness of the problem, for instance, by running campaigns on large billboards. It provides counseling and support services for victims and those affected and helps internet providers delete images on relevant websites. *ACSVAW* also works with lawmakers in the Legislative Council and has contributed to legislative reform: Since autumn 2021, the distribution of such images is considered a criminal offense in Hong Kong.

“KASSIA – The New Istanbul Convent(ion)”

The project *KASSIA – The New Istanbul Convent(ion)* was a collaboration with artists from the German Bochum-based *kainkollektiv*. Together with the Istanbul *Women's Museum* and the Polish curators of *Pracownia Kuratorska*, they developed a series of eight interdisciplinary digital conferences in 2021.

Inspired by the women's monastery founded by Abbess Cassia in Constantinople in the 9th century, which was a “space of female empowerment”, they worked on topics such as the *Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence* and the importance of everyday feminist practices for its implementation. Participants in the conferences included cultural scientist Mithu Sanyal, choreographer Sasha Waltz, composer Burak Özdemir, as well as musicians Sara Bigdeli Shamloo and Annalyzer. Thus, the *KASSIA* project has generated new transnational feminist narratives, which, in 2022, will be part of a virtual exhibition, that will be held in cooperation with the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

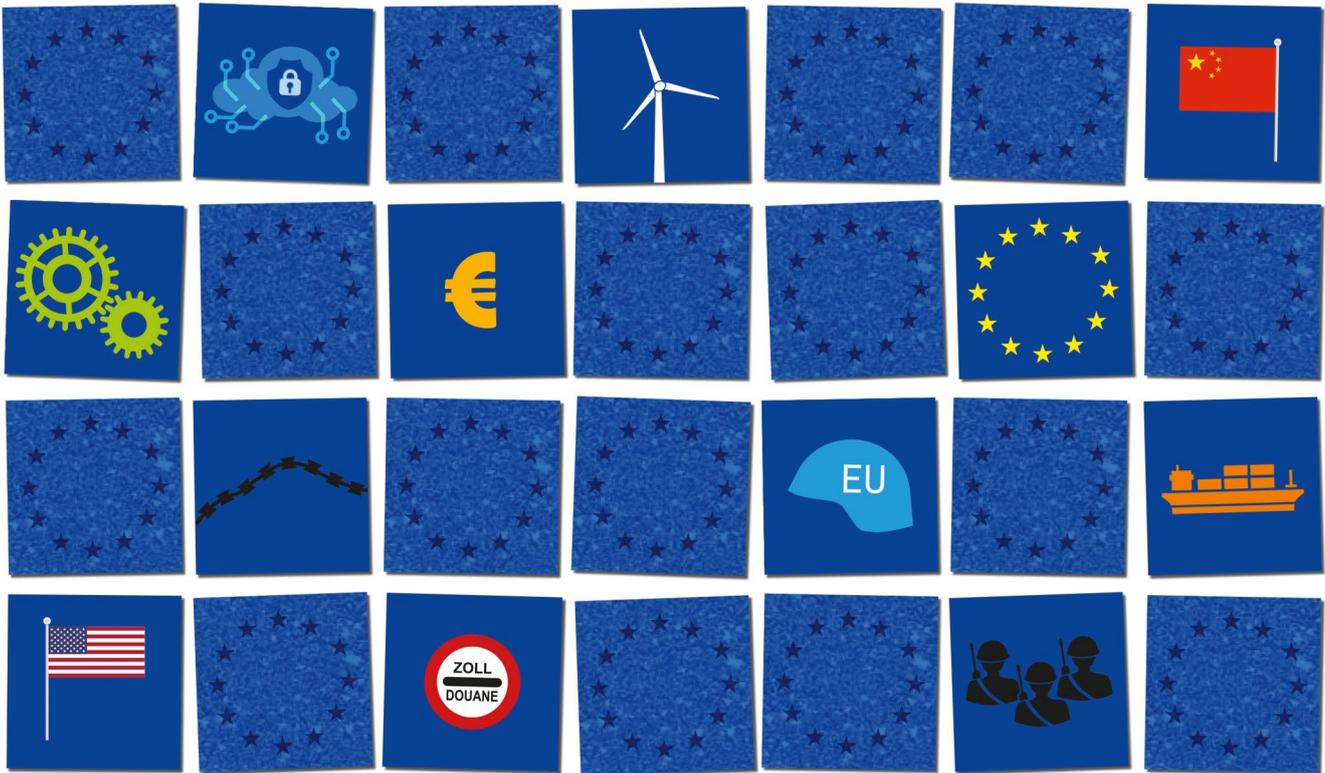
Greece: dismantling negative gender stereotypes

In 2021, Greek media reported a total of 17 cases of femicide – the killing of women and girls because of their gender. For many consecutive years, Greece has come last in the EU gender equality rankings. Due to these worrisome trends, our Thessaloniki Office, in collaboration with the *Gender Alliance Initiative*, produced a guide for adults in gender democracy education and gender equality in Greece. The material is now available in six videos that include a series of exercises. It also includes four dramatized stories, produced by the drama group *Life after death*, which portray sexism in everyday life. They invite viewers to reflect upon and take action against reproducing gender stereotypes at their workplace, cafeteria, on the streets, or anywhere else. Both video series are available with English subtitles.

