



IFAIR 2018

Many new faces and fresh ideas

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**Young Initiative on
Foreign Affairs and
International Relations
(IFAIR) e.V.**

Amtsgericht Berlin
Charlottenburg
Registernr.: VR 30447 B

Executive Board: Johannes
Klein, Theresa Lieb, Dr.
Steffen Murau, Dr. Kilian
Spandler, Florian Winkler

www.IFAIR.eu
[Wikipedia-Artikel](#)

Lena Gomer
Johanna Hartz-Goiteom

Dear IFAIR members, supporters, partners and friends,

In 2018, we witnessed attempts of reconciliation, as between North and South Korea. At the same time, other countries such as the UK distanced themselves, and populist ideas gained wider acceptance. Against this backdrop, it becomes even more important that young people from different regions of the world have a chance to exchange their ideas and make their voices heard. This represents one of the main goals of IFAIR. In order to get closer to this goal we organized numerous events and kicked off new projects last year.

To start off the new year, we want to reflect on our achievements from 2018 and highlight our plans for 2019. All of our activities and success stories would not be possible without the support of different institutions and individuals. Therefore, we want to seize this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us on our journey so far!

Our highlights in 2018:

- We saw our membership breaking the 200 mark for the first time.
- We completed the second edition of our impact group “Memory as a tool of change” with a final event in Berlin, organized in cooperation with the Heinrich Böll Foundation.
- We also finished the second edition of LACalytics with the support of the EU-LAC foundation. We organized a closing event in Hamburg, Germany, and launched a new LACalytics publication.
- David Wallace, the political counsellor at the British Embassy in Berlin, joined us for a foreign policy talk with students and young professionals.
- For the first time, we sent a delegation of students and young professional to the European Youth Event (EYE).



- In cooperation with the association of the Humboldt University, we organized a panel discussion on international human trafficking and legal reforms in Germany.
- New regional directors have joined our core team: Elias Reiche for Global Affairs, Maximilian Fricke and Hendrik Frank as (co-) directors for North America, Johanna Hartz-Goiteom for South & East Asia, Lena Gomer, Eimen Hamedat and Max Kratz as (co-) directors for MENA and Katharina Lange for sub-Saharan Africa.

Looking back on our Impact Groups 2018

Impact Group: [„Memory as a Tool of Change“ – Forgotten Places in Siberia](#)

Project partner: University of Yugra in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia

To wrap up the second edition of our impact group “Memory as a Tool of Change”, we held our final event together with the Heinrich Böll Foundation in Berlin in February 2018. We presented the route that our participants took and the results of their work to the public. Afterwards, two experts gave their views on the findings and comments of the participants. First, Anke



Giesen shared her assessment of the current situation of the politics of remembrance in Russia. Then, Dr. Jan Claas Behrends connected Moscow’s remembrance policies to theoretical approaches. After two hours of engaging discussion, we finished the evening off with an informal reception of around 100 guests.



Impact Group: Foreign Policy Talks

IFAIR is proud to have hosted David Wallace for a Foreign Policy Talk in Berlin. Mr. Wallace is the political counsellor of the British embassy in Berlin, responsible for the UK's co-operation with Germany on foreign policy, international security, and justice and home affairs. IFAIR invited him to talk with students and young professionals in an informal setting about the British-European future in the light of Brexit. We had to limit the number of attendees early due to the large interest. Our aim has been to keep these settings small and informal in order to create space for an open and frank political discussion. Next to Brexit, we also discussed Europe's future relationship with the USA and Russia.



Impact Group: European Youth Event

For the first time, IFAIR send a delegation of students and young professionals to the European Youth Event 2018 (EYE). The event was hosted by the European Parliament and took place in the European Parliament's seat in Strasbourg on the 1st and 2nd of June 2018. The members of IFAIR's delegation seized the opportunity to raise their voices on European matters and to discuss their perspective and concerns for the future of Europe together with European politicians and decision-makers in the workshops, discussions and presentations of the EYE. The ideas for the future of Europe that came up in the course of the event are summarized in the EYE 2018 Report: "[Speak up Europe! 100 ideas for a better future](#)".





