

Annual Report 2018

Veröffentlichungsversion / Published Version
Tätigkeitsbericht, Jahresbericht / annual report

Zur Verfügung gestellt in Kooperation mit / provided in cooperation with:
Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte

Empfohlene Zitierung / Suggested Citation:

Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte. (2019). *Annual Report 2018*. (Jahresbericht / Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte). Berlin. <https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:0168-ssoar-85299-0>

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German Institute
for Human Rights

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.

– Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

On 10 December 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Seventy years later, the Declaration has lost none of its relevance. To this day, it serves as the basis for the global recognition of human rights and for the demand that they be realised. The Universal Declaration was drafted by people from all over the world, of widely different backgrounds, cultures, religions and philosophical traditions. It affirms the universality of human rights, which all human beings possess at all times and in all places because they are human beings.

There can be no freedom, no justice and no peace in the world without the recognition that all people possess equal dignity and of the inalienable rights of all human rights. For this reason, Germany's Basic Law (*Grundgesetz*) also contains an explicit commitment to human rights. The Institute has produced a brochure with the Articles of the Universal Declaration. Alongside the original English-language wording of the Declaration, the brochure presents a German version of the Articles that was prepared with great care using language that reflects human diversity without altering the content.

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 2018, 40 renowned graphic designers from all over the world designed posters expressing their own take on human rights and inviting others to stand up for them, in partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the non-governmental organisation "Poster for Tomorrow". The posters were presented in Paris on 10 December 2017 to mark the launch of the campaign #StandUp4HumanRights.

Our annual report reproduces nine of these posters. A note under each poster gives the name and country of its designer. All 40 posters in the series can be seen at the website of the campaign #StandUp4HumanRights.

<https://www.standup4humanrights.org>

Preface

2018 was the year of the 70th anniversary of the adoption, on 10 December 1948, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This Declaration is a milestone in the history of human rights. It strengthened engagement in the cause of freedom and justice throughout the world considerably – and continues to do so today. At the same time, the Universal Declaration, with its 30 articles, is a programme for action on human rights. It draws attention to the gap between aspiration and reality.

We understand our work as Germany's national human rights institution in this spirit. We examine the same gap and make the case for policies that are guided by human rights – in line with Germany's obligations. And we strive to foster a culture of human rights in government and society. Because the recognition of the equal human dignity and the inalienable human rights of all human beings is the foundation for freedom, justice and peace in our country and in our world. Germany's constitution, the Basic Law (*Grundgesetz*), emphasises this as well. Thus, we keep watch over the state's actions and speak out when we see that human rights are not being sufficiently respected or adequately protected from encroachment by private parties. We point to the positive potential of human rights for shaping the present and the future. Our role is to draw the attention of government and the public to areas where the implementation of human rights must be improved. This, too, is part of the culture of human rights in Germany.

The Institute initiated several projects designed to draw attention to the significance and current relevance of the Universal Declaration. As an example, we will mention the anniversary event "*Für eine Kultur der Menschenrechte!*" (For a culture of human rights!) held in Berlin's Französische Friedrichstadtkirche on 22 November with Minister of State Monika Grütters, Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media. Along with our partners, the German Culture Council and the Initiative kulturelle Integration (Cultural Integration Initiative), we brought human rights experts and creative artists together at this event to discuss the important role of the culture and the arts for the awareness of human rights in the general public.

2018 was also the year in which we began the process of developing the Institute's new (2019-2023) strategy, which will guide us in planning our work in the years to come. Developing this strategy helps us to identify the areas in which we want the Institute to be particularly active and to clarify how it can have an impact. Coupled with this is the question of how the Institute can best deploy its resources. The process also enables us to identify the actors and networks with whom we wish to cooperate, the partnerships we wish to cultivate for the purpose of advancing a culture of human rights in Germany. The new strategy should also make it clear how the Institute intends to contribute to making the promotion and the protection of fundamental and human rights a key standard for policymaking, administrative action and jurisprudence.

Berlin, September 2019

Professor Beate Rudolf

Director

Michael Windfuhr

Deputy Director



I do my job.
Everyone can make a difference.

#standup4humanrights

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2018 in Review

January

Opposing anti-Semitism

Beate Rudolf, the Institute's Director (Holocaust Remembrance Day, 27 January): "This day reminds us of our duty to resolutely oppose anti-Semitism and all forms of racial discrimination. Human rights, which protect the dignity and rights of every human being, provide a framework that can guide us as we do so."

February

Cambodia: Civil society under crossfire

At the 5th annual Werner Lottje Lecture on 21 February, Naly Pilorge, the acting director of the Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights (LICADHO), spoke of her organisation's human rights work in a challenging political environment. The well-known human rights organisation monitors human rights violations at the national level and is making a key contribution towards the protection of human rights in Cambodia, a country in which numerous laws have severely restricted the freedoms of opinion, expression and assembly and leading members of the opposition face indictment or have fled into exile.

March

Human rights of older persons

Age-based discrimination and violence, as well as abuse and neglect of older persons were topics at the workshop "Towards a Convention on the Rights of Older Persons" held in Warsaw on 7 March by the Institute and Poland's Commissioner for Human Rights. Participants agreed on key points they wished to see included in a convention on the rights of older persons.

April

Visit from Commissioner for Human Rights

On 16 April, Beate Rudolf, the Institute's director, and Michael Windfuhr, the deputy director, discussed current human rights challenges in the 47 member states of the Council of Europe with Dunja Mijatović, the Council's new human rights commissioner. Topics included combating anti-Semitism, anti-Gypsyism and other forms of racism, hatred of and violence against refugees, lesbians, gays, and bisexual, trans*, inter* and queer persons and against journalists, as well as strengthening the European human rights protection system.

May

Science and human rights

On 3 May, the Institute and the Berlin – Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities jointly held a consultation on science and human rights. The event was prompted by the preparation of a new general comment by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, on which Michael Windfuhr, the Institute's deputy director, currently serves. The general comment will address the right to academic freedom and the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications. Experts from a number of fields shared their experiences as researchers in Germany and pointed out areas where action is needed.

June

11th session of the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD

Representatives of the signatory states of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), international organisations, civil society and the national human rights institutions gathered at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York from 12 to 14 June. There were three main themes at the conference: the costs of national implementation of the CRPD, the rights of women and girls with disabilities and political participation of persons with disabilities. Valentin Aichele, the head of the Institute's National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism, attended, along with representatives of national human rights institutions from every region of the world.

July

More barrier-free formats

On 5 July, the Federal Government introduced draft legislation intended to improve access to works protected under copyright for persons with a visual impairment or other reading disability at the Bundestag. The Institute recommended that federal and local governments do more to publicly promote and fund the reproduction of literature, art and science in barrier-free formats like Braille, large-print and audio formats. In addition, more funds should be made available to libraries and education institutions to increase the accessibility of their offerings, services and facilities.

August

Strengthening radicalisation prevention measures

The Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution (BfV), Germany's domestic intelligence service, has pointed out the potential danger posed by children growing up in Islamist families in Germany. Some politicians are considering the complete elimination of an existing rule which restricts surveillance and other measures involving the electronic processing and storage of personal data by domestic intelligence services to subjects who are at least 14 years of age. The Institute issued an informational publication on the intelligence services and children's right to privacy that clearly depicts the consequences that eliminating this age requirement could have for children and adolescents and explains why these are problematic from a human rights perspective.

September

Human rights situation in Germany

On 20 September, the UN Human Rights Council brought its review of the human rights situation in Germany to a close. With regard to the Council's recommendations on improving the human rights situation, the Institute sees the following priorities: taking a clear stance against racism, combatting gender-based violence, implementing inclusive education nation-wide, education policy measures to create equal opportunities for pupils with histories of immigration and the review of security legislation.

October

Legacy of the Peaceful Revolution

Beate Rudolf, the Institute's director, on the Day of Germany Unity: "The Peaceful Revolution of 1989 is one of the great moments of German history. We owe our admiration and gratitude to the courageous persons in the GDR who, at great risk, called for respect for human rights. Without them, there would have been no German reunification and thus no respect for human rights, democracy and rule of law for all human beings in Germany. The Day of German Unity reminds us that human rights cannot be taken for granted. They must be 'lived' and demanded daily. The Day of German Unity should inspire all of us to stand up for human rights in our daily lives and take to the streets in their defence."

November

A question of attitude

An 8 November, Mely Kiyak read from her work "*Haltung. Ein Essay gegen das Lautsein*" in the Institute's library. Kiyak criticised the reflex of commenting immediately on expressions of extreme right-wing views and thus generating greater media attention to them.

December

70 years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Beate Rudolf, on the occasion the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December: "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a success story. This universal standard has been invoked daily by human rights activists since 1948. In Germany, many people actively engage on behalf of human rights both in this country and around the world, in the political domain, in volunteer activities and in their daily work. And that is a great thing!"



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The Institute

Promoting and protecting human rights

The German Institute for Human Rights is Germany's independent national human rights institution (§ 1 of the Act regarding the Legal Status and Mandate of the German Institute for Human Rights (DIMRG)). It strives to ensure that Germany respects and promotes human rights domestically and abroad. The Institute also supports and monitors the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and has established Monitoring Mechanisms for these purposes.

Research & Advising

The Institute conducts interdisciplinary and application-oriented research on human rights issues and monitors the human rights situation in Germany. It advises political decision-makers at the federal and state (Länder) levels, as well as courts, the legal profession, the business sector, and civil society, on matters relating to the implementation of international human rights treaties. The Institute reports to the German Bundestag and prepares submissions to national and international courts as well as to international human rights bodies. It supports the efforts of stakeholders in the sphere of education to incorporate human rights in initial and continuing education and training programmes for human rights-sensitive occupations and to design human rights education for use in and outside of schools.

The Institute sees itself as a forum for exchange among government, civil society, researchers, professionals, and both national and international actors. It collaborates closely with the human rights bodies of the United Nations, the Council of Europe, and the European Union. The Institute is a member in the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), for which the Institute's director served as chair, 2016–2019, and is a member of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI).

Information and documentation

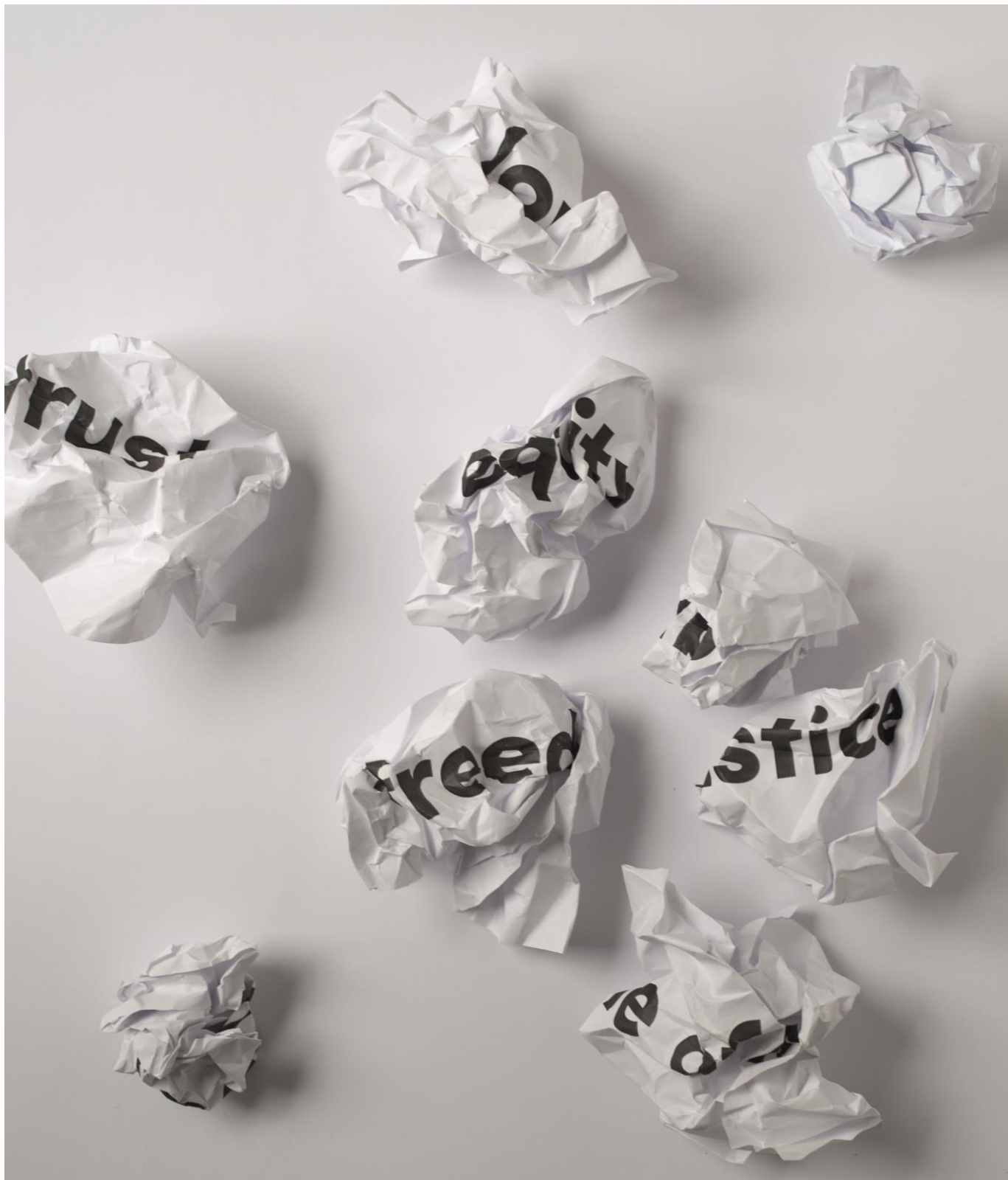
The Institute's public library makes research literature and periodicals relating to human rights available to the public. Its holdings include the largest collection of human rights educational materials in Germany. Through a multitude of Internet and social media offerings, the Institute provides information about human rights issues and documents the most important human rights treaties and reports about their implementation in Germany.

Politically independent

The Institute is a politically independent body committed solely to human rights. As a national human rights institution, its work is based on the Paris Principles of the United Nations. The Act on the Legal Status and Mandate of the German Institute for Human Rights (DIMRG) of 2015 governs the Institute's legal status, mandate, and funding. The Institute is structured as a non-profit association and obtains its funding from the German Bundestag. It also receives external source funding for individual projects. The General Meeting, made up of representatives of human rights organisations and human rights experts, makes recommendations concerning the principles of the work of the Institute; the Board of Trustees, whose members are drawn from civil society, academia, and the political arena, define the guidelines for its work.

National Human Rights Institutions

National human rights institutions have been established in circa 110 countries to promote and protect human rights. Their work is based on the Paris Principles. These principles, proclaimed by the United Nations in 1993, constitute the international standard for the role and the functioning of national human rights institutions. Institutional independence is a central principle. The German Institute for Human Rights is in full compliance with this standard and has therefore been accredited with "A" status. Only national human rights institutions that have been accorded this status have the right to speak before the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva.



**human rights
are more than words**

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Board of Directors

“The rule of law, democracy and human rights are inextricably connected”

Interview with Professor Beate Rudolf, Director of the Institute

You chaired the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) from March 2016 to March 2019. What insights from those experiences have you brought to your work here in Germany?

Human rights are universal. I saw that confirmed every day over my three years as chairperson. All over the world, people are demanding their human rights and, all over the world, our sister institutions are actively promoting the realisation of human rights. Such efforts inevitably meet with resistance when, as often happens, the potential of human rights for shaping a just and sustainable future for their country and the world, is denied or ignored by political decision-makers who are entirely caught up, as they tend to be, in the pursuit of short-term political advantages. That is why states need a strong independent institution whose sole commitment is to human rights, that can remind politicians of their human rights obligations and measure them by that standard. National human rights institutions have to speak uncomfortable truths – and politicians have put up with this and deal with it in a constructive manner. National human rights institutions must expose political lip service to human rights for what it is, they must counter indiscriminate invocations of human rights with a nuanced perspective, and when politicians make promises or raise expectations that undermine human rights – such as the promise of an "ethnically pure" population or the expectation of absolute safety from terrorist attacks – they must object.

How has your work as chair changed your priorities?

The approach of focusing primarily on the marginalised, the powerless and the oppressed, is the right one. It is important to stand up for all of those who do not have a strong voice in political or social life and whose human rights can easily be ignored in political decision-making as a result. I also found confirmation for my conviction that the rule of law, democracy and human rights are inextricably connected. Democracy needs human rights to keep it from degenerating into the tyranny of the majority. The rule of law needs human rights because human rights ensure fair processes and just decisions. And human rights need democracy and the rule of law because they are what make it possible to negotiate appropriate solutions in concrete situations or ensure independent judicial oversight.

What motivated you, personally, during your time as chairperson?

What impressed me most were my counterparts at sister institutions all over the world, and their active commitment to promoting human rights in their countries in the face of great resistance and personal risk. Their courage, their steadfastness and their faith in human rights as the foundation for freedom in their own countries and worldwide were a source of great motivation to me when I chaired the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions and will continue to be now that my term there has ended.