Feminism and Gender Democracy

With its gender-political and feminist educational work, the Gunda Werner Institute (GWI) at the Heinrich Böll Foundation examines power structures and dominance between the sexes and in general. The GWI's feminist educational work aims at a just, non-violent, and gender-democratic society, providing intersectional socio-political impulses for Green policy development. Its focus areas are strengthening feminist publics, combating antifeminism, feminisms for our immigration society, sexual self-determination, reproductive justice, and feminist network politics.

gwi-boell.de



Poster for our Annual Foreign Policy Conference 2021 Collage: Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

Shaping the future of Europe

War has been raging in Europe for more than a half of a year now. The European Union must support Ukraine's struggle against its Russian aggressor – by providing material aid and financial support; by imposing sanctions against Russia; and by halting gas and oil imports from Russia as soon as possible. However, what was initially a united front of the EU is crumbling. The erosion of the rule of law in some of its member states is another unresolved issue for the EU, and the planned European Green Deal is not progressing as quickly as had been hoped: Regarding all these issues, Germany must become more active in and on behalf of the EU.

Annual Foreign Policy Conference: Between hard and soft power – the European Union caught in a rivalry between the great powers ↗

The world is witnessing a return of major power politics. In response, more and more voices are calling for the European Union to assume greater strategic sovereignty. How can the EU hold its own in a harsher

global political climate while also remaining true to its fundamental values? And how can The Greens warm to a concept such as European strategic sovereignty or even EU strategic autonomy? These are some of the issues we explored at our 21st Annual Foreign Policy Conference, held between January 14 – 19, 2021. Prominent guests included Annalena Baerbock, then

↗ [Web dossier for the "21st Annual Foreign Policy Conference"](https://boell.de/en/21st-foreign-policy-conference)

boell.de/en/21st-foreign-policy-conference

federal executive of The Green Party (now minister for foreign affairs), Jana Puglierin of the *European Council on Foreign Relations*, Justyna Gotkowska of the *Center for Eastern Studies* in Warsaw, and Martin Quencez of the Paris office of the *German Marshall Fund of the United States*. The panels focused, in particular, on Europe's relations with its neighbors, on digital policy and geoeconomics, and on transatlantic relations. The Biden administration raises new hopes for a revival and expansion of transatlantic cooperation, including in the areas of climate and digital policy and the defense of fundamental democratic values. We therefore invited young people from North America and the European Union to explore avenues for progressive transatlanticism in the 21st century. There was general concern about the EU's ability to address crises in its eastern and southern neighborhoods, as well as agreement that the EU could do better, act more coherently, and be a more credible power broker.

Ukrainian civil society trying to find its path – a debate ↗

For Ukraine, Russian threats to its sovereignty have long been a constant. Following the grassroots democratic uprisings of 2004 and 2014 (*Orange Revolution and Revolution of Dignity*), Ukraine marked the 30th anniversary of its independence in the summer of 2021, showing great pride in its achievements. Even as war continued in the country's eastern Donbas region, democratic consolidation was advancing successfully despite some setbacks, thanks to its vigilant and proactive civil society and confident parliament. This was the takeaway from an online discussion with representatives from our partner organizations, such as Natalia Gozak, Executive Director of the Center for Environmental Initiatives *Ecoaction*, Ivan Verbitskiy from the think tank *CEDOS*, or philosopher and publicist Tamara Slobina. A video clip in our Ukraine dossier summarizes three decades of lively civil society debates in Ukraine.

Belarusian partners in exile and war in Ukraine

In Belarus, a wave of repression against civil society following the suppression of the 2020 protest movement and the forced dissolution of hundreds of non-governmental organizations have disrupted our activities with our Belarusian partners. A number of activists, who had been forced out of the country, initially found support in Kyiv to regroup and restart – until the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 uprooted them for the second time. The Foundation's Ukrainian team, located mostly in safer locations in the west of the country, is trying to support its longtime partners as best it can, even under wartime conditions.

“Green Russia Forum”: fighting for the survival of Russian civil society

Since late 2020, repression against independent civil society in Russia has grown. Initially it seemed that new laws and the tightening of existing ones meant to restrict freedom of assembly, control independent media, and discredit or ban civil society organizations with international links were undertaken to suppress political opposition in the run-up to the Duma elections in September. It quickly became clear, however, that they were designed for the long haul. In November 2021, the Russian Prosecutor General's Office filed a motion with the Supreme Court to ban *Memorial*, our longest-standing partner organization, a ban which became effective in January 2022.

Via the *Green Russia Forum*, the Heinrich Böll Foundation, the Green parliamentary group in the Bundestag, and *Memorial*, as well as other Russian partners, are constantly in touch about such developments. Many organizations from different parts of Russia, as well as German NGOs, members of the German Bundestag and the European Parliament have attended our online meetings in March and November 2021. Even now, in the wake of *Memorial's* ban in Russia and the forced closure of the Heinrich Böll Foundation's Moscow Office, we believe that this forum will become increasingly important for discussing developments in the country with partners in exile and inside Russia, and to advise them in order to make sure that Russian civil society will survive the Putin system.