Impact Group: LACalytics 2018 – Strengthening EU-LAC-Cooperation

Project partner: EU-LAC-Foundation

In 2018, the Impact Group LACalytics organised the 2nd edition of its LACalytics programme with kind support of the EU-LAC Foundation and the German Federal Foreign Office. LACalytics facilitates interregional cooperation between students and young professionals from Europe



(EU), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) aiming at fostering bi-regional awareness and understanding as well as strengthening the relationship between the two regions. This is pursued on a personal as well as a professional level by matching participants from both regions to work together. With this strategy, LACalytics promotes the young generation's impact on policy-making.

LACalytics 2018 received more than 260 applications from 41 countries out of which we selected 46 participants and matched them with a co-author from the respective other region. The teams discussed issues of shared relevance in Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe and wrote articles on topics related to politics, economics, environment, civil society & culture as well as science, technology and innovation. The best 12 articles were selected and published in a bi-lingual series of policy papers under the title "Strengthening EU-LAC Cooperation: Sharing experiences for Present and Future Developments". The authors were invited to the concluding LACalytics conference held from 20th to 24th October in Hamburg, Germany. During the conference, the LACalytics participants finally met each other after having worked with their co-authors for about seven months only via internet. Aside from the personal exchange, the participants presented and discussed their articles and compared their findings in order to identify patterns and common topics. Additionally, visits to the EU-LAC Foundation, the GIGA Institute, the German newspaper Die Zeit, and the German Business Association for Latin America provided practical insights into EU-LAC relations. During the public concluding event, the participants presented their analyses and recommendations to policy-makers and stakeholders of EU-LAC relations. A panel of LACalytics participants and representatives of the EU-LAC Foundation and the German Federal Foreign Office discussed challenges faced by the bi-regional relationship and ways to jointly target these challenges, especially those involving the young generation. The



conference was attended by representatives of the consulate corps of several LAC countries, universities, foundations, companies and institutes.

Panel discussion on national law on prostitution to fight human trafficking

Project partner: Association of Humboldt University

International human trafficking is a flourishing but often overlooked problem. In order to talk about legal reforms and in cooperation with the Association of Humboldt University, IFAIR invited to a panel discussion on this issue at the Humboldt University in Berlin. We are happy that not only prominent representatives of teaching,



research and legal practice followed our invitation but also a representative of the profession who gave us a special perspective on a highly controversial regulatory area. The reform of the §232 StGB and the new German law regulating prostitution was lively discussed with students after the official part of the evening had ended. We would be happy to see more formats like this in cooperation with the Humboldt University in the future.



Finances

Annual Financial Statement 2018

Once again, IFAIR has continued its professional and financial development as a non-profit organization with a balanced budget in 2018. We kindly thank all of our members and supporters for their contributions and donations as well as the EU-LAC Foundation for their generous funding of our successful LACalytics project in 2018.

Earnings in EUR		Expenses in EUR	
Members' contributions	1 351,16 €	Administration	1 203,90 €
Donations	845,62 €	IG "Memory as a Tool for Change"	1 220,25 €
Project funding for the IG „LACalytics 2018“	5 000,00 €	IG „LACalytics 2018“	4 087,72 €
Total	7 196,78 €	Total	6 511,87 €

Members

Thanks to an increase of more than 15%, 2018 saw our membership breaking the 200 mark for the first time. IFAIR now has 201 regular and 21 honorary members. We are proud that our membership is becoming more and more global: For the first time in IFAIR's history, we have accepted more 'international' new members (19) than German nationals (16).

To keep up with the growing scope of our activities and the organizational tasks that come with it, we introduced a new system of membership contributions. IFAIR members can now choose to contribute as a Regular Member, a Junior Sponsor or a Senior Sponsor.