How will your chairpersonship of GANHRI affect the Institute's international engagement in the future?

My experiences as GANHRI's chairperson taught me how very important collective action by international organisations is for strengthening human rights around the world. Working with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, GANHRI was able to ensure that the UN Compact on Migration would be oriented towards human rights. I also saw first-hand that the states that have problematic human rights situations are the ones lining up to oppose greater participation by national human rights institutions and civil society human rights organisations at the UN level. So, the Institute will continue its efforts to strengthen the

participation rights of national human rights institutions and non-governmental organisations at the United Nations in Geneva and New York and will urge the Federal Government to work towards a systematic strengthening of national human rights institutions through its development cooperation and within Europe. We will also continue to play our part in ensuring that national human rights institutions bring their experiences in human rights work at the national level into the debates at the UN and European levels, with the aim of strengthening global protections of human rights. Analytical reports about the work of national human rights institutions on specific issues are an important tool in this area. In the past three years, the Institute has taken the lead in the preparation of several such reports.

In your work, you experienced the diversity of national human rights institutions at first hand. What insights has this given you?

As GANHRI's chairperson, I observed the activities of national human rights in highly developed democracies with great interest. What particularly impressed me in this context was the way that governments, parliaments, courts and the wider public digest and discuss opinions expressed by their national human rights institutions as though this were the most natural thing in the world, even when highly controversial political issues were involved. For instance, when the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission used its power to initiate court proceedings to challenge abortion law provisions that violated human rights. Or in connection with the French National Consultative Commission on Human Rights' resolute and tenacious documentation and criticism of the excessive encroachment on liberty and privacy of security legislation adopted after terrorist attacks. I greatly admire the ombuds institution in Croatia, which has spoken out very clearly against playing down the country's fascist past and severely criticised the Croatian Government, the State's Attorney's Office and the courts for failing to take action in this regard. The office of the Polish Commissioner for Human Rights used its power to appeal to the country's Constitutional Tribunal to condemn legislative changes that undermine the independence of the judiciary as being in violation of human rights and the rule of law.

I gazed with envy at the British Equality and Human Rights Commission, whose substantial research budget enables it to conduct large-scale empirical studies on the human rights situation in its own country regularly. Its powers to inspect records and the fact that public authorities are required to answer its questions are very useful to it in this context. The Australian Human Rights Commission was able to document the scandalous conditions in the refugee camps on the islands off the Australian coast, thanks to its power to visit places of detention where people are deprived of their liberty. The Canadian Human Rights Commission used its power to address complaints in individual cases to help improve the inadequate child and youth services for Indigenous persons. These examples make it clear that even constitutional democracies benefit from having a strong national human rights institution with specific powers.

During your chairpersonship, the promotion of civil society and the protection of human rights defenders was a major focus of GANHRI's work. The primary issue was the role that national human rights institutions can play in these areas. Why did you choose to focus on these topics?

An active civil society contributes to good decision-making on the part of states. This is because there are no simple solutions to the complex problems of our time – despite the many authoritarian parties and politicians who would like to convince us of the opposite. Moreover, human rights defenders, i.e. civil society working on human rights issues, are an important motor driving respect for human rights in their countries: they demand human rights, confront governments and authorities with human rights violations and hold them to account. Authoritarian and dictatorial governments do not want to be held to account. They want to rule without impediment, in order to stay in power. In their eyes, opposition is high treason. Thus, unfortunately, it is not surprising that human rights defenders are persecuted and civil society is restricted in ways that violate human rights in many countries. Moreover, this kind of behaviour is on the rise, because authoritarian and dictatorial regimes are learning from one another. In recent years, the United Nations, media and human rights organisations have reported increasing numbers of violent acts and other forms of repression directed against activists, and human rights defenders in particular.

National human rights institutions are working to increase the space available for civil society and to strengthen

protections of human rights defenders. In accordance with their mandate, they speak out when the state restricts the actions of civil society organisations and violates human rights in doing so. This is often done under the guise of pursuing legitimate aims – enforcing compliance with tax regulations, for instance, or the prevention of violent confrontations at a demonstration – but through excessive or even arbitrary measures. National human rights institutions have a duty to support human rights defenders and advance the cause that everyone should be able to demand the realisation of human rights without fear, persecution or violence. This can mean lobbying the state to establish effective protections for endangered human rights defenders, including through the criminal prosecution of perpetrators, even and especially when those perpetrators are public officials.

GANHRI has adopted an action plan to protect human rights defenders and civil society space. Is this also a topic for the Institute's work inside Germany?

Germany has a diverse civil society with a wide variety of active human rights organisations. Their importance for our policy is widely recognised and valued. Their activities – including fundraising, through donations or otherwise – are protected by fundamental and human rights, and independent courts are in place to guarantee this protection when conflicts arise in specific case. Nevertheless, constant vigilance is indicated, for the very reason that human rights defenders and their organisations are so important for safeguarding human rights in this country.

As a case in point, the recent calls for withdrawing non-profit status from an organisation because it has initiated legal actions which have resulted in politically unwelcome rulings by independent courts are cause for concern. Individual decisions on non-profit status taken by a fiscal authority or a court have the potential to undermine human rights work, even here in Germany. Finally, the violent attacks on persons who support refugees, and the hate speech, threats, incitement to violence and also violent acts directed against feminists, LGBTI activists, people who are working to combat racism and right-wing extremism and lawyers are threats to human rights defenders of concern here in Germany, i.e. threats to human beings who stand up for their own rights and the rights of others. The Institute takes these very seriously and intends to work on them in the future.

“Fundamental and human rights are being challenged in significant ways.”

Interview with Michael Windfuhr, Deputy Director

In 2018, the Institute began developing its strategy for the 2019–2023 period. What is the purpose of the strategy?

Developing the strategy helps us to clarify which thematic areas the Institute wants to be particular focuses of its activity and determine how best to deploy its resources. It also enables us to identify the organisations, institutions and networks that we want to work with and determine which partnerships we want to cultivate in our efforts to further a culture of human rights in Germany. The new strategy should clearly define how the Institute intends to make its contribution to the promotion and the protection of fundamental and human rights, as the key standard for policymaking, administrative actions and jurisprudence.

In past years, the Institute’s strategy has been centred around its functions – monitoring, promoting and protecting human rights. Now, the strategy is being shaped around “challenges”. What does this mean, exactly?

In our current strategic planning, we started from the conviction that setting thematic priorities is appropriate now. The consensus on the validity and application of fundamental and human rights has been shaken, called into question by right-wing populist voices at the national level and by newly autocratic or increasingly authoritarian states at the international level. Meanwhile, other developments are also raising human rights issues. These range from the enormous ecological and technological changes underway to the growing inequality in the distribution of assets and opportunities, both globally and nationally, which is contributing, inter alia, to a frustration with democracy and a loss of faith in both national and multilateral political institutions. We, as a national human rights institution, must respond to this more explicitly than we have in the past, using our mandate to conduct applied research as a means do so.

Through its 2019–2023 strategy, the Institute seeks to respond to three sets of central national and global challenges: (1) Social inequality, exclusion, conflicts: threats to social cohesion, (2) Climate change and other serious environmental changes as well as digitalisation and artificial intelligence and (3) Challenges to the concept of human rights and to constitutional guarantees in Germany.

These developments will certainly continue to occupy us well beyond the next five years. What trends do you see here, specifically?

All three sets of challenges represent longer-term trends. We are asking: How can we respond to them strategically on the basis of solid data and planning? What role are human rights playing as society grapples with these challenges, and what role should they be playing? With respect to social cohesion, we will be working on questions of how best to tackle social exclusion and forms of discrimination, issues like homelessness, the near complete lack of permeability in the education system for socially disadvantaged children, or the difficulty of finding employment on the regular labour market for persons with disabilities. The Institute will also be stepping up its work on the problem of gender-based violence, human trafficking and other forms of discrimination against women. The protection of human beings from increasing violence, abuse and threats by non-governmental actors will be another issue. A central issue in the area of business and human rights is that of bringing global supply chains in line with human rights.

How do you define human rights challenges? And which of them have to be tackled swiftly?

We chose to use the term “challenge” because it is open-ended and because it would not be correct to speak in terms of a crisis in all of these areas. Take digitalisation and artificial intelligence, for example. Developments in these technologies have the potential to change our society in far-reaching ways and to make enormous advances

possible. But their realisation may also give rise to new risks to human rights or exacerbate existing risks. So the Institute's job is to point out what a human rights approach to shaping the changes in technology would involve, and where one would have to consider human rights safeguards, such as privacy protection, but also where technological advances might result in new forms of discrimination or social exclusion, e.g. in the labour market.

Where can the Institute and its expertise be particularly effective?

The Institute has experience with the use of human rights-based approaches in a variety of policy fields, for instance, in connection with the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. A human rights approach always entails the consideration of certain questions specifically in relation policy field involved: What are the state's human rights obligations in this field? What should it not do, or stop doing? Where is there a need for action to implement and promote human rights? A human rights-based approach also clarifies private actors' responsibilities for implementation. Thus, the roles for the realisation of fundamental and human rights are clearly established.

Are interdisciplinary structures needed for this work?

The Institute plans to strengthen its social science research expertise in conjunction with the implementation of the new strategy, both because expertise of that nature is of great importance for monitoring the implementation of human rights requirements and standards and because that is the area with the greatest need for growth at present.

In which areas does it make sense to cooperate with other organisations or institutions?

The Institute cooperates closely with civil society organisations and research institutions in many fields. To implement the new strategy, we intend to make even more systematic use of existing forms of cooperation in our work on the challenges named above. We will seek out new partners or intensify strategic cooperation where that seems appropriate. We cannot permit any form of cooperation to endanger the Institute's independence, so roles and mandates will always have to be clearly defined.

What does the Institute feel it must pay particularly attention to?

The Institute will be keeping a close eye on political discussions and forums in which fundamental and human rights are actively challenged, denied or disputed, where the basic principles of humanity are called into question or where their relevance is simply ignored. The question is: how can we twist public debates free from the negation of the dignity of all human beings and its inviolability? What can and should be done to bring fundamental and human rights causes more to the fore and support them?

The Institute is going to have to speak out more about abuses in the future, because hostility and hate speech are on the rise, and not just on social media. This is an area in which many of our sister institutions in other countries have been active for many years and that has now taken on new relevance in Germany as well. The point here is that the state must protect persons who stand up for their own rights and the rights of other people from threats, intimidation or abuse – a key duty in the cause of an open and fearless society.

#standup4humanrights



THE TIME TO
TAKE A STAND
FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS
IS NOW

The Institute in the International Context

In line with the Paris Principles of the United Nations, the German Institute for Human Rights, Germany's national human rights institution (NHRI), collaborates with the human rights bodies of the United Nations, the Council of Europe, and the European Union. In particular, the Institute is active in the procedures for reviewing Germany's human rights record and in processes intended to strengthen human rights. In this latter capacity, the Institute is an active member of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and of the European NHRI alliance (ENNHRI). Thus, it serves as a bridge between the international and national levels, channelling its experiences with realising human rights in Germany into the efforts to improve the international system for the protection of human rights and contributing information on international developments to legal and policy debates taking place in Germany.

Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions

2018 was the third year of the term of Professor Beate Rudolf, Director of the Institute, as chairperson of GANHRI, the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions. In its substantive work in 2018, GANHRI focused on strengthening international human rights protections, and particularly on preserving and fortifying the space for civil society engagement and on the protection of human rights defenders. For there are many countries where people who stand up for their own rights or the rights of other human beings are being threatened, persecuted or killed. Their protection was also a theme of GANHRI's triennial international conference, which took place in Marrakesh (Morocco) in October of 2018. Following intense and very frank discussion among the more than 200 participants from NHRIs, civil society and international organisations, GANHRI members reaffirmed their commitment to protecting and supporting civil society and human rights defenders, including by continuously monitoring developments in law and practice, by establishing early warning systems and through their work with civil society and international human rights bodies. They also called upon the four regional networks of NHRIs (Africa, the Americas, Asia-Pacific and Europe) to ensure the regional implementation of this commitment.

The anniversaries in 2018 – 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the 25th anniversary of the Paris Principles and the 25th anniversary of the establishment of GANHRI itself – inspired year-long efforts by GANHRI and its members to make the case for treating human rights seriously as the standard to guide all state actions, at both the international and domestic level. High-level events in held Geneva and New York spotlighted the achievements of NHRIs around the world, but also acts of repression and intimidation directed against them: authoritarian governments and populist forces have been calling human rights into question, and the work and independence of NHRIs along with them; many NHRIs have suffered drastic funding cuts and threats against their leaders and staff. For the first time, GANHRI produced short videos explaining the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Paris Principles and the work of NHRIs in easily accessible language. Many NHRIs used these videos at events they held to mark the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Institute's substantive priority for its work chairing GANHRI continued to be on strengthening the influence of GANHRI and of NHRIs in general within the bodies and institutions of the United Nations. To this end, the Institute contributed substantially to GANHRI's reports to the UN Commission on the Status of Women and to the High-level Political Forum, which reviews implementation of the sustainable development goals, as well as to statements such as those on long-term care and palliative care and on autonomy and independence submitted to the UN Open-ended Working Group on Ageing. Another priority of the Institute's GANHRI chairmanship was following and supporting the negotiations for the UN Global Compact on Migration (see section headed "Migration governance in conformity with human rights – the UN Global Compact on Migration").

GANHRI's annual conference in Geneva took the form of a joint session with the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2018, marking the first time GANHRI cooperated with a UN treaty body in this format. The intensive exchange of experiences relating to the right to live independently and to NHRIs' monitoring activities culminated in the decision to put the collaboration on a permanent footing through the creation of a joint working group. At the UN Human Rights Council, GANHRI expressed views on many topics, including business and human rights, the rights of internally displaced persons and migrants and the implementation of the sustainable development goals (2030 Agenda).

The GANHRI chairperson was extensively involved in the negotiations concerning the 2018 version of the UN Human Rights Council's biennial resolution on national human rights institutions. The resolution was adopted by consensus, thanks to these efforts and those of Australia, which traditionally sponsors this resolution, as well as the support of many NHRIs. The resolution stresses the necessity for states to implement the Paris Principles and states' obligation to combat and prevent acts of repression against NHRIs. It also acknowledges the role of NHRIs in implementing the sustainable development goals, and thus contributing to their human rights-based implementation.

The accreditation procedure carried out by GANHRI under the auspices of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights is vitally important for the legitimacy of the work of NHRIs at the national and international level. The GANHRI chairperson was able to strengthen the procedure's adherence to the forms of law and to strengthen participation of civil society in it. A guide published by GANHRI details the individual steps in the accreditation procedure.

Primarily thanks to the efforts of the Institute's deputy director, Michael Windfuhr, and those of the staff of the GANHRI office in Geneva, a more secure financial basis for GANHRI was established. Norway stepped forward as the first donor to fund the tripartite partnership of GANHRI, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Development Programme. The aim of this project is to support the efforts of NHRIs, individually and through their networks, in implementing the 2030 Agenda and sustaining peace as well as their cooperation with international human rights bodies. In addition, the groundwork was laid for the continuation of the EU-funded project to support GANHRI and the four regional networks.

European Network of National Human Rights Institutions

The Institute continued to play an active role within the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI). As a member of ENNHRI's Board, the Institute's director contributed to the close linkage of the work of ENNHRI and GANHRI. In 2018, ENNHRI's annual conference was on NHRIs as human rights defenders and resulted in the creation of a first action plan for regional implementation of GANHRI's Marrakesh Declaration. Members of the Institute's staff continued to serve in ENNHRI working groups on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; on economic, social and cultural rights; on asylum and migration and in the legal working group. In the legal working group, the Institute supported the preparation of a statement on the future of the European human rights protection system. This submission emphasises the primary responsibility of states to comply with the European Convention on Human Rights and speaks out against efforts to weaken the European Court of Human Rights in its role as an independent body that watches over the European Convention on Human Rights and as a guarantor of individual rights.

The recognition enjoyed by the Institute among its sister institutions found expression in the vote by ENNHRI members to have the Institute represent them in the GANHRI working groups on business and human rights and on the rights of older persons.

Periodic reviews of Germany by UN treaty bodies

Germany was the subject of three periodic review procedures in 2018. One such was the consideration by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of Germany's 6th Periodic Report. The Institute's participation in the procedure took the form of one written and one oral submission. The Committee picked up on several of the points raised by the Institute in its Concluding Observations.

The Institute also took part in the review procedure for the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights by submitting a set of questions for the Human Rights Committee to consider including in the list of questions it would be addressing to the Federal Government; the questions proposed by the Institute addressed business-related human rights abuses, protections against abuse in long-term care facilities, administrative control measures taken against and preventative detention of persons deemed a potential threat to national security (*Gefährders*), the rules for family reunification and discrimination in the housing market. The Committee incorporated many of the issues raised by the Institute in the list of issues it requested that Germany should address in the report to be submitted in 2019.

The combined second and third periodic reporting procedure on Germany's implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities began in September. In this case, too, the Institute proposed a set of issues for the treaty body to consider covering in the list of issues it sent to the Federal Government. The Institute's National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism was responsible for the written submission and oral response to questions from members of the Committee. Among the issues addressed in its submission were discrimination, accessibility, access to justice, protection against violence, mobility, education and access to the employment market.