“Annual European Policy Conference”: emerging from the pandemic in sustainable fashion – local approaches to the “European Green Deal” ↗

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is sizable. As we emerge from it, economic reconstruction must be socially just and ecologically sustainable, meaning, climate, energy, and environmental considerations will have to go along with digitization, labor, and social issues. Germany, the most populous and economically powerful country in Europe, will have to play a central role in this tour de force to preserve social cohesion within Europe. The *EU Reconstruction Fund* is a first step towards this end, as it will boost the *European Green Deal*. Our *Annual European Policy Conference* in May 2021 addressed the European policy priorities that the new German government should set, with a focus on the *European Green Deal's* local dimension. Communities and local initiatives are the drivers of local socio-ecological transformation and, in many areas, they already make a difference. Benedict Jávor, representative of the City of Budapest, emphasized the important role cities play in the fight against climate change: “Our cities' voices are being heard more

clearly than ever before on the international stage. This is important because cities account for 50 percent of the world's population, producing over 60 percent of greenhouse gases. They can make a significant contribution in reducing CO2 emissions." Helsinki's Deputy Mayor Sanna Vesikansa described how the Finnish capital has led the way towards achieving climate goals through 140 local projects and actions that were implemented in close collaboration with its citizenry. Our conference and its accompanying podcast showcased local initiatives in zero waste, urban space, and social finance models.

“Naturally European!?” – A study 📄

Angela Merkel's time as chancellor ended with the 2021 federal elections and, with it, an era of German European policy. Our study *Naturally European!?*, conducted in cooperation with *Progressives Zentrum*, looks into what citizens expect of the new German government's European policy. The COVID-19 crisis marked the first time a German government supported joint EU borrowing – in this case to finance investments meant to help Europe emerge from the pandemic. As the survey shows, Germans welcome such active and cooperative behavior. However, respondents were divided on the question whether joint borrowing should be permissible in the future. As the socio-ecological transformation will require further investment, and as people place a high priority on social cohesion within the EU, the German government should initiate an honest and fact-based debate on fiscal policy – one that is free from common distortions (“transfer union”) and myths (“Germany always pays the bill for the others”). Europe can only master the climate crisis, global migration, digitization,

or the next health crisis if it is capable of decisive action. The survey, designed as a long-term study and now in its third year, captures German attitudes regarding Germany's role within the EU.

The EU on the road to climate neutrality – online dossiers ↗

On July 14, 2021, the European Commission presented its proposals for implementing the *EU Climate Change Act*, the so-called *Fit for 55* package. It is considered to be the kick-off for one of the key debates that will occupy the EU in the next few years: How can the EU reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 55 percent by 2030, and how can it become climate neutral by 2050? In an online dossier, our Brussels office explains the EU's plans for CO2 reduction in energy, mobility, agriculture, industry, and many other sectors.

Our Thessaloniki Office also conducted several projects on this topic last year. In an extensive online dossier, it compiled information, analyses, and recommendations regarding a green deal for Greece. Its focus was on energy and climate, the circular economy, citizen participation, agriculture, mobility, urban resilience, and the role of local authorities. At an online event held at the end of the year, participants from politics, academia, and civil society discussed the urgency of an interdisciplinary approach to a Greek green deal. Finally, the Foundation put out a policy brief with recommendations for a socially and gender-just implementation of such a green deal.



“European Mobility Atlas 2021”

Sustainable transport and mobility are key to tackling the climate crisis and achieving the objectives of the *European Green Deal*. Transport has been responsible for almost 30 percent of CO2 emissions in the European Union.

The *European Mobility Atlas 2021*, published by our Brussels office, highlights sustainable mobility in the EU with case studies, infographics, and maps.

eu.boell.org/European-Mobility-Atlas

📄 Study “Naturally European!?”
boell.de/en/actually-european-2021

↗ Green deal web dossier (Greek + English)
gr.boell.org/en/green-deal-stin-ellada
Web dossier “Fit for 55” package
eu.boell.org/en/fit-for-55

“European Mobility Atlas 2021”: solutions for sustainable mobility

A well-developed bike lane grid in Copenhagen, electric buses in Poland, free public transport in Vienna and Luxembourg – Europe offers an impressive wealth of mobility ideas, but its transport revolution is also facing many unresolved issues. The transport sector is a political problem child, as it still accounts for about one-third of all CO2 emissions within the European Union. Problematic working conditions in long-haul transport, the disposal of old cars and ships, and long-standing inequities in the distribution of transport costs are just some items on a long list of major challenges. In our *European Mobility Atlas 2021* we present solutions that are ready for immediate implementation such as expanding rail transport, decongestion through better public transit, and allowing fewer cars in cities. There are promising new approaches, such as digitization and the pop-up bike lanes that were set up during the COVID-19 pandemic. The *European Mobility Atlas 2021* is also available in Italian, Spanish, and Czech.

Platform “Moving Cities – a different migration policy is possible”

Efforts to reform and synchronize EU migration policies got stuck years ago, yet flight and migration are political realities that urgently require solutions. By supporting solidarity-based migration policies, introducing welcome programs, and leading the way with innovative approaches, more than 700 cities and municipalities from Portugal to Poland are already proving that this is possible.

Our platform *moving-cities.eu*, which went online in October 2021 and is available in seven languages, provides an overview of cities and networks across Europe who have already taken action, presenting their strategies, and listing inspiring approaches in various areas. To launch the platform, we organized *Moving Cities* together with *Seebrücke*, the *Rosa Luxemburg Foundation*, with support by the *Robert Bosch Stiftung*, and the *Civilian Rescue at Sea Foundation*.