New faces in our core team

Many new regional directors have joined our core team in 2018: Elias Reiche for Global Affairs, Maximilian Fricke und Hendrik Frank as (co-) directors for North America, Johanna Hartz-Goiteom for South & East Asia, Lena Gomer, Eimen Hamedat und Max Kratz as (co-) directors for Middle East & North Africa and Katharina Lange for Sub-Saharan Africa.



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Elias Reiche is a third-year law student at Humboldt University in Berlin. Besides his academic career he works part-time for a congressman at the German Bundestag and works as a volunteer for Berlin Stadtmission. Elias gained professional experience working with the Federal Foreign Office as a freelancer. After his high school degree, he travelled in Central America for half a year. During his stay, he worked for the “Carpe Diem Eco Project” in Nicaragua and a French NGO focused on fair trade textiles made by indigenous people. Other influential stays included half a year in Eastern Europe and visits to the USA, Israel and India. Elias speaks German, English, and Spanish.



Maximilian Fricke is a MA student in National and International Administration and Policy at the University of Potsdam. He works part-time in government relations for a foreign industrial group. Maximilian completed his bachelor’s degree in Business, Economics and Political Studies in Berlin in 2016. He then started a one-year training programme with the German American Chamber of Commerce in Chicago, IL, where he gained extensive knowledge of the United States. Maximilian speaks German, English and French.



Hendrik Frank currently works as a public affairs manager for a German online bank. He holds a Master's degree in Public Policy from Hertie School of Governance in Berlin. During his studies, he spent a semester abroad at the University of Texas at Austin. Previously, he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from King's College London. His interests lie in foreign and economic policy with a special focus on the impact of digitization. Hendrik speaks German, English and French.



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Johanna Hartz-Goiteom is currently in the second year of the double degree master's program Public Affairs and Management at HEC Paris and Freie Universität Berlin. She received her bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Mannheim and studied one semester at the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. She wrote her bachelor thesis about the educational attainment of children with a migration background in Germany. Johanna has gained practical experience through internships with consultancies, the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce in Mumbai, the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin and the Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW) in Mannheim. Johanna speaks German, English, Spanish and is learning French.



Lena Gomer currently completes a master's degree in Near and Middle Eastern Studies and Intensive Arabic at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Münster in Islamic Studies and Economics. Besides the regional focus of her studies, Lena has collected valuable experiences by living in Jordan for volunteering and an internship at a local organization – the Arab Water Countries Utilities Association (ACWUA). Lena speaks German, English, Arabic and French.



Eimen Hamedat studies Social Sciences with a focus on Political Sciences at RTWH Aachen University and currently writes his bachelor's thesis about the political influence of faith-based lobby organisations on the politics of the European Union. In 2016, Eimen has spent a semester abroad studying International & Global Studies at the RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia. He has interned with the European Parliament in Brussels and the German Parliament in Berlin. Furthermore, he worked for a consultancy specialised in the fields of environmental and energy technology. He is founder and CEO of an IT Start-Up based in Aachen, Germany. Eimen speaks German, English, French and Arabic.



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German, English, Hebrew and Arabic.

Max Kratz currently lives in Berlin where he does his Bachelor's in Islam & Middle East Studies, with an emphasis on the Levant region. He researches questions on sexuality and gender in Islamic contexts. He works for two NGOs in the fields of anti-discrimination education and advocacy. Max lived for two years in Jerusalem and worked in a development cooperation project that serves as a platform for Israelis and Palestinians for political, educational and artistic exchange. Max speaks



Bachelor's degree in Economics and Law from the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster. For her thesis, she conducted an ethical and economic analysis on conflict diamonds. During her Bachelor's, she also took part in an exchange program with the Université de Strasbourg in France. Katharina speaks German, English, French and is learning Swahili.

