

Dear Reader,

The ongoing pandemic has revealed that the EU is internally weakened by nationalist tendencies and mismanagement, warns the new **Peace Report**, published by INEF and three other peace research institutes. The EU has often reacted hesitantly to conflicts and crises, as it was too preoccupied with itself. “Europe can do better!” – for example, it could initiate a “Covid Peace Dividend”, or act in true solidarity with the Global South while fighting the effects of the pandemic, the authors suggest.

In this newsletter, you will find many other reports and video recordings from past conferences, as well as new publications. For German speakers, we also recommend the **sef: 2020 Annual Report**, looking back at a turbulent year.

We wish you all the best for the summer! Enjoy reading.

Kind regards

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Institute for Development and Peace (INEF)

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Development and Peace Foundation (sef:)

## REPORTS AND FINDINGS



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### ! Innovation by disruption? How COVID-19 is changing diplomacy

#### Session at the Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum

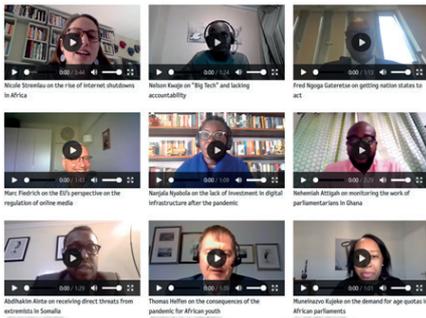
The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on international diplomacy is considerable. Most international negotiation processes had to be halted, and the hope that they could be resumed quickly in the usual format proved to be false. Instead, innovative ways are needed to maintain diplomatic exchange.

The authors of our **Global Governance Spotlight**, Dr Jovan Kurbalija und Dr Katharina Hoene, discussed such new tools for diplomacy at our session at the **Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum**, chaired by Stephanie Liechtenstein.

A recording of the event is now available on YouTube:

[https://youtu.be/gj1\\_yBBsjcY](https://youtu.be/gj1_yBBsjcY).

A **short conference report** is now available on our website.



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## 📺 Making Digitalisation Work for Peaceful Development

### Potsdam Spring Dialogues 2021

At this year's **Potsdam Spring Dialogues**, activists, academics and political representatives from Africa and Europe discussed the impact of digitalisation on peaceful development in Africa. Short **video clips** with the highlights of the discussion and a **conference report** are now available on our website.

## PUBLICATIONS



## 📖 “Europe can do better!” – global solidarity in the face of the pandemic

### Peace Report 2021

The 2021 **Peace Report**, published by INEF and three other peace research institutes, is out now. The authors believe that Europe can be better than an onlooker in international affairs. It needs to sharpen its profile in peace and security policy and leverage potential for global cooperation. That is why Europe’s “strategic autonomy” should stress the civil components of foreign and security policy and find creative ways to resolve conflicts in Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus.

Solidarity in combating the pandemic in the Global South is discussed in the report as well: One recommendation is a global package of measures to cut military expenditure and reduce violence worldwide. For the authors, a “Covid Peace Dividend” is crucial to offset the consequences of the coronavirus pandemic more comprehensively and with a greater degree of global justice.

- **Recommendations and the editors’ statement**



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## Land Rights, Gender and Soil Fertility in Benin

### Publication on [weltoehnung.org](https://www.weltoehnung.org)

There is still a lack of extension services targeted to women. The additional disadvantage of women in securing access to land leads to untapped economic potential and exacerbates social problems. INEF researcher Karin Gaesing and Frank Bliss of the **INEF research project “Ways out of poverty, vulnerability and food insecurity” (AVE)**, which is funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), highlight the nexus between secure access to land for women, targeted extension services and soil conservation activities in Benin.

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