New office in Albania

In October 2021, we officially opened our third office in the Western Balkans in the Albanian capital of Tirana. The new office underscores a key strategic focus of our European policy work, namely, our firm commitment to a proactive and pro-democratic EU enlargement policy for this region. Albania, like Northern Macedonia, has introduced and implemented considerable reforms in recent years, yet vetoes from various member states have thwarted promises by the EU several times already. Delaying accession negotiations any further would only continue to diminish the EU’s already

damaged credibility and trap the Western Balkans in a dangerous political vacuum of geopolitical rivalries and domestic fragility. In the first few months of its presence in Albania, the Foundation has already established itself as a welcome hub for initiatives and dedicated young people, especially in areas such as participatory urban development, independent education, culture, and environmental policy.

“European History Forum”: rethinking monuments in Eastern and Southeastern Europe

Monuments are more than just memories cast in basalt and concrete; they are sites that stir both reverence and contempt; they are pawns in the game of political interests and tools of targeted manipulation. Citizens keep finding creative ways to mark their own environments with what they want to remember – using photos, crosses, or sometimes spray cans. At our 10th *European History Forum* in May 2021, we were joined by museums, media, and NGOs from Eastern, Southeastern, and Western Europe to take a look at monuments in Eastern and Southeastern Europe. How did the new (old) nation states visualize their history? Which images were literally set in stone, which ones ended up being toppled? Participants also explored alternatives for handling controversial monuments. Among the participants were literary and cultural scholar Aleida Assmann and Iryna Kashtalian from the *Leonid Levin History Workshop* in Minsk. The event was highly interactive, offering workshops and city tours that were zoomed live from Potsdam, Yerevan, Skopje, and Moscow, offering opportunities for interaction and networking especially to attendees who often feel very isolated in societies that are dominated by nationalistic history-telling. The subject proved to be very topical, as there are ongoing debates about monuments in Eastern and Southeastern Europe, as well as in Germany, stirring activism and civil engagement, especially at the local level.



Grünwald (Germany), April 2022: Food bank volunteers hand out groceries to Ukrainian refugees and to other people in need.
Photo: picture alliance/SZ Photo/Sebastian Gabriel

For an open society and fair participation

Social cohesion requires a strong social network and structures that empower all people to live a self-determined life and participate in society. The next few years will be marked by change and modernization, posing many challenges that need to be tackled and solved – from rapidly changing work environments to demographic change. Most importantly, our ecological transformation must be socially just, balanced, and secure. The ‘social’ aspect of society will only succeed if politics, business, and society negotiate solutions together.

How much emotion does democracy need – and how much can it take? – a conference

Our annual *Green narrative* conference is a platform for in-depth debates on key Green policy issues. Our eighth *Green narrative* event, which took place in June 2021, focused on the topic of “emotions”. Held at a pivotal moment marked by both the pandemic and the end of the Merkel era, and thus between the poles of a desire for renewal and change fatigue, the conference was very well received – and that despite the fact that it was held

online. Robert Habeck, then the federal chairman of The Green Party (now minister for economic affairs), economists Adam Tooze and Jens Südekum, and neuroscientist Maren Urner discussed how, in these difficult times, a narrative of socio-ecological transformation may resonate emotionally. Day two of the conference offered a variety of opportunities for debate in small, dialog-oriented work groups. Topics included emotions in election campaigns, political moods during the pandemic, and hate speech online as well as in local politics.

The 60-year-anniversary of the “guest worker agreement” between Germany and Turkey ↗

On October 30, 1961, the Federal Republic of Germany and Turkey concluded a bilateral recruitment agreement that, to this day, has left a lasting mark on both societies. The people who came to Germany as so-called guest workers intended to work abroad for a limited period and return home as soon as possible. At the time, the notion of Germany as a country of immigration – offering comprehensive integration services and genuine participation in social life – was still a very remote idea. Things turned out differently though: Many workers ended up staying, brought their families, and built a life in “gurbet” – a foreign land. The “guest workers” thus became “fellow citizens”. Today, everyone in Germany has come to understand that we are an immigration country.

To mark the anniversary, we presented inputs in a variety of formats, all under the heading “60 years at home in Almanyaa”, addressing the political, artistic, and socioeconomic implications of German-Turkish immigration. Some contributions were translated into Turkish by our Istanbul Office, including an extensive dossier, one event, and a podcast. Our main objective with this project was to stimulate an inter-generational dialog about questions of belonging, visibility, and participation.

Right-wing terrorism – a dossier ↗

In Germany, the scope of right-wing violence and right-wing extremist organizations has often been underestimated, sometimes even trivialized, by politics, authorities, and society in general. After the right-wing terrorist attacks of Kassel, Halle and Hanau, we can no longer turn a blind eye to the fact that Germany, too, has a problem, with extremists sometimes even infiltrating the very authorities that are supposed to keep us safe.

On the first anniversary of the Hanau attack, in which a 43-year-old racist murdered ten people before killing himself on February 19, 2020, we held an online event, discussing with experts from politics, the judiciary, and security services what concepts we need to make our diverse society safer. For our web dossier on the topic, we asked artists, activists, and others to voice their demands to politicians in video statements.