German members in the UN treaty bodies

The Institute continued to provide research support to Dr Rainer Huhle in his capacity as a member of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances and to Deputy Director Michael Windfuhr in his capacity as a member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. This support is funded by the Federal Foreign Office.

Universal Periodic Review

Having submitted its report to the United Nations on the situation of human rights in Germany in 2017, the Institute attended the UPR session at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva in May of 2018 as an observer, and informed the Bundestag, the media and the public about the potentials of the review process and about the recommendations issued by the UN Human Rights Council to Germany. At the conclusion of the third review cycle, the Institute commented on the Federal Government's response to the recommendations at the September session of the UN Human Rights Council, giving its opinion as to which recommendations should receive the higher priority. The Institute reported extensively about the review process in its 2018 human rights report to the German Bundestag.

Monitoring reports to the European Agency for Fundamental Rights

In 2018, after an EU-wide tender process, the Institute was once again awarded the job of reporting on the situation of fundamental rights in Germany as part of the research network of the EU Agency on Fundamental Rights (FRA). The Institute has been fulfilling this function for more than ten years, supplying the section on Germany for inclusion in the FRA's annual Fundamental Rights Report to the European Parliament and with reports on numerous human rights issues.

For one qualitative interview study, the Institute conducted 35 interviews using social science methodology and seven focus group discussions with experts involved in processes aimed at integrating young refugees in Berlin, Bremen and Lower Saxony. It also interviewed 30 young refugees. The study examined integration prospects with regard to education, access to the employment market and housing, as well as the topic of family reunification. The stories told by experts and young refugees alike clearly illustrate the impact that the situation in 2015/16 when they first arrived in Germany, which was perceived as chaotic and unstructured, had on the integration prospects of adolescents and young adults. Both groups noted that young refugees, even those who have been in Germany for two or more years, could benefit from opportunities for development and that programmes offering assistance and information would be both welcome and advisable, particularly when they age out of the child and youth services support offerings and first enter adulthood. The Institute also contributed to the FRA's fundamental rights survey, by conducting an interview study on the topics of security, equal rights and discrimination with focus groups drawn from the general population. Other reports covered issues like business and human rights, criminal detention conditions and the human rights situation of asylum-seekers in Germany.



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70 ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DECLARATION OF
HUMAN RIGHTS

 **UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS**
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

Research & Advising: Topics

Combatting Gender-based Violence

Gender based violence affects mainly women and children and is widespread. In 2014, 35 percent of the women surveyed in an EU Agency for Fundamental Rights study reported having experienced sexual or physical violence at least once in Germany since the age of 15. Three out of five reported sexual harassment. Under the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), which came into force on 1 February 2018, Germany has an obligation to take extensive measures to prevent – including through preventive intervention – and protect against gender-based violence as well as to impose legal sanctions on its perpetrators. The Institute is monitoring and supporting this process.

Violence against women is a particular form of human rights abuse in that it both expresses and reinforces gender-based discrimination. Despite numerous measures taken at the federal and Länder level, gender-based violence and harassment continues to be part of the lived reality of many women, a "normalised scandal".

The Istanbul Convention, which came into force in Germany on 1 February 2018, aims at changing this. It gives rise to extensive obligations on Germany's part to prevent and protect against this form of violence, to protect and support its victims, and to prosecute its perpetrators effectively. A good legislative environment, specialised assistance services and a strong civil society provide a solid foundation for the development of stronger protections against violence and for safeguarding the human rights of all women who are victims of violence in Germany. The federal and some Länder governments have started parliamentary discussions in this regard or launched projects or commissioned initial assessments or analyses aimed at creating a sound empirical basis for the development of assistance services in line with the Istanbul Convention.

In early 2018, the Institute prepared an extensive analysis of the content and scope of the Istanbul Convention and the obligations associated with it, thus making a key contribution to informing the stakeholders that will be involved in its implementation. For instance, numerous events aimed at administrative and political domains, specialised advice services and networking centres at the federal and Länder level raised awareness of the further implementation process in these fields. In addition, the Institute contributed its expertise to parliamentary hearings in two Länder, North Rhine-Westphalia and Lower Saxony on improving implementation of the Istanbul Convention at the Länder level.

On 1 February 2019, to mark the first anniversary of the Istanbul Convention's entry into force, the Institute, together with the German Women Lawyers Association (*Deutscher Juristinnenbund*), Berlin's Humboldt Universität and the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) co-hosted a symposium at which the first achievements of and potentials for improvement in the Istanbul Convention's implementation were discussed with representatives of front-line services (networking centres, advising services), the political domain (CDU, SPD, GREENS), ministries (BMFSFJ, Federal Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs [BMAS], the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection [BMJV]), research/academia and civil society.

The Istanbul Convention emphasises that states have an obligation to establish a comprehensive framework for combatting violence against women. Specifically, they must design a comprehensive policy strategy, coordinate state measures to combat violence and set up an independent mechanism to monitor progress towards implementation of the Convention. These requirements are intended to enhance the effectiveness of measures to combat violence by helping to ensure that states take a coordinated approach rather than simply string together a series of individual measures, and by ensuring that the results and effectiveness of measures are regularly assessed.

In a state with a federal system of government, this creates a responsibility on the part of both the federal and the Länder governments to ensure that all women – regardless of whether they live in a long-term care facility, are homeless, have a disability or do not have legal residence status in Germany – receive the same level of protection

against violence. It means that professional support must be provided to children who are exposed to violence directed against their mother, regardless of which federal state they live in.

In the coming years, the Institute will continue to monitor the elements that make up the framework for continued implementation of the Convention at the federal and Länder level — i.e. legislation, coalition agreements, action programmes, etc. Measures laid down in these contexts will form the basis for the effective protection of women from violence.

The international monitoring procedure for the Istanbul Convention will begin in 2020: GREVIO, an independent expert body of the Council of Europe, will evaluate the situation in Germany and develop recommendations for an improved implementation of the Convention. In parallel with the reports submitted by Federal Government and civil society organisations, the Institute will submit its own assessment of the status of implementation of the Convention, and it will monitor and support the implementation of GREVIO's recommendations.

At the same time, the Institute will work on individual aspects of Convention implementation that it views as particularly challenging, i.e. problems that are brought to its attention in the context of its work with civil society, state administration or the political domain, or which come to light in the context of research. For instance, the Institute will be working on the question of how the needs of women affected by violence can be taken into consideration in proceedings relating to child custody and visiting rights.

In addition, in February of 2019, the Institute and the Federal Association of Rape Crisis Centres and Women's Counselling Centres (bff) began a joint project, with third-party funding, on acute care after sexual violence in connection with Article 25 of the Istanbul Convention. The aim of this project is to develop concrete proposals for improving post-sexual assault medical care for all women across Germany and improving, again Germany-wide, the possibilities for securing evidence of an assault while respecting anonymity of victims. To this end, it will draw on the knowledge of specialised advising services, Länder governments, statutory health insurance providers and hospitals, outpatient clinics specialising in injury assessment and documentation for victims of violence as well as gynaecologists and medical forensics experts.

Heike Rabe; Britta Leisering: Die Istanbul-Konvention. Neue Impulse für die Bekämpfung von geschlechtsspezifischer Gewalt. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018

Fact sheet: Was ist die Istanbul-Konvention? Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018

Stellungnahme zur Anhörung des Ausschusses für Gleichstellung und Frauen am 6. September 2018 über den Antrag der Fraktion der SPD und der Fraktion Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Drs. 17/2546 Neudruck „Istanbul-Konvention konsequent umsetzen – Mädchen und Frauen vor Gewalt schützen“, Landtag Nordrhein-Westfalen. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte

Stellungnahme zur öffentlichen Anhörung des Ausschusses für Soziales, Gesundheit und Gleichstellung am 16. August 2018 über den Antrag Fraktion Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Drs. 18/829 „Von Gewalt betroffene Frauen nicht vor verschlossener Tür stehen lassen – Frauenhäuser stärken, Rechtsanspruch schaffen“, Landtag Niedersachsen. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte

Heike Rabe: Die Istanbul-Konvention – innerstaatliche Anwendung unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Entscheidung des OLG Hamburg vom 8.3.2018. In: STREIT 4/2019, pp. 147–152

COMPASS – Human Rights Education for Young People

“Compass stands for a liberal-minded Europe that upholds the human rights of all”

Interview with Dr Sandra Reitz, Head of Department, Human Rights Education

Human rights education builds the foundation of a polity governed by the rule of law. Because only those who are aware of human rights can identify wrongs and, for instance, take action against discrimination. COMPASS, published by the Council of Europe in 2002, is one of the most successful resources for human rights education in Europe. The COMPASS manual, which is over 650 pages long, instils an understanding of human rights in adolescents and young adults, raises their awareness of issues of inclusion and diversity and shows them how they can stand up for human rights. The Institute has prepared a new translation of the current English-language edition of COMPASS, completely revised and adapted for the German-speaking region.

Why did the Institute produce a newly translated, revised edition of COMPASS?

The last German-language edition came out in 2005. It has been out of stock for some time, and some of it is out of date – but it continues to be in high demand. For this reason, we decided to have the 2012 English-language edition, which was slightly revised in 2015, translated into German. This seemed like a good opportunity to revise it as well: we wanted the new *COMPASS* to be better adapted to the German-speaking region, and to reflect current social and political developments and the human rights protection system as it currently stands. In view of recent developments in Europe, we felt it important that the new *COMPASS* should stand for a liberal-minded Europe that upholds the human rights of all human beings, as well as democracy and the rule of law.

To what extent can COMPASS contribute to that?

Adolescents and young adults working with COMPASS explore issues of justice, equality and difference. They learn about ways to resolve conflicts, both interpersonal and social conflicts, while respecting the freedom of everyone involved as far as possible. This means, for instance, that COMPASS teaches them that the right to sexual self-determination is a right that everyone – irrespective of sexual or gender orientation – has on an equal basis with others. COMPASS is also designed to teach young people that the right to freedom of religion applies to all human beings, whether they belong to a Christian, Muslim, Jewish faith or to some other faith or world view.

Empowering young people to stand up for their own human rights and those of other people in the here-and-now enables them to make crucial contributions to shaping the future through their actions today and to do so later as adults as well. Human rights education also involves learning that human rights can be demanded: those who know their rights can identify wrongs and take action against discrimination.

Who is COMPASS intended for?

COMPASS is well-suited for use in education both in and outside of schools; it can be used in classes on politics or in a project week, for instance, but also in youth centres or clubs or holiday programmes. This versatility is important because the human right to education also entails that educational materials should be accessible to as many different groups as possible. COMPASS has a strong focus on practical experiences and provides a number of concrete suggestions for possible actions. This means that young people get a sense of human rights as rights that they can demand and realise in their own communities and in their daily lives. COMPASS also attaches great importance to empowerment – strategies and measures that strengthen skills and independence. For instance, the manual, in the spirit of "nothing about us without us", advocates inviting self-organisations and experts when

classes work on topics like persons with disabilities for instance, or migration.

What is new in the new German-language edition, *COMPASS*?

There are changes relating to the new developments in the system of human rights protection, for example, and new substantive focuses in the section on methods. For instance, the new *COMPASS* contains new exercises designed to convey what kind of human rights protection asylum-seekers and refugees are entitled and to raise young people's awareness of the situations of refugees. The new *COMPASS* reflects the current discourse in human rights education – e.g., the 2011 UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training – and provides background information specifically about the human rights situations in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The actual revising was done in close consultation with the Council of Europe.

What steps the Institute taken to disseminate *COMPASS*?

We hosted a pilot workshop in December of 2018, at which we tested out the methods section, which had already been revised. The four-day workshop for practitioners in the area of education in and outside of schools who could have a multiplier affect also provided an opportunity for exchange on the choice of methods and target groups. The pilot version of the new *COMPASS* was also presented in December at a press conference at the Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb).

When will the new *COMPASS* be released?

The completely revised edition of *COMPASS* is scheduled for release in the summer of 2019; it will then be available from the Federal Agency for Civic Education for a contribution towards expenses. The accessible PDF version of the manual will be available to download from the Institute's website under www.kompass-menschenrechte.de at no cost. There are also plans to launch an online edition of the new *KOMPASS* at some point in the future.

What is *COMPASS*?

COMPASS is a human rights education manual for use both in and outside of schools that is aimed at anyone involved on a professional or volunteer basis in youth work, education or human rights education. *COMPASS* provides an introduction to the history of human rights, explains the workings of the international and national systems to protect human rights and offers educators practice-oriented, methodological and pedagogical support. The heart of the manual consists of around 60 exercises designed to familiarise young people with human rights issues and inspire them to put what they have learned into practice. *COMPASS* was developed by the Council of Europe, which published its first edition in 2002. The manual is now available in more than 30 languages.

Migration Governance in Conformity with Human Rights – The UN Global Compact on Migration

“The whole point of multilateral cooperation is to master common challenges that one is unable to master on one’s own.”

Interview with Andrea Kämpf, Senior Policy Advisor, International Human Rights Policies

The World Migration Report 2018 of the International Organization for Migration estimates the number of migrants around the world at 244 million. In December of 2018, more than 180 states adopted the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Global Compact for Migration). This represents the first-ever global agreement addressing all dimensions of migration, formulating minimum standards and suggesting procedures to use. In conjunction with the CGM, the Global Compact on Refugees was also adopted. It is designed to improve refugee protections and better support countries that take in large numbers of refugees.

Why is the Global Compact on Migration important?

Human beings move from place to place, seeking shelter from dangers, poverty or natural disasters, seeking paid employment or training, or simply a life with dignity for themselves and their families. By entering into the Global Pact for Migration, the vast majority of the world’s states have committed to a common set of aims for migration governance, and in doing so have recognised migration as a global reality. The Global Compact for Migration has many objectives, ranging from combatting the causes that compel people to leave their country of origins, to combatting the smuggling of migrants and human trafficking, to facilitating pathways for regular migration associated with labour market demands. The Global Compact for Migration is also significant in that it shows that states have recognised that the only way to manage transnational migration processes is through a cooperative, multilateral approach. The Compact offers states a minimum of common guidance on dealing with cross-border issues. In doing so, it promotes the necessary cooperation; by signing the Compact, states entered into a political commitment to cooperate with one another.

How can it benefit migrants?

The Compact emphasises the human rights of all migrants and calls on all countries to guarantee their protection. When designing and managing migration processes, states must respect existing obligations relating to human rights and refugee rights and strive to minimise impacts on the human rights of individual persons. Migrants can also invoke this aspect of the Compact, for instance, in regard to a state’s regulation of migration.

Why is the Global Compact for Migration a topic in the Institute’s work?

Our aim was to ensure that the Global Compact was in accord with human rights. We coordinated a working group on the subject with sister institutions from all four regions of the world since 2017 and, with our colleagues from the Philippines, Morocco, Kenya and Mexico, submitted statements on behalf of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) to the consultations and negotiations for the Global Compact at the international level. Another aim was to show that the national human rights institutions are important partners for the implementation of the Global Compact: For example, they are using their influence to get private operators of airport detention facilities to allow lawyers free access to detainees. They are informing migrants who give birth to children about how they can obtain identity documents for them. They are cooperating across borders to help migrants suffering from human rights abuses. And they are advising governments, parliaments and regional

organisations, like the EU and the Council of Europe, on legislative initiatives and administrative reforms. The Institute's engagement in this area was closely tied up with its chairpersonship of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, which ended in the spring of 2019.

How can non-state actors have any influence on negotiations of this kind?

The international process for drafting the Global Compact for Migration was public and clearly structured, and it was always possible for non-state actors to participate: there were hearings during the initial consultation phase, and written submissions could be made in the second phase. In Germany, civil society was quite active in pursuing dialogue with state institutions, particularly VENRO (*Verband entwicklungspolitischer Nichtregierungsorganisationen*), the umbrella organisation of development and humanitarian aid NGOs in Germany. The Institute itself provided information about the Global Compact and organised "debriefings", at which representatives of the Federal Government reported on the process.

Did your efforts pay off?

Our aims were to ensure that the Compact took a form that accorded with human rights, to increase the visibility of the work of NHRIs on migration issues and to prepare for the human rights conform implementation of the Compact. With respect to the human rights orientation of the Compact: we would have liked to see a more extensive integration of the standards guaranteed by human rights. On the other hand, the Compact does make it clear that states must comply with their human rights obligations in the context of implementation. It also acknowledges the value of the contributions and the special role of National Human Rights Institutions more than once. Monitoring and supporting implementation of the Global Compact for Migration at the national and international level from a human rights perspective will be one of the responsibilities of every national human rights institution.

What are the next steps to be taken in Germany?

Now it is time to work on implementation. First, the Federal Government should conduct an analysis to determine how the aims of the Global Compact and its human rights obligations line up against the laws and the situation here in this country, then it should publish its results and discuss them with the Bundestag and civil society, including organisations run by and for migrants. This also involves thinking about how Germany can promote the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration in the EU and in its partner countries. Then a national action plan can be developed on that basis. The main question that will have to be answered is how Germany wants to structure migration – because those who just want to combat migration end up driving people into dangerous pathways, into the hands of human traffickers and into "illegality" under residence laws, where they are extremely vulnerable to violence and severe forms of exploitation.

The Global Compact on Migration is not legally binding. So why should the Government implement it?

The Compact is not legally binding, that's correct. But the whole point of multilateral cooperation is to master common challenges that one cannot master on one's own. To do that, you have to agree on common rules and then stick to them. Voluntary political commitments are an important instrument in this area. They create a basis for trust and mutual expectations. This is the only way to structure partnerships that are based on equality, and Germany urgently needs such partnerships in connection with its policy on returns.

And what are the Institute's plans?

We will incorporate the Global Compact objectives into our policy advising on planned legislation that relates to migration. In addition, we will continue to work on the topics of refugee returns and avoiding complicity in human rights violations. Within our alliance with the other national human rights institutions, we are planning to develop a monitoring tool that can be used to measure progress towards implementation of the Compact at the national and regional level.

Right to Mobility

“The 2022 target for accessible public transport is concrete and binding”

Interview with Dr Valentin Aichele, Head of the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism

Barriers play a large role in the daily lives of many persons with disabilities in Germany. Yet independent mobility is both a human right and a key criterion for participation in one's community and one's social and occupational development. The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) imposes an obligation on states to create conditions securing the right of persons with disabilities to independent mobility on an equal basis with others. The Institute's National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism actively promotes the realisation of this right at all levels of political action on the part of the Federal Government and the Bundestag.

How do you understand the term “self-determined mobility”?

Mobility means being able to move one place to another. Persons with disabilities, like all human beings, have a right to decide for themselves how and when they move from one place to another. In practise, external structures and individual abilities interact: mobility can mean only going places on foot, using mobility aids such as a long cane, a wheelchair, a wheeled walker, e-scooter or a guide dog, traveling by a private vehicle like a car or bicycle, or using the local, regional or long-distance public transport, taxi services or community transport (paratransit) services, or some combination of these to get to one's destination safely.

And what is happening in practice?

In the course of their daily lives, persons with disabilities have to struggle with numerous barriers that make mobility more difficult or simply impossible. These barriers might take the form of parked cars blocking sidewalks, the absence of guidance systems or assistance, non-accessible means of transport, such as taxis not appropriate to their needs, elevators that are out of service or inadequate, or inadequately accessible information. Ultimately, it is the interaction of multiple individual, situational, legal, social and infrastructural factors that determines whether people are able to get to where they want to go. The federal, Länder and local governments, as well as public and private transport operators and their associations, have to work on the structural factors.

What are the legal foundations for independent mobility?

The right to freedom of movement forms the basis. Within Germany, there are also a number of primary and secondary legislative provisions that secure or elaborate this fundamental right. The CRPD contains more detailed provisions in article 3(a) (independence/autonomy), article 9 (accessibility) and article 20 (personal mobility). The CRPD requires the state to create conditions securing the right of persons with disabilities to independent mobility on an equal basis with others. For instance, the state must take measures to enable personal mobility in individual cases, e.g. by providing assistants or ramps. The CRPD also requires that persons with disabilities be involved in the process of designing barrier-free mobility. A provision in the 2013 Carriage of Passengers Act (PBefG) forms the core of the national law on public transport with regard to this issue. It requires the services of all public transport service providers to be “completely barrier free” by 1 January 2022.

Is that a realistic aim, public transport that is completely barrier free by 2022?

Despite the progress made at the Länder level, there is some question as to whether it will in fact be possible to achieve complete accessibility by 1 January 2022. The Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure expressed some reservations about meeting the stipulated deadline in its report to the German Bundestag as early as in 2017. But the target is specific and binding and, taking a general view, there is no discernible reason why it could not be met.

What must the federal government do to ensure accessible public transport?

The first thing the Bundestag should do is define the phrase “completely free of barriers” in the Carriage of Passengers Act in line with the CRPD, which is considered federal law. The CRPD establishes a broad concept of accessibility. Frequently, “completely” accessible is reduced to “wheelchair” accessible. But there are many different forms of impairment, and there are people with more than one impairment. Moreover, an understanding of accessible to relate only to access in and out of a means of transport would be far too narrow. Accessibility, as used in the CRPD, always refers to both the means of transport themselves and to the entire routes, i.e. to the infrastructure as well as the vehicles. Swift action should be taken to support the implementation of public transport that is free of barriers by developing funding programmes for Länder and institutions and organisations concerned with mobility services.

Are some Länder already doing a good job of implementing accessibility in their public transport legislation?

At the regulatory level, the public transport legislation recently adopted in Berlin is a big improvement over the regulations in the other Länder. Berlin is the only federal state, for instance, that has provided for reasonable accommodation in its legislation, i.e. measures to support a specific individual when that person travels. That might involve the provision of accessible alternatives when something is not working, like taking over the expenses when someone is unable to continue a trip, e.g. when an elevator is out of service.

And what recommendations would you make to the Länder and all other local public transport stakeholders?

The Länder set the guidelines for local public transport planning through their public transport legislation. They should work on reforming this legislation to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities are fully taken into account. If there are going to be exceptions that detract from the extent to which the target laid down in the federal legislation is met, in light of the CRPD, these would have to be made within very narrow bounds and should always be well justified. Thus, those responsible for planning public transport should conduct a systematic review of their systems’ accessibility and develop public transport completely free of barriers to accessibility by 2022.

Meike Nieß; Valentin Aichele: Selbstbestimmt unterwegs in Berlin? Mobilität von Menschen mit Behinderungen aus menschenrechtlicher Perspektive. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018

Factsheet: Selbstbestimmt unterwegs in Berlin. Bericht zur Mobilität von Menschen mit Behinderungen aus menschenrechtlicher Perspektive. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018

Wer Inklusion will, sucht Wege. Zehn Jahre UN-Behindertenrechtskonvention in Deutschland. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2019

Children's Rights Indicators

“Children's rights indicators can substantially improve the implementation of children's rights”

Interview with Claudia Kittel, Head of the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism

To date, it has been practically impossible to arrive at conclusions about implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in Germany that are based on sound statistics. A systematic collection of data would require indicators, which we do not have. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has called on Germany to develop children's rights indicators specifically for this country. The Institute's National CRC Monitoring Mechanism is steering a process to develop pilot indicators.

Why are children's rights indicators so important?

Children's rights indicators – especially if the data and information they are based on are collected regularly – will help make it possible to measure progress towards, or setbacks in CRC implementation in Germany, to depict trends, map out the impact of policy measures and to optimise political decisions. Thus, children's rights indicators can help substantially improve the implementation of children's rights in Germany.

What are children's rights indicators, exactly?

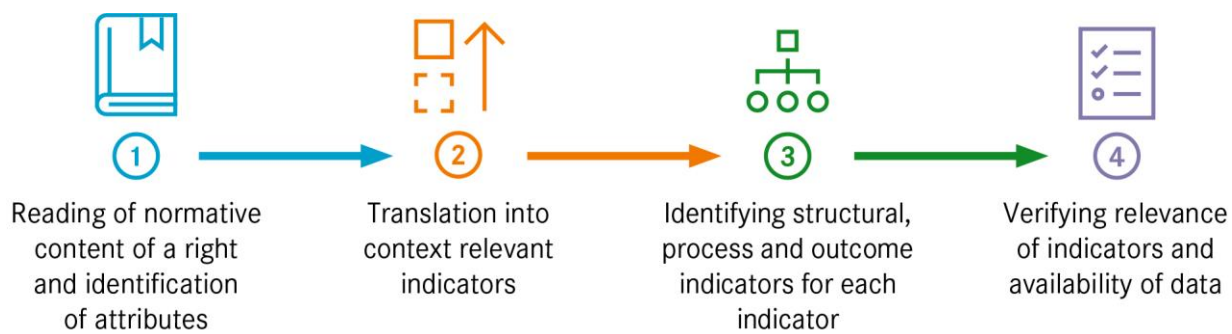
Children's rights indicators are sets of information that can be used to analyse and evaluate progress towards the realisation of children's rights. For every children's right, there should be indicators that measure whether suitable structures have been put in place through legislation, for example, or whether there are projects designed to realise the right, and whether it is in fact realised in the lived environments of children. For this to work, the indicators have to be based specifically on standards associated with the individual rights of the CRC.

How are you going about developing these indicators?

Developing and establishing children's rights indicators requires extensive expertise and should take place in a participative, multi-stakeholder process. We have taken up this task in a pilot project within which we engage in close consultation with the Federal Government, represented by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ), civil society and particularly with the German Youth Institute (DJI). In the process of developing the pilot indicators, we are following the four steps recommended by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which are depicted in the chart on page 32.

What role can the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism play in a long-term multi-stakeholder process?

Thanks to the Institute's independence, which is anchored in statute, the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism can take on the role of steering the process and act as an intermediary between civil society, research and state. The long-term aim is for the state to collect children's rights-based data and information regularly and thus generate a knowledge base that can be used to manage the realisation of children's rights.



Developing appropriate human rights-based indicators (Source: UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights)

Where in the process are you and your cooperation partners at this time?

We are currently developing the first pilot children's rights indicators for the child's right to be heard in (family) court proceedings. The rights contained in three articles of the CRC were selected as the rights on which this project would focus at a workshop with representatives of the children's rights organisations and BMFSFJ in April of 2018. Now, we are testing out a process for developing indicators for these rights: the right of the child to be heard in court proceedings (art.12, para. 6), the right to social security (art. 26) and the right to protection from violence, mistreatment and abuse (art. 19). The second step was to identify attributes of each of those three articles. For instance, one attribute of the right to be heard in court proceedings is the child-friendly hearing setting.

What are pilot children's rights indicators?

We hope to use the pilot indicators to give people an appreciation the many different ways in which indicators can be useful. At the same time, we want to figure out what processes to draw up indicators might look like. We are entering into uncharted territory with this research, in a way. Like normal indicators, pilot indicators clearly identify how progress towards realising individual children's rights can be analysed and evaluated. They have to be easy to understand and simple to use. Moreover, as far as possible, they should only relate to data that can be collected without unreasonable effort or data that are already available.

What are the next steps?

The next step will be selecting structural, process and outcome indicators for the attributes of the right to be heard in (family) court proceedings. We will be holding additional expert workshops for this. Before we talk about information values that might be of relevance, we need to put our approaches through a practical check-up.

When can we expect the indicators to be ready and how will they be established?

The course of the process thus far has shown us that proposed timelines are not at all reliable. Our priority is on ensuring that the quality standards of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights are met, rather than that having the indicators ready by a certain date. Indicators can be used in a variety of ways. We expect that one of the first things our pilot indicators will do is point to existing gaps in the data. The establishment of indicators for all of the children's rights guaranteed in the CRC is still a long way away.

Die Umsetzung der UN-Kinderrechtskonvention messbar machen. Anforderungen der Vereinten Nationen an Kinderrechte-Indikatoren. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018

Gerbig, Stephan; Kittel, Claudia: Kinderrechte-Verwirklichung messbar machen. Prozessbeschreibung der Entwicklung von Kinderrechte-Indikatoren für den deutschen Kontext. In: Zeitschrift für Menschenrechte 2019 (1), pp. 118–130

Research & Advising: Departments

Human Rights Policy Germany/Europe

Human rights situation in Germany

Reporting on the human rights situation in their countries is an important responsibility of national human rights institutions. The Institute submits a report about developments in the human rights situation in Germany to the German Bundestag each year, in accordance with the Act regarding the Legal Status and Mandate of the German Institute for Human Rights. The Institute also fulfils its monitoring function through its reporting to the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA).

Report to the German Bundestag on the development of the human rights situation

In December of 2018, the Institute submitted its human rights report to the Bundestag, as required by statute. Human Rights Policies of Germany/Europe is the department responsible for coordinating preparation of the report. The 2018 report covered the period from July 2017 to June 2018. From the wide range of human rights issues of relevance for Germany, many of which are addressed in the recommendations issued to Germany by the human rights bodies of the United Nations and the Council of Europe, the report picks out three as its focuses: severe labour exploitation, the use of coercion in mental health services and arms exports. It also provides information about recent developments relating to the topics discussed in the previous report and about the recommendations issued to Germany by international and European human rights bodies. The human rights report was presented in December of 2018 at a press conference and discussed in the plenary session of the Bundestag in February of 2019.

Monitoring reports to FRA

The Institute has also served as the German research partner of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) for over ten years now, and each year it prepares reports on the human rights situation in Germany in that capacity as well (see the section headed “The Institute in the International Context”).

Refugees and asylum

The numbers of refugees newly arriving in Germany fell again in 2018. However, German and European asylum and immigration policy continued to be characterised by pointed political debate and a high incidence of legislative and policy measures. Fundamental human rights questions relating to the protection of life and access to asylum proceedings in Europe have been raised in this context. In addition to these issues, the Institute worked on issues relating to the human rights situation of refugees already living in German, such as those in “AnkER” centres [AnKER: *Ankunft, Entscheidung, Rückkehr* – “reception, decision-making, return”], or in the context of family reunification.

In the first half of 2018, the Institute continued to work on the issue of family reunification for beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. It was invited to participate as an expert at a public hearing of the Main Committee of the Bundestag and published general information, position statements and papers aimed at specialists on the topic.

In view of the intent announced in the coalition agreement to create large centres where asylum seekers would stay until their asylum applications were accepted or until arrangements could be made to return them to the countries they came from (AnkER centres), the Institute organised a closed-door expert discussion with representatives of ministries and civil society to discuss experiences and problems relating to issues like accommodation conditions, violence protection, access to schools or access to healthcare and counselling from comparable large facilities already operating in Germany.

The dynamics in European asylum policy made it necessary to act swiftly to address issues as they arose. The Institute stepped forward promptly to express its views on the rejection of asylum-seekers on the basis of bilateral agreements between EU member states, on protection of refugees and sea rescue operations in the Mediterranean and on the EU plans for “disembarkation platforms” in African countries.

The duty to protect and internal security

How can the state fulfil its human rights protection obligations in the context of the fight against criminality and terrorism without violating its duty to respect civil liberties and protect against discrimination? Effective independent oversight over police forces and intelligence services must be in place in order for all members of society to feel confident that government authorities will act lawfully and with propriety. It is also a hallmark of a strong and self-confident constitutional democracy. The Institute has been monitoring and supporting developments and discussion processes at the federal and Länder level in this context.

The results of the Institute’s research on independent police complaint mechanisms in Europe were discussed at the working conference “Fehlerkultur in der Polizei II” with senior police officials, including leaders of internal investigations of the police forces, which took place at the German Police Academy in May.

In July of 2018, the Institute was invited to a hearing of the interior committee of Hamburg’s legislature, the *Bürgerschaft*, to state its views on two motions to establish a requirement that police officers be individually identifiable, whose introduction was motivated in part by the judgement on Henschel and Stark v. Germany of the European Court of Human Rights. The Court sees the obligation to wear a clearly visible means of identification as an important element in ensuring effective investigations of complaints regarding an excessive use of force by the police. Following the hearing, in 2019, Hamburg’s cabinet (*Senat*) proposed a draft regulation requiring members of self-contained police units to visibly display an identifying six-digit number at large-scale operations, such as those at demonstrations or football matches. Its adoption would make Hamburg the tenth federal state to have a requirement of this kind.

In August of 2018, the Institute issued a statement about the plans for the complete elimination of the minimum age for measures involving the electronic processing and storage of data of minors by the domestic intelligence service. The elimination of the minimum age requirement would mean that an intelligence service could track even very young children if they are growing up in a family the intelligence service categorises as “extremist”. This would constitute an excessive encroachment on such children’s rights to development and privacy as well as the right to protection against discrimination on the basis of parentage. As an alternative, the Institute proposes strengthening the authority and abilities of organisations and institutions engaged in youth work and youth services to react to young people from radical social backgrounds.

As part of its work on oversight of intelligence services, the Institute joined the Friedrich Naumann Foundation and Stiftung Neue Verantwortung in September in organising both a closed-door expert discussion and a public podium discussion on ways to improve cooperation among oversight bodies from different countries and with differing remits in order to ensure effective protection of rights in vis-à-vis covert measures by security services. Participants included the senior human rights officer of the Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate of the UN Security Council and the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy, representatives of oversight bodies from six European states, and staff from four parliamentary groups in the Bundestag, as well as human rights and civil rights organisations and interested researchers.

Human trafficking and exploitation

Human trafficking is a human rights abuse – in Germany and around the world. Combatting it requires a comprehensive, human rights-based approach. This includes the use of measures aimed at identifying victims, at prosecuting perpetrators, raising the awareness of authorities, counselling and support for victims and guaranteeing their rights. It is also necessary to monitor developments in human trafficking and forms of exploitation and to verify the effectiveness of state measures. Back in 2016, the Institute developed a set of proposals on setting up bodies in Germany to take on these tasks, at the request of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens Women and Youth.

In late 2017, the Institute prepared a report on the exploitation of migrant labour in Germany for incorporation into the comparative study on that issue being drawn up by the Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA). Information gathered from a total of 31 migrants who had experienced severe labour exploitation in Germany in recent years through one-on-one interviews and focus groups made it possible to identify starting points for preventing exploitation, supporting victims and securing access to justice. The study's results provide further confirmation for something first-line practitioners already knew: due to various hurdles, victims of labour exploitation tend to be unable to have their wage entitlements enforced by the courts. Thus, exploitation continues to be a risk-free proposition for employers.