Our dossier *Right-wing terrorism – why we need a new security debate*, published in cooperation with the Amadeu Antonio Foundation, takes a closer look at the historical and political dimensions of right-wing violence in Germany. Published digitally and as an anthology in June 2021, the dossier provides inputs for the necessary debate on how to keep everyone safe in a pluralistic society.

Social and education policy – conceptualized as one

In Germany, a person’s educational success still largely depends on their family background. There are many ideas on how to change this, yet one thing is clear: We must focus our efforts in education on supporting children from disadvantaged families. In addition to performance and individual support, instruction must also leverage the students’ diversity as an asset and provide appropriate learning opportunities. The educational policies of Germany’s states and communities do not suffice to overcome the educational challenges faced by marginalized groups. For this reason, we commissioned the *Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin* to draft a paper outlining how the German federal government may use its constitutional rights in order to boost the education of children from marginalized backgrounds.

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

↗ [Web dossier on the 60-year-anniversary of the guest worker agreement \(in German and Turkish\)](#)

boell.de/anwerbeabkommen-Deutschland-Tuerkei

↗ [Web dossier on right-wing terrorism](#)

heimatkunde.boell.de/rechter-terror

Arts and culture

Art can anticipate, simulate, or examine 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.



Jewish life in Germany is diverse, with the six-episode mini-series *#systemrelevant* showing many examples
Photo: Stephan Röhl

1,700 years of Jewish life in Germany – the mini-series “#systemrelevant”

For many years, filmmaker Yael Reuveny has been exploring the everyday lives, trajectories, and beliefs of Jewish people in Germany, thus producing a compelling portrait of the diversity of Jewish life. Her mini-series *#systemrelevant*, developed in partnership with the Heinrich Böll Foundation, follows eight Jewish men and women as they go about their daily work-lives: at a daycare center and in a school, at a hospital, a vaccination center, in public transit, with the police, and in the German armed forces. How do they view Germany? How did they experience the pandemic? Do they perceive themselves as essential workers or, as the German expression has it, “system-relevant”? And what does that even mean? The six-episode mini-series *#systemrelevant* is one of our contributions, marking the anniversary 1,700 years of Jewish life in Germany.

German-Israeli Literature Days 2021

Back to square one? – thus the motto of the 2021 German-Israeli Literature Days. Between September 1-2, authors from Germany and Israel gathered at the *Deutsches Theater* and the *Literaturhaus Berlin* to present new works and to discuss how crises affect our living together. Authors Lizzie Doron and Antje Rávik Strubel, for example, read from works that deal with exceptional situations. Subsequently, both authors talked about how change may be effected – even in times when everything and everyone seems to be at a loss. Authors Odeh Bisarat and Dmitrij Kapitelman discussed the topic of new beginnings: Where do you start when you don’t have a place to start from? Because a fresh start is all the harder when you don’t have a place where you feel you belong. The German-Israeli Literature Days are a joint project of the *Goethe-Institut* and the *Heinrich Böll Foundation*.

A new Böll – new translation of key texts into Spanish

In 2017, on the occasion of Heinrich Böll's 100th birthday, our Mexico Office published a collection of five newly translated stories by the German Nobel laureate in literature. Subsequently, we collaborated with the state cultural and literary organization *Fondo de Cultura Económica (FCE)* and brought out the novella *The Train Was on Time* and the story *The Scales of the Baleks* in 2021. For many years, both texts had been out of print in Spanish and existing translations were not always adequate. *The Train Was on Time* was presented at several events, including in the main tent of the Mexico City Book Fair in Cathedral Square. René Böll was able to join this event from Cologne, adding to it with his contribution (made in excellent Spanish). Among other things, he recalled his childhood memories, the very years during which Heinrich Böll wrote the book. The FCE has offices in the U.S., Spain, and various Latin American capitals, including Bogotá and Santiago de Chile, where the new books are now available. Once again 440 million Spanish readers may access major works by Heinrich Böll. A continuation of this partnership is in the offing.

“Flaneuse – envisioning a city for all” – a project from Nigeria

In the public spaces of the metropolis Lagos, women are facing challenges every day. In public transport, sexual harassment and violence are particularly rampant, which is symptomatic of a society that still suffers from stark gender inequality and gender stereotypes. Yet most women in Lagos rely on public transport – from market women and students to young professionals who cannot afford their own cars.

Supported by our Nigeria Office, a group of young female photographers and filmmakers joined with Nigerian artists Adeola Olagunju and Olajumoke Sanwo to explore women's ordeals in the project *Flaneuse – envisioning a city for all*. The resulting works – short and documentary films, portraits, and photo series – are meant to help raise women's (self-)awareness in the hope that such assaults will no longer be considered a normal, plus, they also show how women may win back public spaces by showing solidarity and standing up for each other. In order to initiate a broader debate in Lagos, the artists and partner organizations presented their works at small neighborhood art events and local art festivals. As a traveling exhibition, the films and photos will now be shown in various ministries, and possible solutions will be explored at events with community officials.

Beuys at 100 – dossier, publication, podcast

Joseph Beuys was and remains an influential artist full of brilliant and controversial ideas, a political activist, a provocateur, and a passionate teacher. On the occasion of his 100th birthday in 2021, we asked five contemporary artists from East and West Germany about their relationship to Joseph Beuys and how they view his personality and work today. The result is a multi-faceted dossier with statements that oscillate between awe and reserve.