The Institute therefore examined the aspect of access to justice more closely in focus group discussions with staff of advising services and in expert interviews with researchers, taking the interviews with migrants as the basis for these. This gave rise to one of the focuses in the 2017/2018 Human Rights Report to the Bundestag, in the context of which the Institute suggested ways to strengthen the position of employees. The Institute is actively involved in the joint federal-Länder working groups on human trafficking of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs Senior Citizens Women and Youth and of the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

Human rights of older persons

Older persons make up a growing share of the world's population. Older persons are in situations associated with specific human rights risks, for instance, when they are in need of care, or when a lack of structures and services appropriate to their needs forces them to leave the familiar surroundings they have been living in, or when they face discrimination in their working lives. While the situations of older persons vary greatly around the world, the need to strengthen the protection of their human rights is universal. This involves greater protection and guarantees of their rights, but also the possibility of effective action against rights abuses.

In 2018, the Institute launched a new research. The objective of this project is to lay the groundwork for the development, design and implementation of effective complaint mechanisms in long-term care facilities. To this end, qualitative interviews are being conducted with care recipients and their family members, geriatric care professionals and with existing complaint bodies. Specialists and home residents describe substantial hurdles that make it difficult to take advantage of the various complaint procedures that already exist.

The care recipients who have been surveyed indicated that they were unaware of these procedures or that they were prevented from using them due to by personal restrictions, such as multiple illnesses. Others spoke of fears about voicing complaints due to the high degree of dependency associated with relationships in long-term care facilities. The project, which will run until mid-2020, was made possible by funds from the Josef und Luise Kraft-Stiftung. The Institute continued its work within the UN processes aimed at strengthening the human rights of older persons: To prepare for the summer 2018 session of the Open Ended Working Group on Ageing, the Institute partnered with the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth to organise two expert discussions on the focus areas planned for the session: long-term and palliative care, and autonomy and independence. The events served to help the Government, civil society and the Institute prepare for their inputs at the UN level. The results of the expert discussions were documented in a publication.

The Institute was invited to many events in Germany and abroad to provide information about the UN process to strengthen the human rights of older persons. It plays a substantial role in the Working Group on Ageing of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI). Within Europe, it cooperates with the Polish Commissioner for Human Rights.

Racism

The numbers of racist and dehumanising acts of violence and criminal offences have risen to alarming heights in Germany. Racist acts undermine the quality of life and sense of safety of their victims and, at the same time, constitute an assault on human dignity, on which the social fabric of our society rests. Human rights therefore demand that racist acts should be identified as such and be prosecuted effectively and that the government guarantee access to justice for their victims.

In 2018 the Institute brought to a close its two-year project “Racism and Human Rights – Strengthening the Criminal Justice System”, which developed and tested a continuing training module for public prosecutors and judges on recognising and dealing with racist criminal offences. The project was carried out in partnership with and with funding from the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection; Bavaria, Lower Saxony, Berlin and Brandenburg were also involved as partner Länder.

Having conducted a needs analyses, the Institute designed training content and exercises and tested them in various training formats (stand-alone, single-day training events, integration in longer training programs for persons entering the professions and at the German Judiciary Academy and shorter, discussion events held near courts).

The needs analyses and discussions at the training sessions made it very apparent that there is a need in the justice system for guidance on what is covered under the term “motives... of a racist nature” in section 46(2) of the German Criminal Code (*StGB*) and that uncertainty exists about its application, particularly in cases where no right-wing extremist motives is clearly identifiable. Moreover, few are familiar with the human rights obligations to fully investigate and explicitly address racist motivation. Another deficit that became apparent is the lack of standards for dealing with the victims of racist acts designed to help prevent re-traumatisation or for dealing with racism in the court room.

The materials developed for use in training in these issues were collected in a publication released in late 2018 and combined with suggestions on structuring training sessions. Another publication, containing a collection of papers by legal scholars, practicing jurists, racism researchers and victim advising professionals, was conceived as a reader for participants in the training and other interested persons from the criminal justice system. In addition, the project set up and trained a pool of instructors made up of justice system professionals and diversity training practitioners who could be referred to the Länder to lead training events.

Gender diversity

Human rights protect intergender, transgender and transsexual persons from discrimination and violence. In its decision on the “third gender” case, the Federal Constitutional Court ordered the legislature to enact provisions to bring German civil status law into conformity with the constitution by the end of 2018. In addition, the Federal Government intends to enact provisions making it clear that medically unnecessary operations on intersex infants and children are prohibited – in line with the recommendations of numerous international human rights bodies.

Based on the conclusions of an expert report on gender diversity in the law that it prepared for the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens Women and Youth, the Institute monitored and supported the legislative process implementing the Federal Constitutional Court decision on the “third gender”. It held background discussions with members of the Bundestag, was invited to give input to discussions of parliamentary groups on the topic, issued statements on various versions of the draft legislation and, finally, took part in the

hearing of experts at the Bundestag's interior committee.

The Institute also contributed to a symposium held by the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection on the clear articulation in statute of the prohibition of medically unnecessary sex reassignment surgery on intersex children. It then offered suggestions, in a written statement, as to how to achieve the aim of protecting the human rights of intersex children by postponing such surgeries until intersex persons are able to make their own independent decisions about their gender/sexual identity, thus ensuring the possibility of self-determination, and removing the burden from the parents and doctors involved.

Human Rights Policy International

Business and human rights

Low wages, involuntary overtime, inadequate protection against health and safety risks – abuse of human rights is common along global supply chains because producers fail to comply with social and environmental standards. In recent years, the collapse of factories or factory fires resulted in the death or serious injury of hundreds of workers in Bangladesh, Pakistan and India alone. In 2016, the Federal Government adopted its National Action Plan (NAP) on business and human rights, which, for the first time, firmly establishes the responsibility of German business enterprises for the respect human rights. The NAP calls on companies to regularly assess the human rights risks associated with their business activities and to comply with human rights standards along their global supply and value chains.

When purchasing products along their supply chains, companies have a responsibility to ensure that human rights are respected – both in the countries that produce the products they purchase and in Germany. How can German companies ensure that foreign production sites comply with labour and social standards and do not pollute? How can the state promote a socially and environmentally sustainable economy through regulation, legislation and its own actions? These questions are at the focus of Institute's work in the area of business and human rights.

The Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) has funded an advising and research project at the Institute that began in the summer of 2017 and will run until 2020. The project consists of applied research to support policy advising and the support of BMAS and its bodies in coordinating the implementation of the NAP across multiple stakeholders.

Working Group on Business and Human Rights

The Institute's deputy director continued to act as moderator of the working group on business and human rights within the CSR Forum of the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in 2018. The participation of stakeholders from trade associations and civil society within the working group is a key element in NAP implementation. The working group addresses a variety of topics, such as public procurement and extrajudicial state-based grievance mechanisms. It continued its intensive engagement in following and supporting the NAP monitoring process.

Expert opinions

National action plans on business and human rights were being implemented in 21 countries in 2018. At the same time, talks on an international instrument on business and human rights were underway at the United Nations. The proposal for a treaty of this kind was developed by the open-ended intergovernmental working group (OEIGWG) on this issue. The Institute participated in the OEIGWG's meetings in October and issued a statement in March and again in October analysing the OEIGWG's proposals for a binding legal instrument for transnational corporations and other business enterprises. The statements were widely read and lauded for their detailed constructive and critical analyses.

Corporate behaviour and human rights

The relationship between business and human rights is of interest to researchers as well as the Federal Government and the businesses themselves. In November, the Institute once again invited researchers from the fields of economics and business studies to an expert discussion on corporate behaviour and human rights. The discussion focused on the possibility of using behavioural economic incentives to improve respect for human rights on the part of companies in all of their activities. Some of the researchers channelled the intense exchange on potential approaches into the courses and publications on behavioural economics.

Human rights in development policy

One aim of development policy is to enable all human beings to lead a life of dignity. Yet development projects are associated with human rights abuses in many countries: When local populations are forced to relocate to make room for roadway or dam construction and receive no compensation, for instance. Or when the local population is not able to participate the planning of development measures. Or when the opponents of a development project are muzzled. A clear development policy orientation towards human rights, one that extends to the cooperation with the partner countries, can counteract this.

Online course on human rights in development cooperation

There are many educational offerings in the area of development policy that are designed to inform people working in the field of development policy about various approaches and strategies. The Institute regularly develops informational and educational material for this purpose, usually in cooperation with the sector programme on realising human rights in development cooperation of the GIZ (Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit), Germany's development cooperation services provider. In 2018, the Institute brought its work on the English-language online course "Human Rights in Development Cooperation" to a close. This course consists of an introductory module on the human rights-based approach and three more advanced modules on different sectors: conflict/fragility, land-governance, and extraction. The course is open to anyone who is interested.

Climate change and human rights

German development policy has also intensified its support for partner countries with regard to measures against climate change, which, depending on their orientation, can promote or encroach on human rights. In cooperation with the sector programme on realising human rights of the GIZ (Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit), the Institute drew up handouts addressing aspects of climate change and actions to adapt to or mitigate it that are of relevance to human rights. In preparation for the climate talks that took place in the autumn, the Institute and the Center for International Environment Law (CIEL) published a joint informational report entitled "National Human Rights Institutions and the 2018 UN Climate Conference – Incorporating Human Rights in the Implementation Guidelines of the Paris Agreement". The Institute was also able to discuss this issue with the competent units in the federal environmental ministry.

Complaint mechanisms in development policy

It is imperative that human beings who are harmed by a development policy measure should be able to make a complaint and obtain redress. Complaint mechanisms are not yet sufficiently well established in connection with German development policy, however. In order to change this, the Institute hosted an expert discussion comparing various international complaint mechanisms with input from Office of the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman, the complaint mechanism for the private sector arms of the World Bank Group. The Institute took the opportunity presented by a stakeholder meeting of the German promotional bank Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) on transparency and environmental and social standards to reiterate its calls for the improvement of the KfW's complaints procedure and to point out that executing organisations have human rights responsibilities even when the projects they are executing were commissioned by third parties.

The Institute also contributes to the discourse on international complaint mechanisms: for instance, it commented on the proposals for structuring the redress mechanism of the Green Climate Fund and on developments relating to the structuring of the complaints mechanism of the World Bank (Inspection Panel). The Institute's aim in this context is to ensure that a high level of human rights protection is incorporated into these two complaints mechanisms, which are of great relevance for German development cooperation and which will also influence the debate on the design of comparable mechanisms in other organisations.

Children’s rights in development cooperation

Children and adolescents make up a majority of the population in most countries of the Global South, a circumstance that is often overlooked in development policy. They are frequently seen as more as a subject-matter of development cooperation rather than as legal subjects with their own rights who are capable of independent action. With the aim of changing this, the Institute entered into a partnership with the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), the GIZ and UNICEF. In the study entitled “Children’s Rights in National Human Rights Institutions: A Mapping Exercise”, the Institute pointed out what national human rights institutions – important partners for development policy – can do to promote and protect children’s rights in their own countries and how development work can link up with such efforts. The presentation of the study in Geneva met with great interest and UNICEF prepared a concept for a 2019 webinar series on its findings.

Human Rights Education

Revision of recommendation by culture and education ministers

Human rights education is mandatory in Germany under both international law and the schools legislation of the individual Länder. However, there is still some ignorance in schools about what human rights education actually involves. The revised version of the recommendation on human rights education issued by the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK) in 2018 has brought considerably greater clarity to this area.

The KMK's revised recommendation, which was adopted on 11 October 2018, takes its cue from the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training of 2011, clearly stating that "human rights, including the human right to education and also the realisation of children's rights, are part of school's core mission to educate and promote development.... Thus, human rights are not only the supreme standard to guide state action but also something that must be realised, primarily through the conduct and engagement of each and every individual. Part of the schools' mission is to cultivate an attitude that is sensitive to and fosters human rights...".

The Länder have committed to taking appropriate action inter alia with respect to the content of the initial and continuing training of teachers and specialists, and to criteria in the assessment of the quality of schools. Furthermore, a variety of stakeholders are to participate in processes for the implementation and of the recommendation as well as for its further development: the central federal and Länder agencies for civic education, federal and Länder anti-discrimination offices and the German Institute for Human Rights, as well as civil society organisations and institutions and organisations engaged in civic education outside of schools.

At the KMK's request, the Institute had issued an opinion on the draft of the revised KMK recommendation on human rights education, and it will continue to actively contribute towards strengthening the capabilities of schools and teachers to realise human rights education in line with the KMK recommendation and the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training.

The "Maßstab Menschenrechte" project

Human rights are a key standard for ensuring successful coexistence. Fundamental to this standard is equal recognition for the dignity and rights of all persons – including those of persons who have been compelled to leave their country of origin. The "Maßstab Menschenrechte" project gives teachers and other education professionals a stronger foundation with respect to subject knowledge, methodology and human rights for their work on topics of refugees, asylum and race-based

How can education contribute towards the development of a society that recognises the dignity and rights of all human beings? How can structural and institutional racism be discussed and reduced? How can human rights strengthen a culture of discussion conducive to the frank exchange of opinions while protecting against discriminatory speech? The "Maßstab Menschenrechte" project supports educators to find answers to these questions and their dissemination by way of the multiplier effect. In 2018, the project offered numerous workshops for education professionals throughout Germany. The workshops conveyed knowledge about the human-rights and legal situations of refugees living in Germany, about mechanisms of discrimination and about the pedagogical basis of a form of human rights education involving the critical analysis of discrimination. A fundamental aim is to get participants to reflect on their own thought patterns.

The workshops were carried out in cooperation with a variety of education institutions and in partnership with activists and organisations run by and for refugees. Many individuals and organisations run by and for refugees active in the areas of refugee services, asylum and immigration contributed to the development of the concept for the project, also contributing were education professionals with experience in the relevant areas. These

experts will continue to support the project in the future. The concepts and results gathered in the course of the project will be published in a manual slated for release in the autumn of 2019.

Inclusive human rights education

Everyone should have access to human rights education. An analysis of the needs and circumstances of various target groups is essential for the successful design of a concept for and the planning and implementation of inclusive offerings. Such an analysis makes it possible to ensure that the offerings genuinely contribute to improving participation chances and enabling persons and groups in disadvantaged and vulnerable situations to stand up for their rights.

In practice, topics such as gender, disability, refugees and asylum and children's rights are often considered in isolation, but an approach more strongly centred around human rights can help identify allies in education work to combat discrimination and generate synergy effects. The Institute therefore hosted a workshop for education professionals with experience in a variety of fields. The purpose was to discuss ways that individual exercises could be adapted for various target groups with the aim of making education activities be as inclusive as possible. The participants discussed possible barriers to participation associated with underlying conditions, methods and materials, developed alternatives and exchanged good practice methods. The Institute will continue its work on inclusive human rights education materials and events.

Activities in police education

Human rights education should play a role in the whole range of education contexts – from early-childhood education, to advance professional training, to public information and awareness activities – and is of relevance for a variety of occupational fields, including for the police. Dr Sandra Reitz, the head of the Institute's human rights education department, has served since 2016 on the advisory board of a civic education project for police personnel ("Polizei und politische Bildung"), a cooperation project of the Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb), the German Police University (DHPol) and the University of Applied Sciences for Public Administration and Management of North Rhine-Westphalia.

From 5 to 7 July 2018, experts from the field of police research and civic education experts – including staff from the human rights education department – discussed the fundamentals and objectives of police education work, taking a historical approach to the topics of political extremism, group-specific hostility, human rights and civic education. The conference was entitled "Demokratie und Menschenrechte – Herausforderungen für und an die polizeiliche Bildungsarbeit" (Democracy and human rights – challenges for police education work).

Human rights education means teaching people what human rights are, promoting human rights and empowering people to take action to uphold and protect them. It is an important prerequisite for realising and enforcing human rights. Human rights education contributes towards the elimination of all forms of discrimination and towards the recognition and prevention of other forms of human rights abuse. Human rights education is a lifelong process that is aimed at all age groups. It plays a role in all educational contexts and is relevant for a wide variety of occupational fields, such as social work, nursing, public administration, justice system, law enforcement and the military.

National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism

Second review of implementation by Germany

In 2015, the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities conducted its first review of the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in Germany. The second periodic review of Germany began in 2018. The Federal Government must again submit a report that reflects the current status of CRPD implementation at the federal, Länder and local level to the UN treaty body. The National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism will then prepare its own parallel report.

The reporting procedure began in the autumn of 2018 at the 20th session of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. After its session, the Committee transmitted a “List of Issues prior to reporting” to the Federal Government, which is to serve as the basis for the combined second and third periodic report of Germany. The National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism had submitted suggestions to the Committee for its list of issues prior to its adoption. At a scheduled hearing in Geneva, the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism presented its assessments and suggestions and answered questions from the members of the Committee. The National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism plans to submit a parallel report on the status of CRPD implementation in Germany in 2020.

Coercion in mental health services

Persons with psychosocial disabilities can be subjected to a variety of forms of coercion, for instance, involuntary placement in a psychiatric facility or involuntary medical treatment, the practice of tying persons to their beds, the use of drugs for sedation or isolation. These practices have come under increasing criticism in recent years, both from the specialist public and from the UN human rights bodies and the Federal Constitutional Court.

For the Institute’s 2018 human rights report to the German Bundestag, the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism prepared an analysis of the requirements for general psychiatric care that arise from fundamental rights and human rights, and of the current legal situation with respect to the use coercive measures. The analysis also looked into the availability of data that could be used to assess the scale of the use of coercion in psychiatric facilities in Germany and examined approaches to psychiatric care which involve considerably less, or no use of coercion that are being discussed or tested in the context of research or psychiatric practice. On this basis, the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism recommended improving the collection of data and structuring a policy process aimed at introducing the changes necessary to establish coercion free psychiatric care system through a well-coordinated, institutionalised participative process equipped with adequate resources. It also recommended setting up an effective monitoring system to allow effective management of the changes to the system of its the human rights focus.

United Nations CRPD in social court practice

Courts frequently take decisions that determine whether or to what extent persons with disabilities are able to enjoy the substance of the rights they are guaranteed under the CRPD. As part of a project on the significance of CRPD for the practice of the social courts (2017–2018), the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism offered symposiums aimed at judges of all 14 Higher Social Court districts. The project was funded by the Federal Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs and supported by a group of experts in social law.

The CRPD has held the status of federal law since it came into force in Germany in 2009 and has played a role in social court proceedings fairly frequently compared to other human rights instruments. In light of this, the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism offered events on this subject for the higher social court judiciary

throughout the country again in 2018. The Monitoring Mechanism led eleven practice-oriented events for judges at venues conveniently close to their courts, where participants discussed the significance and impact of individual CRPD provisions with reference to specific cases.

The project concluded in November of 2018 with an expert discussion on the potentials and limits of the CRPD for court practice attended by persons who had supported, contributed to or participated in the project, who assessed it as having been very beneficial. The aim was to provide information about and discuss the CRPD's potential and limitations in social court practice. A collection of materials aimed at legal practitioners was developed on the basis of the project and experiences in the Länder. This collection provides practical guidance, presents important human rights documents and reviews relevant jurisprudence. It also contains a list of sources of further information.

The right to work

Persons with disabilities have the same right to work that others have. This work must secure the person's livelihood, and the person must be able to choose it freely. Persons with disabilities are frequently disadvantaged in this respect because the labour market in Germany is not yet inclusive. Structuring an inclusive German labour market, including vocational education and training, continues to pose a great challenge. One aspect of this involves the future of sheltered workshops and similar segregated structures.

The National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism prepared a position paper on the right to work in 2018 in which it appealed to the Federal Government as well as the Länder and local governments and social partners in the field of employment to join forces in a concerted endeavour to create an inclusive labour market. This would entail, inter alia, substantial improvements in the choices and earning opportunities available to persons with disabilities. A consistent shift in priorities and the financial means to promote inclusive employment models on the general labour market are needed. The UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities first expressed criticism of the segregation in the German labour market and impediments preventing persons with disabilities from entering or transitioning to the open labour market in 2015. Policy makers are faced with the complex task of transforming sheltered workshops and comparable structures in such a way that differences are gradually evened out, so that the workshops can eventually be fully incorporated into an inclusive labour market.

The right to vote

The right to vote is a right of the citizens of all democratic states that is guaranteed by human rights. Nonetheless, 84,000 German adults did not have this right as of 31 December 2014. The National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism has been calling for the elimination of exclusions of persons with disabilities from the franchise since 2011.

The National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism first raised the issue of whether the exclusions from voting rights under federal legislation are compatible with the human rights obligations arising from the CRPD back in 2011. It has repeatedly criticised the exclusions from electoral rights at the federal, Länder and local level, and particularly that contained in section 13(2–3) of the Federal Electoral Act (BWahlG), as constituting disability-based discrimination and has recommended that the federal and Länder legislatures develop an inclusive right to vote. As early as 2016, the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism submitted a statement to the Federal Constitutional Court on the exclusions from electoral rights under the Federal Electoral Act in proceedings on an electoral complaint. In 2018, there was still some political controversy at the federal level and in some Länder about eliminating the exclusions from the right to vote before the next Bundestag and European elections and Länder parliamentary elections. This does not apply to Brandenburg, North Rhine-Westphalia or Schleswig-Holstein, which reformed their electoral law before the decision was taken at the federal level. In 2018, the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism stepped up its policy advising activity in this area once again. For instance, it expressed its views at parliamentary hearings on draft legislation in Hesse and Lower Saxony and reported to the German Bundestag on the current developments.

Advising for North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW)

On the basis of section 11 of North Rhine-Westphalia's Act on Principles of Inclusion (IGG NRW), the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism advises the NRW legislature and Government in connection with legislative proceedings affecting persons with disabilities. It also advises authorities and other bodies that are setting up ways to ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities at various levels, such as local governments, umbrella organisations, regional councils and the NRW disabilities commissioner and its advisory council on inclusion.

Within the context of its monitoring mandate from the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW), the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism carried out a consultation with around 20 civil society associations active in the disability policy field in NRW. The aim of this consultation, held in Duisburg, was to learn more about the practical implementation of the CRPD in NRW and to gain an understanding of the perspectives of civil society, and particularly those of persons with disabilities.

Family life, school, employment, housing, healthcare, mobility and violence against women and girls with disabilities, as well as culture, sports and recreation were focuses of consultation. The reports addressed deficits but also discussed ways to stabilise, support and publicise positive developments. The National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism uses the critical input it receives at the civil society consultations to develop concrete recommendations for government bodies in NRW.

In addition, the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism contributed to the planning of concrete legislation in the NRW parliament. For instance, it provided an opinion on the legislation updating NRW's building code. It also submitted an opinion on the motion of the NRW parliamentary group Alliance 90/The Greens on using the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism's consultation in NRW on the further development of inclusion directly in the work of the parliament, in which it took a clear position on the main points identified by the NRW Government to guide efforts to restructure inclusion in schools.

Inclusive humanitarian aid

Circa 134 million persons in 30 countries needed emergency humanitarian assistance in 2018, more than ever before. As members of a group that is disadvantaged even under normal circumstances, persons with disabilities face considerably greater risks in the event of a humanitarian crisis than do those who do not have a disability. Germany, as the world's second largest donor of humanitarian aid, has an obligation to respond appropriately by ensuring that its assistance measures are inclusive.

The National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism addressed these issues in a position paper and exchanged information and opinions on them with a variety of experts at expert discussions and other events. The purpose of these activities is to push for an inclusive and human rights-based strategy for humanitarian assistance abroad.

National CRC Monitoring Mechanism

Children's rights in the Basic Law

In their coalition agreement, the CDU, CSU and SPD announced the intent to incorporate children's rights into the Basic Law (*Grundgesetz*), Germany's constitution: "We shall explicitly enshrine children's rights in the Basic Law. Children are holders of fundamental rights; in our view, their rights have the status of constitutional rights." A joint federal-Länder working group is slated to present draft legislation on this by the end of 2019.

While children's rights are established in the constitutions of many of the federal states, they are not anchored in the Basic Law. German jurisprudence acknowledges that children are autonomous holders of fundamental rights and, as such, can invoke all of the fundamental rights enshrined in the Basic Law. However, the Basic Law does not spell out child-specific rights.

The Institute has been calling for the inclusion of children's rights into the Basic Law since November of 2016, calling for the incorporation of children's rights to protection as well as the other core principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC): children's right to have their views heard and receive due consideration (participation) and the best interests of the child as a primary consideration in line with the standards arising from articles 12 and 13 of the CRC. This would have important consequences in administrative and court proceedings.

The National CRC Monitoring Mechanism continued to make the case for incorporating children's rights into the Basic Law at relevant civil society and political events at the federal and Länder level in 2018.

The notion of the best interests of the child

Since first taking up its work, the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism has been working hard to ensure that *Kindeswohl* [German-language term chosen as the translation for "the best interests of the child" in the official German version of the CRC] is interpreted in a manner that fully conforms to its meaning within the CRC: as the best interests of the child, duly assessed and determined with the participation of the child. The General Comments of the UN Commission for the Rights of the Child constitute the central basis for the interpretation of this concept.

The National CRC Monitoring Mechanism has prepared German-language translations of the General Comments numbers 12 and 14, which are crucial to the understanding of the notion of "best interests of the child". These translations are intended to enrich the discussion about the wording used to formulate this principle in the Basic Law. The National CRC Monitoring Mechanism benefited from the assistance of several noted experts while preparing the translation, such as Professor Lothar Krappmann, former member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, and Professor Reinhard Wiesner, who was responsible for drafting the 1990/1991 legislation on child and youth services in his then capacity as an official of the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, and the boards of the children's rights network (National Coalition) of civil society organisations from Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Communicating the content of the UN CRC

By ratifying the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1992, Germany committed itself to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of the child. The shift of perspectives embodied in the Convention is crucial: at its core is the recognition of children as independent bearers of fundamental rights vis-à-vis the state. The National CRC Monitoring Mechanism informs civil society about the provisions of the CRC and engages in policy advising on that topic.

In 2018, the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism also disseminated information about the CRC standards through numerous lectures and publications aimed at a variety of target groups. Topics ranged from the collection of data relating to minors in the shared information systems of national and Länder intelligence services, to the registration of new-borns whose parents are unable provide proof of identity, through to child rights requirements for participation and complaints procedures in childcare centres.

With an eye to Germany's upcoming reporting (2019) to the UN Commission on the Rights of the Child, the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism prepared background information about the reporting procedure, including some material aimed at an English-speaking readership.

In 2018, the Head of the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism was appointed to two advisory councils: that of Jugend-Check – an independent legislative impact assessment project based at the German Research Institute for Public Administration – and that of the Netzwerk KvI (Kinder von Inhaftierten), a national network of experts and organisations active on behalf of children of prisoners.

Reporting to the United Nations

All states that ratify a United Nations human rights treaty must periodically submit what is called a “State-party” report on the status of their implementation of the treaty to the competent treaty body. The Federal Government submitted such a report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in April of 2019. The reporting procedure encompasses the submission of parallel reporting by civil society organisations and by the country's national human rights institution. The National CRC Monitoring Body will prepare its parallel report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2019.

In 2018, the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism continued to host quarterly networking meetings with all of the organisations involved in the state party reporting procedure. These meetings informed stakeholders about the key steps of the reporting procedure and provided opportunities for them to clarify their roles and responsibilities within the procedure and to inform one another about their activities and plans for the course of the reporting. In this context, the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism produced a three-minute video explaining the structure of the reporting procedure, it has also made available in sign language and with German subtitles.

Measuring progress towards CRC implementation

The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has called for the establishment of a system for the comprehensive collection of data. As it remains nearly impossible to arrive at statistically sound conclusions about the status of children's rights implementation in Germany, the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism continued to work with the German Youth Institute on the development of children's rights indicators and to study the situation of the children of persons being held in prisons in Germany in 2018

It expanded the analysis it began in 2017, which examined the provisions governing visiting policy in Länder prisons legislation, to include a more detailed examination of the practical conditions and settings of children's visits to incarcerated parents. The results of the national online survey of prisons regarding contacts between children and imprisoned parents were released in a report in the Institute's *Analyse* series. The publication identifies good practice examples and presents recommendations for action by Länder justice ministries. These recommendations were also presented at sessions of a working group of the Conference of Ministers of Justice open to all Länder and at a national conference of the newly established Netzwerk KvI.

A map charting policies governing children's visits to incarcerated parents was added to the Landkarte Kinderrechte, a series of maps used to visualise the status of certain aspects of CRC implementation in the Länder.

Library

The Institute's library is a specialised library and service facility that is open to the public. It makes available print and electronic media on human rights, including a collection of materials on human rights education and on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that is unique in Germany.

At the end of 2018, the library listed 38,127 bibliographic items in its online catalogue and in German library union catalogues. As a specialised library, it facilitates the process of searching for papers on human rights published in edited volumes or journals and freely accessible electronic publications. In 2018 as in previous years, the library offered introductions to the library and research training sessions for students of programmes relating to human rights.

Readings

The readings held in the library are aimed at a wide public. Authors read from recently published books on human rights issues and discuss them with the audience.

Journalist Mely Kiyak read from her book "*Haltung. Ein Essay gegen das Lautsein*" in February of 2018. In it, she calls for a change of strategy in dealing with right-wing extremism and contempt for democracy in Germany.

Open access publications

The library has cooperated with SSOAR, the open-access repository maintained at GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences since 2013 with the aim of enhancing the visibility of the Institute's research.

So far, the library has entered 240 Institute publications into the SSOAR database. SSOAR statistics showed more than 21,000 downloads of Institute publications in 2018, around 6,000 more than there were in the 2017.

Inclusive libraries

Libraries contribute to the realisation of the rights of all human beings to information, to education and to take part in the cultural life of society. The Institute's library strives to promote improvement in the accessibility and inclusiveness of the offerings and services of libraries.

A national working group on accessibility in (digital) libraries was founded in June of 2018, at the joint initiative of the Institute's library and of the German Central Library for the Blind (DZB). This working group constitutes an open forum for the exchange of information, ideas and experiences relating to the implementation of accessibility. The Institute and the DZB will coordinate the working group. More than 50 persons attended the first meeting, which took place in the DZB in Leipzig in November 2018. In September of 2018, the Institute's library held a two-day workshop on inclusion in cooperation with the *Initiative Fortbildung für wissenschaftliche Spezialbibliotheken* a professional training initiative for specialised libraries, with representatives of libraries in Germany, Austria and Switzerland participating.

International activities of the library

The library has been an active member of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) since 2013. It is a member of an IFLA committee that works to promote accessibility and inclusion in libraries internationally.

In August of 2018, the IFLA held its world conference in Kuala Lumpur. The Institute's library was represented with a lecture on the CRPD. Currently, the committee is preparing international guidelines for library offerings for people who are deaf.

Communications

70 years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The Institute took the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 10 December 2018 as an occasion to launch a range of projects aimed at drawing attention to the present-day significance and relevance of the Universal Declaration.

The Institute cooperated with the journal *Politik & Kultur* of the German Cultural Council (Deutscher Kulturrat) in the production of a 13-page section devoted to the theme of 70 years of human rights and culture in the journal's Nov./Dec. issue (06/2018); one of the section's leading articles was contributed by Beate Rudolf, the Institute's director.

For a culture of human rights!

The Institute co-hosted an event entitled "*Für eine Kultur der Menschenrechte!*" (For a culture of human rights!) on 22 November in Berlin's Französische Friedrichstadtkirche with the German Culture Council and Initiative kulturelle Integration (Cultural integration initiative). Minister of State Monika Grütters, Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, gave the keynote address. Beate Rudolf discussed the interactions and tensions between human rights and culture with Dalia Grinfeld, president of the Jewish Student Union of Germany, Marc Grandmontagne, the head of Deutsche Bühnenverein and Olaf Zimmermann, the head of the German Culture Council, who also serves as moderator of Initiative kulturelle Integration. This event doubled as the Institute's 4th Berlin Day of Human Rights. The Institute intends to continue its partnership with the German Culture Council.

The Institute also produced a brochure setting out a German-language version of the articles of the Universal Declaration that was prepared with great care using language that reflects human diversity while remaining absolutely faithful to the content, along with the original English-language text. The Institute also designed a poster with the 30 articles of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, which is can be ordered in classroom sets for educational activities in and outside of schools. The poster was also enclosed in mailings of the 2017 annual report.

To mark the anniversary, the communications department also created an online dossier with information about, e.g. how the Universal Declaration came into being, the women who were involved in its genesis and the educational materials on the Universal Declaration developed by the Institute for young people and adults.

Communicating human rights better!

On 5–6 July 2018, the Institute hosted the annual meeting of the ENNHRI Communications Working Group. The 2018 meeting was devoted to the exchange of communication forms and formats suitable for celebrating the anniversary of the Universal Declaration. Twenty-five communication specialists discussed ways to better communicate human rights in view of the fact that they are being called into question with increasing frequency.

The communications department is responsible for the Institute's media activities, social media activities, and the Institute's website. It runs the Institute's internal publishing unit and designs and organises, independently or in cooperation with Institute policy advisers, barrier-free conferences, lectures, expert discussions, workshops and readings. It regularly offers fellowships to journalists and hosts seminars on current issues relating to human rights for members of the press. It is also involved in the German Human Rights Film Prize. Together with Bread for the World, the development and relief agency, the communications department co-hosts the annual Werner Lottje Lecture, which discusses current challenges for the protection of human rights defenders.

Administration

Occupational rehabilitation

For many people, employment is a source of both income and recognition, and provides them with social contacts and structure. But the path into the labour market can be difficult for the long-term unemployed. In partnership with Union Sozialer Einrichtungen gGmbH, the Institute makes it possible for people who have been out of work for a long period to (re-)enter the workforce. The funded internships can last from 3 to 6 months, depending on individual need.