Our podcast features excerpts from debates with Joseph Beuys and insights into his life, as told by documentary filmmaker Andres Veiel. Dresden-based artist Christine Schlegel tells us how Beuys was perceived in the GDR, and Green Party politician Claudia Roth talks about his political impact, which is still being felt today.

Our publication *Seeing the Person – on Heinrich Böll and Joseph Beuys* explores similarities and differences between two of Germany's most internationally famous post-WW2 artists. Böll was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1972; Beuys' installations provided the defining moments of several *Documenta* exhibitions. It is a little-known fact that both artists, for all their differences, had much in common and even collaborated on a project once. Böll and Beuys saw each other as independent and inspiring artists. They liked each other, and both believed in the vast scope of artistic activity, and, as our publication shows, both wanted to use their art to make the world a better place.

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.



Our 2021 scholarship recipients after their introductory seminar on April 8, 2022
Photo: Stephan Röhl

Who receives support?

In two rounds for September 2020 and March 2021, the *Studienwerk* selected 390 new fellows from 2,056 applications. We supported a total of 1,517 students – 1,302 undergraduate and graduate students and 215 doctoral candidates. We have a special focus on certain target groups: 63 percent of our fellows are women, 14 percent study at technical colleges, art colleges, or music colleges. 29 percent of the fellows (47 percent of whom are women) major in STEM subjects. A quarter of our doctoral fellows are pursuing a doctorate in a STEM subject (57 percent of them women). Of the 85 recipients who have come to Germany as refugees since 2015, 63 hail from Syria and 22 from other countries such as Afghanistan or Iran.

Non-material support: advice – training – networking

The core of our non-material support is our event program. We provide input to stimulate political debate, teach key skills, enable interdisciplinary dialog, help participants get ready for their future careers, and support the civic commitment of our scholarship recipients. One of our major objectives is to promote self-organization and independent thinking as well as to teach creative skills. The program of events is designed for and with our scholarship recipients.

In 2021, the event program was still much impacted by the pandemic, with many scholarship recipients completing their studies exclusively online. Campus study groups, at least, were able to meet on site, though most other events in our ancillary program had to be held digitally. This was also true for our popular summer academy *Campus*, which was held online only between August 16-26, 2021 under the title *Freedom between security and solidarity*. More than 500 scholarship recipients participated. We also continued with our digital seminars on how to combat fake news and how to deal with people that hold conflicting political views. Examples include *Countering hate speech online* and *Nonviolent communication: How to talk to people of opposing political persuasions*.

Scholarship Program “Media diversity done differently”

In this program, we work with media partners to support young journalists with migration backgrounds/people of color as they prepare to enter the professional world. In 2021, we offered workshops on *How to do a great interview* or a *Blog workshop* on news stories (see medienvielfalt.boellblog.org/).

Launching a career and networking

To support our scholarship recipients with their first career steps after graduation, we held two workshops in our leadership series: *Taking ownership and driving change in volunteering* and *Career coaching for people of color/with migration backgrounds and for international scholarship recipients*.

In our series on science-based policy advice, which is geared primarily towards doctoral and master's students, our fellows gain an insight into the various facets of the field, thus acquiring key skills and building their own networks.

In addition, we want to connect our fellows early in their fellowships with the Foundation's various departments, sending them to conferences held by us and our various regional foundations. Over 50 fellows attended the conference *What is the Green narrative*

of... politics and emotions? on June 14-15, 2021. *Böll Global*, a series of reports and analyses of the global pandemic and dealing with current developments at the Foundation's international offices, also met with keen interest. The fellows discussed topics such as *The geopolitics of vaccination and its consequences*, *The current humanitarian and political situation in Syria*, and *Climate action – opportunities and obstacles*.

Support for doctoral candidates

The doctoral student forum, the main event for our PhD fellows, discussed *Science and society*. Here, 65 PhD students explored questions such as how to communicate scientific results to society and the particular challenges scientists face regarding social upheavals such as the climate crisis or the COVID pandemic.

Our alumni



Photo: Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

Dr. Julia Leininger was both an undergraduate and postgraduate fellow between 2000 and 2007. Her PhD thesis at the University of Heidelberg explored policies to promote democracy in Africa and Latin America. She worked as a research associate at the Hessian *Foundation for Peace and Conflict Research* and has served as department head for *Transformation of political (dis)order* at the *German Development Institute (d.i.e.)* since 2014. Her research interests include promoting democracy, social cohesion, and scenarios for a sustainable future. She teaches at the universities of Duisburg-Essen and Heidelberg, as well as the *d.i.e.*'s postgraduate course.



Photo: Cole Sigmon

Dr. Seda Gürses conducts research on privacy-enhancing technologies, privacy engineering, and software production, as well as at the intersections of computer science with social justice and political economy. Having held positions at Princeton and at New York University, Seda is currently an associate professor at the *Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management* at *TU Delft*. She is also a co-founder of the *Institute for Technology in the Public Interest*, exploring ways to ensure that advances in digital technologies serve the public interest. We supported her with an undergraduate scholarship from 2000 to 2003.