After positive experiences in recent years, the Institute supported and guided the occupational (re)integration of persons who had experienced long-term unemployment for the fourth time in 2018. It created appropriate jobs and provided orientation training for the interns, while its cooperation partner Union Sozialer Einrichtungen gGmbH took over the funding and personalised support in the form of needs-oriented training and meetings.

During the internships, all persons involved regularly discussed how the internship was going. Since career orientation is one of the purposes of these internships, the interns had the opportunity to move from one area of administrative activity to another and thus gain experience in different fields.

Successful cooperation

The cooperation was a success for all involved: the interns integrate themselves into the administrative team quickly and take on their own tasks, supporting the staff of the administration department in their work. The internships offered in cooperation with Union Sozialer Einrichtungen in 2018 went so well, in fact, that the Institute was able to offer all interns two-year positions as assistants to start upon completion of the internship, which will enable them to further prepare for the regular labour market – with individualised hours and tailored job descriptions in each case. The Deutsche Rentenversicherung, the national organisation representing all of Germany's regional pension funds, funded the first year of these two-year employment relationships.

The Institute benefited from the cooperation with Union Sozialer Einrichtungen gGmbH in ways that went beyond the easing of the workload of the administrative staff: Through their dealings with the interns, the Institute's staff learned to reflect more intensively on their own work, to delegate tasks and to review the results of work – a distinct plus for them. Overall, the programme boosted motivation and contributed to a good working atmosphere within the administrative team.

The path to the regular labour market

The Institute as a whole has been enriched by the addition of the new members of the administrative staff. They found their place in the Institute's workflows during their internships, they enjoy their work and they have made great strides towards re-entry into the regular workforce during their two years of limited term employment. This has encouraged the Institute in its plans to continue supporting the occupational integration of long-term unemployed persons.

Where, after all, do universal Human Rights begin?

In small places, close to home—so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm, or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world. Eleanor Roosevelt, 1958

70th Anniversary of the
Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Facts & Figures

Annual Financial Report

Income

Institutional allocation from federal government	€2,693,000
Income from projects with third-party federal funding	€1,646,841
Income from projects with third-party Länder funding	€106,500
Mixed income (third-party mandates, fees, misc. earnings)	€1,362,501
Total income	€5,808,842

Expenditures

Human rights policy Germany/Europe	€524,930
Third-party mandates/projects funded by third parties, Human Rights Policy Germany/Europe	€522,963
Human Rights Policy International	€314,739
Third-party mandates/projects funded by third parties, International human rights policy	€981,985
Human Rights Education	€164,997
Third-party mandates/projects funded by third parties, Human Rights Education	€100,492
Communications	€457,101
Third-party mandates/projects funded by third parties, Communications	€0
Library	€189,220
Administration (overhead)	€1,019,750
Board of Directors/Management	€371,725
Third-party mandates /projects funded by third parties, Board of Directors/Management	€0
National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism	€385,801
Third-party mandates /projects funded by third parties, National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism	€370,156
Third-party mandates /projects funded by third parties, National CRC Monitoring Mechanism	€404,984
Total expenditure	€5,808,842

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

The German Institute for Human Rights received an institutional allocation of 2,693,000 euros in 2018. The Institute receives this **institutional allocation**, which constitutes its core funding, from the German Bundestag (federal) every year. It is intended to ensure that the Institute has adequate financial resources, as required for an independent national human rights institution under the Paris Principles of the United Nations.

In addition to the institutional funding, the income section includes three additional positions used to record **third-party funding**.

- (1) A total of 1,646,841 euros were taken in by way of projects with **third-party federal funding**. The income and expenditure associated with these 12 third-party funded projects are reported separately in the annual accounts, as separate accounting is done for the funding for each of these projects vis-à-vis the respective funding body. These expenditures, like the institutional allocation, are subject to the Federal Budget Code.
- (2) The projects with **third-party Länder funding** are also reported separately, again due to the separate accounting. These expenditures are subject to the Budget Codes of the relevant German Länder. In 2018, 106,500 euros came in from German Länder by way of third-party funded projects.
- (3) The **mixed income** is made up of income derived from the seven contracts with third parties. Also included are fees for lectures given by members of the Institute's staff. The "miscellaneous earnings" item is used to record income like, e.g. lump-sum administrative fees charged to third-party funded projects, which flow into the institutional allocation. Mixed income for 2018 comprised a total of 1,362,501 euros.

The income derived from **third-party federal funding** (1) funded the research performed to support the work of the German member of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances and of the German member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. This position also contains third-party funding acquired for research relating to the role of National Human Rights Institutions in the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration and for the secretarial support for the GANHRI chairmanship. The Federal Foreign Office was the source of the funding supporting these projects.

The Institute also received funds from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in 2018 for two research projects, one for research in support for the GANHRI chairmanship, and one on the role of National Human Rights Institutions in the area of business and human rights.

Funds also came in from the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) to support the UN Open Ended Working Group on Ageing and for the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism

The Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (BMJV) funded a project on the qualification of judges.

The Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) funded the research and advising project "National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights" and a project to raise awareness of the CRPD within the social courts system.

The Federal Office of Family Affairs and Civil Society Functions (BAFzA) funded a human rights education department project (*Maßstab Menschenrechte*) within the framework of the "Live democracy" programme.

Projects with third-party Länder funding (2). This position shows the allocation from the Land of Berlin to fund the project "Monitoring-Stelle Berlin".

Income derived from contracts with third parties that is included in the accounting for the institutional funding are recorded as **mixed income** (3). This income is made up of funds from GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) for the projects – "Implementing a human rights-based approach in

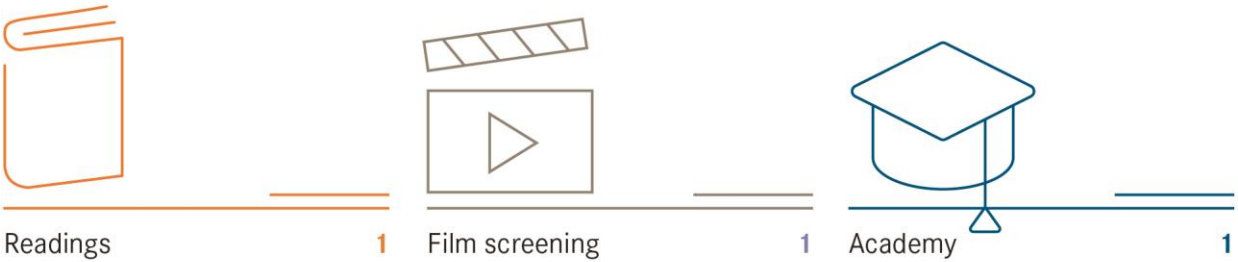
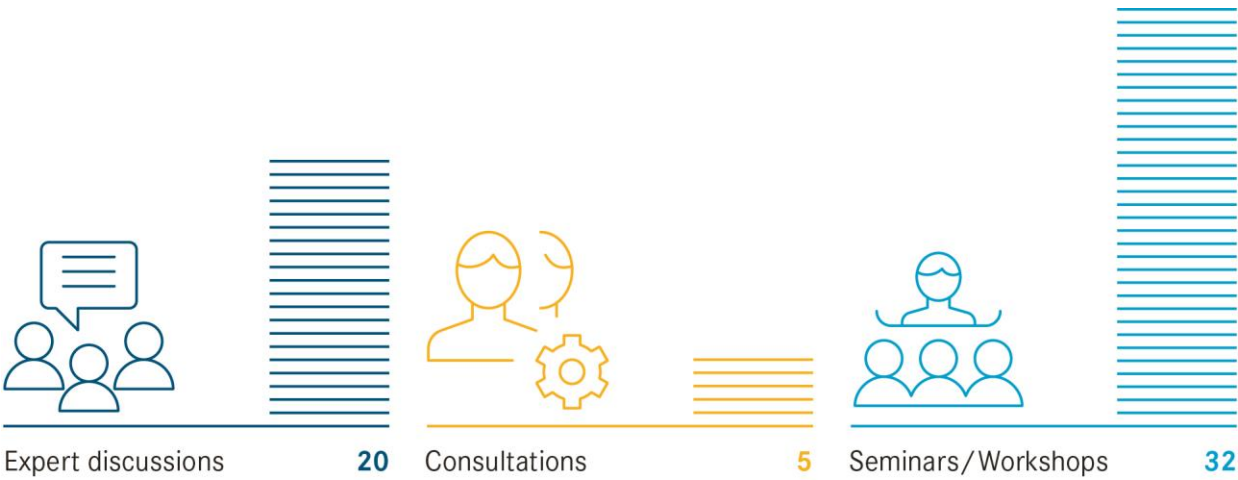
development policy” and “UN CRPD in development cooperation” – and of funds from the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) for reporting in the FRANET network, which the Institute took on for FRA in 2018. In addition, third-party contracts were awarded to the Institute for work on the rights of older persons by the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI) and by the Kraft-Stiftung. North Rhine-Westphalia provided funding to the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism and the Land of Bremen awarded a contract for the performance of an evaluation.

The Paris Principles call for national human rights institutions to be financed primarily through institutional funding, to ensure that they can freely choose the topics and areas of their activity. Third-party funding that is tied to a specific purpose should play a subordinate role vis-à-vis the institutional funding. This requirement was not quite met in 2018. In 2018, income derived from projects (in all three categories) made up 54 percent of the Institute’s total income. In 2008, as in the past, the Institute sought and acquired funding from third parties to support the implementation and intensification of its work on topics and areas that it had already identified as priorities. The Institute would like to express its sincere gratitude to all funding sources for their support of its work.

The **summary of expenditures** indicates the amount of financial resources available for the work of each of the Institute’s departments. The item “administration (overhead)” includes the Institute’s running costs – e.g. rent and related ancillary payments, IT services and miscellaneous administrative expenses (experts, bank fees, etc.) – and also the dues for memberships in GANHRI and ENNHRI and expenditures that were associated with all departments.

The financial report of the German Institute for Human Rights is examined by two auditors appointed by the General Meeting. The annual General Meeting is responsible for formal approval of the actions of the Board of Directors. The General Meeting has issued its approval and confirmed that all allocations were used efficiently and economically.

Events in 2018



Our Partners for Events

- University of Kassel
- Audace Institut Afrique
- Bavarian State Ministry of Justice
- Anne Frank Educational Centre
- Bread for the World
- The Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (BMJV)
- Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ)
- Danish Institute for Human Rights
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
- German Youth Institute (DJI)
- German Culture Council
- German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval)
- European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI)
- Forum Menschenrechte
- Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
- Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom
- Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights
- Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI)
- Heinrich Böll Foundation
- Helga Breuninger Stiftung
- Initiative Fortbildung für wissenschaftliche Spezialbibliotheken und verwandte Einrichtungen e.V.
- Initiative kulturelle Integration
- Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IHR)
- LidiceHaus, Bremen
- Human Rights Centre of the University of Potsdam
- Commission nationale des droits de l'homme de Côte d'Ivoire
- Ministry of Justice of Lower Saxony

- Office of the Polish Commissioner for Human Rights
- Robert Bosch Foundation
- Rochow-Museum und Akademie
- Save the Children Deutschland
- Sozialpädagogisches Fortbildungsinstitut Berlin-Brandenburg
- Stiftung Neue Verantwortung
- Universidad de Costa Rica (UCR)
- Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica (UNA)
- Osnabrück University
- urgewald

Overview of Events

Open-door Institute events and other events that drew the attention of a broader public are listed below in chronological order. The Institute also held closed-door events that are not shown in the overview.

18 Jan. 2018 | Berlin

Preparing for the 9th session of the UN Open-ended Working Group on Ageing.

Expert discussion on the right to autonomy and independence in cooperation with BMFSFJ

30 Jan. 2018 | Essen

4th judicial training symposium (North Rhine-Westphalia)

Exchange on CRPD implementation in national court jurisprudence with social court judges

31 Jan.–01 Feb. 2018 | Abidjan

Human rights and responsible governance of land

Workshop in partnership with Audace Institut Afrique and the Commission nationale des droits de l'homme de Côte d'Ivoire (NHRI)

14 Feb. 2018 | Berlin

Reporting to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

Expert discussion at the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism

14 Feb. 2018 | Berlin

Complaint mechanisms for children and adolescents

Expert discussion at the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism

21 Feb. 2018 | Stuttgart

5th judicial training symposium (Baden-Württemberg)

Exchange on the significance of the CRPD for national court jurisprudence with social court judges

21 Feb. 2018 | Berlin

Werner Lottje Lecture “Menschenrechte in Kambodscha: Zivilgesellschaft im Kreuzfeuer” (Human rights in Cambodia: Civil society under crossfire)

Lecture and podium discussion in cooperation with Bread for the World

28 Feb. 2018 | Berlin

27th Civil Society Consultations of the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism

Consultations with federations of disability organisations

28 Feb. 2018 | Munich

Racism and human rights: strengthening the criminal justice system – judicial training

Seminar in cooperation with BMJV and the Bavarian State Ministry of Justice

05–08 Mar. 2018 | Berlin

Pilot “Maßstab Menschenrechte” workshop: strengthening practices in education on the topics of refugees, asylum and race-based discrimination

Workshop within the project of the same name, funded by the BMFSFJ “Live democracy” programme

15 Mar. 2018 | Leipzig

6th judicial training symposium (Saxony)

Exchange on significance of the CRPD in national court practice with social court judges

15 Mar. 2018 | Berlin

The Accountability Framework of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)
Workshop

21 Mar. 2018 | Berlin

Debriefing: Negotiations for the Global Compact on Migration
Representatives of the German delegation report on the talks in New York

28 Mar. 2018 | Berlin

Press conference upon release of the report on independent mobility in Berlin

30 Mar. 2018 | Warsaw

Joint workshop towards a Convention on the Rights of Older Persons
Workshop held in cooperation with the Office of the Polish Commissioner for Human Rights

17 Apr. 2018 | Erfurt

7th judicial training symposium (Thuringia and Saxony-Anhalt)
Exchange on significance of the CRPD in national court practice with social court judges

19 Apr. 2018 | Berlin

8th Meeting of the federal and Länder disability commissioners

19 Apr. 2018 | Berlin

Meeting of experts within the “Maßstab Menschenrechte” project
Expert discussion

20 Apr. 2018 | Hannover

8th judicial training symposium (Lower Saxony, Bremen)
Exchange on significance of the CRPD in national court practice with social court judges

25 Apr. 2018 | Duisburg

Civil society consultation on participation of persons with disabilities in NRW

26 Apr. 2018 | Berlin

Consultation on choosing pilot children’s rights indicators
in cooperation with the German Youth Institute (DJI)

27 Apr. 2018 Berlin

3rd meeting of the expert group supporting the judicial training project

30 Apr. 2018 | Berlin

Human rights for the legislative and the executive branch
Seminar for Bundestag and federal ministry staff

03–04 May 2018 | Berlin

From words to deeds: securing the human rights of migrants in the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration after 2018
Conference in cooperation with GANHRI

17–18 May 2018 | Berlin

“Maßstab Menschenrechte”: strengthening practices in educations on the topics of refugees, asylum and race-based discrimination
Workshop as part of the project of the same name in cooperation with the research institute Sozialpädagogischen Fortbildungsinstitut Berlin-Brandenburg, funded by the BMFSFJ “Live democracy” programme

24 May 2018 | Berlin

Preparing for the 9th session of the UN open-ended Working Group on Aging Expert Discussion on defining the group of older persons, in cooperation with BMFSFJ

25 May 2018 | Berlin

Inclusive human rights education: exchange on methods

Workshop within the “Maßstab Menschenrechte” project, funded by the BMFSFJ “Live democracy” programme

28–29 May 2018 | Berlin

Human rights for the legislative and executive branch

Workshop for Bundestag and federal ministry staff

29 May 2018 | Trier

Racism and human rights – strengthening the criminal justice system

Seminar as part of training on far-right radicalism and neo-Nazism from the past to the present in cooperation with BMJV and the Ministry of Justice of Lower Saxony.

31 May 2018 | Königslutter

Racism and human rights – strengthening the criminal justice system

Seminar as part of training for public prosecutors in cooperation with BMJV and the Ministry of Justice of Lower Saxony.

04 Jun. 2018 | Bonn

Workshop: Human rights-based evaluations

Expert discussion in cooperation with the German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval)

06 Jun. 2018 | Berlin

International complaint mechanisms in comparison: the IFC’s Compliance Advisor Ombudsman and German complaint mechanisms in development cooperation

Expert discussion in cooperation with urgewald

12 Jun. 2018 | Munich

Dependency in independence – the influence of judges’ pre-existing notions on judicial decision-making

Seminar in cooperation with BMJV and the Bavarian State Ministry of Justice

14 Jun. 2018 | Berlin

2nd debriefing: negotiations for the Global Compact Migration

Representatives of the German delegation report on the talks in New York

20 Jun. 2018 | Berlin

28th civil society consultations of the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism

Consultations with federations of disability organisations

26 Jun. 2018 | Berlin

Discussion on “AnKER” centres

Expert discussion on accommodation of asylum seekers in central facilities, in cooperation with Save the ChildrenGermany

02 Jul. 2018 | Lübeck

9th judicial training symposium (Schleswig-Holstein and Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania)

Exchange with judges on the CRPD in social-court practices

05–06 Jul. 2018 | Berlin

How to communicate human rights

Workshop in cooperation with ENNHRI

03 Sep. 2018 | Berlin

Expert meeting for the “Maßstab Menschenrechte” project

Expert discussion

10 Sep. 2018 | Berlin

Exchange meeting: Racism and human rights – strengthening the criminal justice system

Seminar in cooperation with BMJV

13.–14 Sep. 2018 | Berlin

Inclusion and accessibility in libraries

Workshop in cooperation with the training initiative for specialised libraries and related institutions “Initiative Fortbildung für wissenschaftliche Spezialbibliotheken und verwandte Einrichtungen e.V.”

17 Sep. 2018 | Berlin

Networked controls: perspectives of multi-lateral oversight over “networked security”

Panel discussion in cooperation with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom and Stiftung Neue Verantwortung

20.-21 Sep. 2018 | Berlin

Values and human rights education in higher teacher education

Expert discussion with Osnabrück University, Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica (UNA), Universidad de Costa Rica (UCR) and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR/IIDH), funded by the German Academic Exchange Service

08 Oct. 2018 | Berlin

The voice of freedom and women in the Arab world

Panel discussion marking the 2018 Raif Badawi Award for Courageous Journalists, in cooperation with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom

10 Oct. 2018 | Berlin

The reporting procedure at the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

Expert discussion hosted by the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism

10 Oct. 2018 | Berlin

Debriefing on the 9th session of the UN Open-ended Working Group on Aging

Expert discussion in cooperation with BMFSFJ

15 Oct. 2018 | Frankfurt am Main

10th judicial training symposium (Hesse)

Exchange with judges on the CRPD in labour and social court practice

15 Oct. 2018 | Berlin

70 years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – a time for concern or celebration?

Panel discussion, in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Forum Menschenrechte and the Geneva Academy for International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights on the significance and Declaration’s impact 70 years later

15–16 Oct. 2018 | Berlin

70 years Universal Declaration of Human Rights – a time for concern or celebration?

International expert conference in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Forum Menschenrechte and the Geneva Academy for International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights on the topic of safeguarding and strengthening human rights standards in an era of crisis

17 Oct. 2018 | Koblenz

11th judicial training symposium (Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland)

Exchange with judges on the CRPD in social-court practice

22–24 Oct. 2018 | Berlin

NHRI conference on business and human rights and access to remedy

Workshop in cooperation with the Danish Institute for Human Rights

26–27 Oct. 2018 | Frankfurt am Main

“Maßstab Menschenrechte”: strengthening practices in education on the topics of refugees, asylum and race-based discrimination

Workshop within the project of the same name in cooperation with the Anne Frank Educational Centre, funded by the BMFSFJ “Live democracy” programme

02–03 Nov. 2018 | Reckahn

Human rights and children’s rights in education relationships

Conference in cooperation with Rochow-Museum und Akademie, the Human Rights Centre of the University of Potsdam, work areas of the University of Kassel, DJI, the Helga Breuninger Stiftung and the Robert Bosch Foundation

06–07 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

Children’s rights indicators

Workshop of the National CRC Monitoring Mechanism in cooperation with the DJI, as well as Prof. Lothar Krappmann, former member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

07 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

29th civil society consultation of the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism

Consultations with federations of disability organisations

08 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

Reading by Mely Kiyak: “Haltung. Ein Essay gegen das Lautsein”

08 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

Strengthening the human rights of older persons through a new convention?

Parliamentary breakfast on the status of international developments relating to strengthening the human rights of older persons and possibilities for action by Germany

08 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

Corporate behaviour and human rights

Expert discussion on business and human rights

08–09 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

7th conference for the staff of the federal and Länder disability commissioners

Conference for the staff of the Länder disability commissioners

09 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

Wrap-up event and 4th session of the group of experts advising the judicial training project

Expert discussion on application of the CRPD in court practice

15 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

Workshop discussion of the National CRPD Monitoring Mechanism

Good action plans and measures from the human rights perspective

16–18 Nov. 2018 | Osnabrück

“Maßstab Menschenrechte” Strengthening practices in education on the topics of refugees, asylum and race-based discrimination

Seminar within the project of the same name, in cooperation with Osnabrück University, funded by the BMFSFJ “Live democracy” programme

19 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

Human rights education under pressure

Network meeting

22 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

70 years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – For a culture of human rights

Anniversary event with Prof. Monika Grütters, Minister of State and Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, in cooperation with the German Culture Council and Initiative kulturelle Integration

22–23 Nov. 2018 | Berlin

Exchange with the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights

Expert discussion

26 Nov. 2018 | Geneva

Are tech companies a threat to human rights?

Debate during the 7th UN Forum on Business and Human Rights

30 Nov.-2 Dec. 2018 | Bremen

“Maßstab Menschenrechte”: strengthening practices in education on the topics of refugees, asylum and race-based discrimination

Workshop within the project of the same name in cooperation with the youth-education centre LidiceHaus in Bremen, funded by the BMFSFJ “Live democracy” programme

08 Dec. 2018 | Nürnberg

Award of the 2018 German Human Rights Film Award and the Night of Human Rights Films

Patron: Joachim Gauck, former Federal President In cooperation with organisations active in the areas of human rights, education, culture and media work, religious organisations, charities and local institutions

10–13 Dec. 2018 | Berlin

Human rights education with the new COMPASS

Four-day workshop on the new COMPASS, in cooperation with the Council of Europe

14 Dec. 2018 | Berlin

On whose behalf? EU migration policy

Expert discussions about the EU Trust Fund for Africa and other current issues relating to migration, in cooperation with the Heinrich Böll Foundation

Publications in 2018

German Institute for Human Rights

Allgemeine Erklärung der Menschenrechte. Vereinte Nationen, 10. Dezember 1948. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 25 pp.

Children's right to contact with their incarcerated parent. Chapter 5 of the report to the German Federal Parliament on the development of the human rights situation in Germany. July 2016 – June 2017. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 18 pp.

Das Recht auf Arbeit für Menschen mit Behinderungen verwirklichen. Der Arbeitsmarkt muss inklusiv und für alle zugänglich werden. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 4 pp. (Position no. 15)

Das Verschwindenlassen. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 5 pp. (Information no. 19, Einfache Sprache)

Der Arbeits-Markt muss für alle offen sein. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 13 pp. (Position no. 15 in Leichter Sprache)

Der Verfassungsschutz und das Recht von Kindern auf Privatsphäre. Zur Diskussion um die nachrichtendienstliche Verarbeitung der Daten von unter 14-Jährigen. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 6 pp. (Information no. 18)

Development of the human rights situation in Germany. July 2017 – June 2018. Report to the German Federal Parliament in accordance with sec. 2 para 5 of the act regarding the legal status and mandate of the German Institute for Human Rights. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 12 pp. (Executive Summary)

Die Spruchpraxis des UN-Ausschusses für wirtschaftliche, soziale und kulturelle Rechte. Das Individualbeschwerdeverfahren nach dem Fakultativprotokoll zum UN-Sozialpakt. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 10 pp. (Information no. 23)

Die Umsetzung der UN-Kinderrechtskonvention messbar machen. Anforderungen der Vereinten Nationen an Kinderrechte-Indikatoren. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 9 pp. (Information no. 17)

Entwicklung der Menschen-Rechts-Situation in Deutschland. Juli 2016 bis Juni 2017. Bericht an den Deutschen Bundes-Tag. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 20 pp. (Zusammen-Fassung in Leichter Sprache)

Entwicklung der Menschenrechtssituation in Deutschland. Juli 2017 – Juni 2018. Bericht an den Deutschen Bundestag gemäß § 2 Absatz 5 DIMRG. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 10 pp. (Kurzfassung)

Entwicklung der Menschenrechtssituation in Deutschland. Juli 2017 – Juni 2018. Bericht an den Deutschen Bundestag gemäß § 2 Absatz 5 DIMRG. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 145 pp.

Geflüchtete Menschen mit Behinderungen. Handlungsnotwendigkeiten für eine bedarfsgerechte Aufnahme in Deutschland. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 4 pp. (Position no. 16)

Heike Rabe; Britta Leisering: Die Istanbul-Konvention. Neue Impulse für die Bekämpfung von geschlechtsspezifischer Gewalt. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 84 pp. (Analyse)

Hendrik Cremer; Claudia Engelmann: Hausordnungen menschenrechtskonform gestalten. Das Recht auf Unverletzlichkeit der Wohnung (Art. 13 GG) in Gemeinschaftsunterkünften für Geflüchtete. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 30 pp. (Analyse)

Humanitäre Hilfe inklusiv gestalten. Die Rechte von Menschen mit Behinderungen systematisch verankern. Berlin:

Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 4 pp. (Position no. 19)

2017 Annual Report Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 78 pp.

Jan-Christian Niebank: Bringing human rights into fashion. Issues, challenges and underused potentials in the transnational garment industry. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 76 pp. (Analysis)

Keine Papiere – keine Geburtsurkunde? Empfehlungen für die Registrierung von in Deutschland geborenen Kindern Geflüchteter. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 4 pp. (Position no. 18)

Meike Nieß; Valentin Aichele: Selbstbestimmt unterwegs in Berlin? Mobilität von Menschen mit Behinderungen aus menschenrechtlicher Perspektive. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 78 pp. (Bericht)

Menschenrechte in der sozialgerichtlichen Praxis. Die UN-Behindertenrechtskonvention. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2017. 189 pp. (Praxis)

Mitreden ohne Barrieren. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 12 pp. (Position no. 17 in Leichter Sprache)

National Human Rights Institutions and the 2018 Talanoa Dialogue. Showcasing that climate action should be human rights-based. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 4 pp. (Information no. 21)

National Human Rights Institutions and the 2018 UN Climate Conference. Incorporating human rights in the implementation guidelines of the Paris Agreement. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 6 pp. (Information no. 20)

Partizipation barrierefrei gestalten. Wie die Beteiligung von Menschen mit Behinderungen auf Augenhöhe gelingen kann. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 4 pp. (Position no. 17)

Rassismus und Menschenrechte. Materialien für die Fortbildung in der Strafjustiz. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 85 pp. (Bildung)

Rassistische Straftaten erkennen und verhandeln. Ein Reader für die Strafjustiz. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 95 pp. (Praxis)

Staatenpflichten aus dem UN-Sozialpakt im Kontext unternehmerischen Handelns. Allgemeine Bemerkung Nr. 24 des UN-Ausschusses für wirtschaftliche soziale und kulturelle Rechte. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 8 pp. (Information no. 16)

Valentin Aichele: Promote, protect and monitor. 2017 update survey on article 33 (2) of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 35 pp. (Analysis)

Wie kann Deutschland Menschen mit Behinderungen in anderen Ländern besser helfen? Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 8 pp. (Position no. 14 in Leichter Sprache)

Wie kommen die Armen zu ihrem Recht? Zur Umsetzung sozialer Menschenrechte in der Grundsicherung. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 28 pp. (Dokumentation)

Statements

“Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung der in das Geburtenregister einzutragenden Angaben“. Verbändeanhörung zum Referentenentwurf des Bundesministeriums des Innern, für Bau und Heimat. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 10 pp.

Die Richtung stimmt - jetzt muss die EU mitgestalten. Stellungnahme zum ersten Entwurf für ein verbindliches Menschenrechtsabkommen der Offenen Zwischenstaatlichen UN-Arbeitsgruppe zu Transnationalen Konzernen

und Sonstigen Unternehmen. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 10 pp.

Die UN-Leitprinzipien als Grundlage für ein verbindliches UN-Abkommen zu Wirtschaft und Menschenrechten. Stellungnahme zu den „Entwurfselementen für ein verbindliches Menschenrechtsabkommen“ der Offenen Zwischenstaatlichen UN-Arbeitsgruppe zu Transnationalen Konzernen und sonstigen Unternehmen. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 9 pp.

Gesetzentwurf der Bundesregierung „Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung der in das Geburtsregister einzutragenden Angaben“. Antrag der Fraktion DIE LINKE „Selbstbestimmung, Gleichbehandlung, körperliche Unversehrtheit (...)“. Öffentliche Anhörung des Ausschusses für Inneres und Heimat des Deutschen Bundestages am 26. November 2018. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 10 pp.

OEIGWG has come in from the cold. Will the EU do the same? Position paper on the zero draft of a binding treaty presented by the open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational companies and other business enterprises. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 10 pp.

Seenotrettung und Flüchtlingsschutz. Menschenrechtliche und seerechtliche Pflichten solidarisch erfüllen. Second, updated edition. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 16 pp.

Seenotrettung und Flüchtlingsschutz. Menschenrechtliche und seerechtliche Pflichten solidarisch erfüllen. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 15 pp.

Stellungnahme im schriftlichen Anhörungsverfahren der Enquete-Kommission „Ursachen und Formen von Rassismus und Diskriminierungen in Thüringen sowie ihre Auswirkungen auf das gesellschaftliche Zusammenleben und die freiheitliche Demokratie“, zu Handlungsempfehlungen im Bereich Polizei und Inneres – Vorlage 6/4668-NF. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 15 pp.

Stellungnahme zum Antrag Fraktion Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Drs. 18/829. Von Gewalt betroffene Frauen nicht vor verschlossener Tür stehen lassen – Frauenhäuser stärken, Rechtsanspruch schaffen. Öffentliche Anhörung des niedersächsischen Ausschusses für Soziales, Gesundheit und Gleichstellung am 16. August 2018. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 9 pp.

Stellungnahme zum Gesetzentwurf der Bundesregierung zur Einstufung von Georgien, Algerien, Marokko und Tunesien als sichere Herkunftsstaaten. Bundesrat-Drucksache 380/18. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 13 pp.

Stellungnahme zum Gesetzentwurf der Bundesregierung. Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Einstufung Georgiens, der Demokratischen Volksrepublik Algerien, des Königreichs Marokko und der Tunesischen Republik als sichere Herkunftsstaaten. Bundestag-Drucksache 19/5314. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 13 pp.

The World Bank Inspection Panel and its leading role as an independent accountability mechanism for project-affected people and communities. Comments on the specific potential additional roles for the Inspection Panel and how it compares to other mechanisms. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 6 pp.

Zum Antrag „Konsultation der Monitoring-Stelle der UN-BRK in NRW zur Weiterentwicklung der Inklusion unmittelbar in der parlamentarischen Arbeit nutzen“ (Drucksache 17/2388). Öffentliche Anhörung des Ausschusses für Schule und Bildung des Landtags NRW am 5. September 2018. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 8 pp.

Zum Entwurf eines Gesetzes über einen verbesserten Zugang zu Werken zugunsten von Menschen mit Seh- oder Lesebeeinträchtigung. Anlässlich der Sitzung des Deutschen Bundestages am 05.07.2018. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 4 pp.

Zur individuellen Kennzeichnungspflicht für Polizeibeamt_innen bei geschlossenen Einsätzen. Öffentliche Anhörung des Innenausschusses der Bürgerschaft der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg am 15. Juni 2018. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 7 pp.

Zur öffentlichen Anhörung am Montag, dem 29. Januar 2018, 9 Uhr im Hauptausschuss des Deutschen Bundestags zum Familiennachzug. Zum Gesetzentwurf der Fraktion der AfD, 06.12.2017, BT-Drucksache 19/182; Gesetzentwurf der Fraktion DIE LINKE, 12.12.2017, BT-Drucksache 19/241; Gesetzentwurf der Fraktion FDP, 15.01.2018, BT-Drucksache 19/425; Gesetzentwurf der Fraktion der CDU/CSU, 16.01.2018, BT-Drucksache 19/439 und dem Antrag der Fraktion BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN, 17.01.2018, BT-Drucksache 19/454. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 16 pp.

Zurückweisungen von Flüchtlingen an der Grenze? Eine menschen- und europarechtliche Bewertung. Zweite, erweiterte und aktualisierte Auflage. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 14 pp.

Zurückweisungen von Flüchtlingen an der Grenze? Eine menschen- und europarechtliche Bewertung. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 10 pp.

In cooperation with other institutions

Andrea Kämpf: National Human Rights Institutions and their work on migrants' human rights. Results of a survey among NHRIs. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, GANHRI, 2018. 72 pp. (Analysis)

Stamm, Lena / Würth, Anna: Children's rights in National Human Rights Institutions: A mapping exercise. Geneva: GANHRI / UNICEF, 2018, 64 S.

Deutsche Förderung der Menschenrechtsarbeit von LSBTIQ+ im globalen Süden und Osten. Berlin: Dreilinden gGmbH; Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2018. 49 pp. (Regenbogen-Philanthropie 4)

All of the Institute's publications can be downloaded from the site: www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/publikationen.

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We wish to express our thanks to all of the staff members who supported our work over the course of 2018 in full-time or part-time capacities. Full-time and part-time positions corresponding to a total of 35.8 FTE were funded from the institutional allocation, 25.7 FTE were funded with project funds.

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As of 31 Dec. 2018



IVAN TANUS, MEXICO

PUBLISHER

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ANNUAL REPORT I September 2019

EDITORS

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COVER PHOTO

Ivan Tanus, Mexico

DESIGN COVER AND GRAPHICS

WEBERSUPIRAN.berlin