Photo: Kathrin Schierl

Dr. Reinhard von Wittken received a scholarship from the Heinrich Böll Foundation from 2017 to 2019. He earned his PhD on sustainable entrepreneurship after having been a doctoral fellow of the Research Cluster on *Socio-Ecological Transformation*. Since 2019, he has been working at the *German Academy of Science and Engineering* in Munich as a specialist on the topic of the circular economy. In 2021, as a policy fellow of the Foundation, he helped develop the concept of our series *Science-based Policy Advice* and helped us grow our network of science-based policy advisors.

The Heinrich Böll House in Langenbroich

In 1966, the Böll family acquired a listed 18th-century farmstead in the hill country of the Eifel region, which, until Heinrich Böll's death, they mainly used as a summer home. For 30 years, 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 which had experienced political oppression. During their stint at the house, they find the peace and quiet they need for their creative work. The Heinrich Böll Foundation is part of a worldwide network of institutions that supports politically persecuted authors.



Amir Cheheltan Photo: picture alliance/dpa/Rolf Vennenbernd

Our guests in 2021

Meriam Bousselmi, born in Tunis in 1983, is an Arabic and French-speaking writer, director, lawyer, lecturer, researcher, and bridge builder. Her work combines a broad variety of storytelling methods: literary texts, theater productions, and performative installations. She uses various aesthetic forms to reflect on current political, social, and societal conditions by transcending genres and addressing taboo subjects (www.meriambousselmi.com).

Amir Cheheltan was born in Tehran in 1956. During his college days, he already made a name for himself as a writer with his second collection of stories. He has published numerous novels that have been translated into English, German, Italian, Norwegian, Lithuanian, Arabic, Hebrew, and other languages. His novels revolve around everyday life in Iran against the backdrop of the country's checkered history between the poles of religion, state, and modernity (www.cheheltan.net).

Fariba Vafi was born in 1963 in Tabriz in the Iranian Province of East Azerbaijan. Her first collection of short stories was published in 1986, followed by twelve novels and collections of short stories, which went through several editions and won numerous awards. Vafi's narratives are casually poetic microcosms, capturing emotions and structures that are often also political. Some of her works have been translated into multiple languages, including English, Turkish, Armenian, French, Spanish, and Norwegian. Selected stories as well as her novel *My Bird* have been translated into English.

📩 Send your application to:

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Awards

The Heinrich Böll Foundation awards a number of prizes and co-sponsors various additional honors. Our most important awards are the Anne Klein Women's Award, the Peace Film Prize, which was not awarded in 2021 due to the pandemic, and the Hannah Arendt Prize.



Cânân Arın
Photo: Mareliber_Caner Özkan/CC-BY-NC-ND 4.0



Jill Lepore
Photo: Dari Michele

Anne Klein Women's Award 2021 for Cânân Arın ↗

The Istanbul-based lawyer has spent more than 40 years advocating for women's rights and self-determination. She is the co-founder of the first independent Turkish women's shelter, which is run by *Mor Çatı* (Purple Roof), and has litigated countless cases on behalf of female victims of violence. Her activism helped Turkey become the first country to ratify the *Istanbul Convention* in 2012. The *Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence* is the first such European treaty. However, in March 2021, President Erdoğan withdrew Turkey from the international agreement by issuing a decree, claiming that the convention "undermines the traditional image of the family" and promotes "gender mania". And thus the struggle continues. The jury commended the laureate for her personal courage and persistent advocacy of every woman's right to a self-determined life free of violence. The 10th Anne Klein Women's Award, endowed with 10,000 euros, was conferred at an online ceremony on the evening of March 5, 2021. German-Turkish poet and documentary filmmaker Dilek Mayatürk held the speech honoring the awardee.

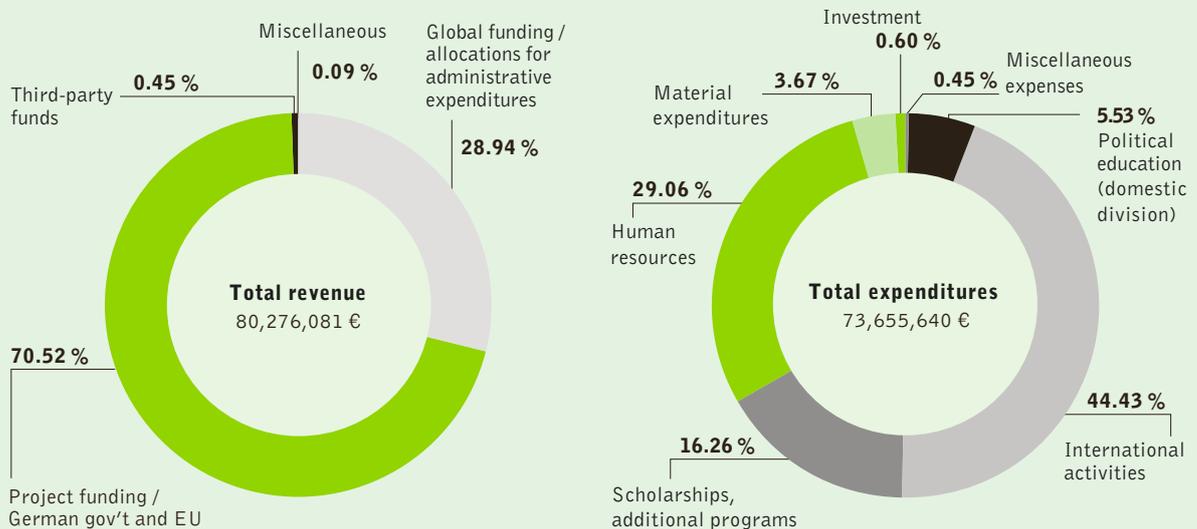
Hannah Arendt Prize 2021 for Jill Lepore ↗

Jill Lepore is U.S. historian, Harvard professor, and essayist. The picture she draws of United States history is not a one-sided account of powerful governments, but a history of conflicts and dynamics between diverse groups and factions, such as the English, other colonial powers, the enslaved, women, or the various ethnic groups of settlers. Moreover, she highlights the immense impact the American Revolution has on American politics to this very day. As the jury stated, Jill Lepore presents a political and holistic account of American history, not to "pass lofty judgments on the past, but to make the present more comprehensible to a broad public".

The Hannah Arendt Prize, endowed with 10,000 euros, is awarded by the City of Bremen and the Heinrich Böll Foundation. It was conferred on December 3, 2021 by the board of the Hannah-Arendt-Preis für politisches Denken e.V., the Bremen Senate, and the Heinrich Böll Foundation at Bremen's City Hall.

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 a member 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 2021

The Foundation's revenue totaled approximately 80.3 million euros in 2021. This is an increase of approximately 9 percent compared to 2020, due in particular to higher revenue from funds for international work as well as support for undergraduate and postgraduate studies in Germany. There was also an increase in revenue from third-party funding for our international work, especially on the topic of climate change.

Expenditures in 2021

In 2021, about two thirds of the Foundation's expenditures (approx. 48.78 million euros) were dedicated to program work and in support of undergraduate and postgraduate studies. This share increased to approximately 87 percent, including payroll for Foundation staff who work directly on our programs. Non-payroll administrative expenses decreased slightly, as did expenses for investments and special projects – all due to the COVID pandemic.

Preliminary cash-basis accounting 2021*

Reporting year: January 1 to December 31, 2021 (as of March 29, 2022)

	2021	2020
	figures preliminary	
Revenue towards global budget**	28,885,595	19,883,153
Revenue towards investments	347,988	248,324
Project funding		
International cooperation	40,501,223	38,314,597
BMZ	33,527,235	32,446,466
German Foreign Office	6,698,061	5,707,715
EU	–	–
Other/third party funds for international cooperation	275,927	160,416
Studienwerk	12,312,322	11,042,059
BMBF	11,130,561	10,062,316
German Foreign Office	1,181,762	979,683
Other	–	60
Domestic division	4,156,797	4,061,884
BMI	4,074,043	3,971,722
Third party funds	82,754	90,162
Miscellaneous	72,155	104,878
Total revenue	80,276,081	73,654,895
Specialist expenditure	1,336,524	1,504,649
Transfers to regional foundations	2,737,519	2,467,073
Project funding expenditure		
International cooperation	32,726,720	31,266,213
Studienwerk	11,978,679	10,783,313
EU	–	–
Third-party funds	202,393	70,014
Personnel (salaries, including management of foreign offices)	21,405,226	20,207,325
Operating expenditure	2,705,537	2,911,990
Investments	435,475	508,499
Miscellaneous	127,566	84,458
Total expenditure	73,655,640	69,803,534
Annual result	6,620,441	3,851,361
Association revenue	262,268	305,047
Association expenditure	230,425	202,487
Association result	31,843	102,560

* 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

BMI: Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community

Publications 2021

HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG



“Perspectives Asia #10: Fabric of Society”

In autumn 2021, the Covid-19 global pandemic lingers on even though vaccinations are gathering pace. The 10th issue of our Series *Perspectives Asia* takes a look at how the pandemic is reshaping the relationship between state and society in different Asian countries; it also shares down-to-earth Covid-19 experiences from different regions and cultures on issues as diverse as trust in government institutions, the situation of migrant workers, and gender relationships.

Download: boell.de/en/perspectives-asia

HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG



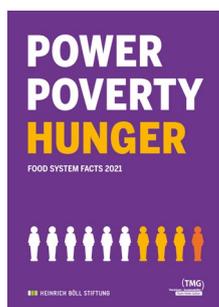
African Feminisms Across Generations



“Perspectives #01/2021: African Feminisms Across Generations”

This special edition of *Perspectives Africa* reflects on, analyzes and documents the evolution of African feminisms and feminist action that African activists have taken up to address both old as well as persistent and new threats to women's rights and gender justice. It also reflects on lessons learned from African feminist practices for current and future generations across the region.

Download: boell.de/en/perspectives-africa



“Power Poverty Hunger”

In 2020, 768 million people suffered from hunger and undernourishment. The *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations* expects these numbers to rise further as a result of the economic crisis triggered by Covid-19, extreme weather events, and conflicts. With this publication we want to show that hunger and malnutrition are the consequences of injustice, instability and poverty – and that policies must therefore also address these underlying causes.

boell.de/en/power-poverty-hunger

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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 cooperation 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 cooperation 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. Imme Scholz and Jan Philipp Albrecht 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 Belgium (EU), France, Poland, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Turkey, Greece, 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 2021, the Foundation had about 80 million euros in public funds at its disposal.

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**Cover: "Giving up has no future" –
our scroll story of the 2011 uprisings in
the Middle East and North Africa**

revolutions.boell.de/en