Katharina Lange is currently doing her Master's degree in Development Economics and International Studies at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg. During several internships and a recent exchange semester at the University of Limpopo in South Africa, she has been focusing on sustainability as well as the economic and financial development of Sub-Saharan Africa. Prior to this, Katharina graduated with a



Outlook for 2019

EU-ASEAN Perspectives IV

In 2018, the EU-ASEAN Impact Group geared up for the fourth edition of its main project - the EU-ASEAN Perspectives Dialogue (EUAP). The project has been expanding in both reach and ambition with every new iteration. EUAP IV, which will be held in 2019, is set to continue this trend. To make these goals possible, the number of IG team members was increased this year. Olivia Geymond, a participant in the 3rd edition of EUAP, joined in 2018 as the Deputy-Head of the Impact Group. After a successful recruitment campaign, the IG also welcomed Johanna Hartz-Goiteom and Jessica Kininger to the team. The new theme of the project has already been decided - as usual, focusing on a current issue of concern and the cooperation of the two regional organizations. Partnerships with key European and ASEAN organizations are being negotiated to give the best opportunities to our next cohort of EUAP participants.

Stay tuned to IFAIR's newsletter and social media in 2019 to be the first to be updated on topics and news of EUAP IV!!

New Impact Group for Eastern Europe and Eurasia: GUD Relations

The new Impact Group "GUD Relations" aims to bring together students from Germany and Eastern Europe to encourage a discussion on current problems and perspectives in their respective countries. For this purpose, 46 students will be selected to jointly write and publish articles in international authorship and present them to the public.

Impact Group: 30/30/30

We are happy to work together with the Kreuzberger Kinderstiftung to organise an event to inform about the upcoming European elections. The event consists of three 30-minute segments. First, we will welcome our guest with a session of classical music. After, we will hear a speech by a well-known European politician. Our last segment will give our guests the chance to network in the form of a "speed-dating". The basic idea of the event is also reflected in the composition of the invited guests. Attendance for this event will be open for students, pupils and young professionals.



Impact Group MENA

In the last months of 2018, the MENA regional team was reinforced by young, motivated students who have ambitious plan for the upcoming year. The planning and execution of an impact group bringing together students and young professionals from the MENA region and European countries is in the stage of planning. Supported by experts, the participants will work on a final publication. Follow our Facebook page to learn about the topic of this impact group and further announcements.

North America

The past two years since the inauguration of US President Donald Trump have caused some controversy in various political areas. 2019 will presumably become a similarly exiting year. Many unresolved issues, some of which naturally affect the transatlantic relations, await us. We would like to discuss these topics with you at different upcoming events and with interesting discussion partners. Stay tuned!

All current and new members are invited to participate in the above projects (see website for contact points) or bring in their own ideas for projects. Moreover, we continuously invite submissions for articles in our Think Tank at ifair.eu or our op-eds at Diplomatic Magazine.

We wish you all a successful 2019 and hope to see you again soon!

IFAIR's executive board

Johannes Klein, Theresa Lieb, Dr. Steffen Murau,

Dr. Kilian Spandler und Florian Winkler



A special thanks to our donors and partners

Our work has only been possible in cooperation with our project partners and through the support of our donors and members. Our partners are mentioned in detail on the project pages on our website. On this occasion, IFAIR would like to particularly thank the following individuals and organizations that – among several others – made our work in 2018 possible:

- Kreuzberger Kinderstiftung
- EU-LAC Stiftung, in particular Mr. Luis Fierro, Mrs. Paola Amadei and Mrs. Odilia Abreu
- Federal Foreign Office, in particular Mr. Martin Leeser and Mrs. Marian Schuegraf
- GIGA Institute
- Die Zeit
- Lateinamerikaverein der Deutschen Wirtschaft / German Business Association for Latin America
- Scharlau GmbH, Hamburg
- Ana-Maria Ghinita
- Bucerius Law School
- Freie und Hansestadt Hamburg
- Energía Limpia XXI
- Somos Iberoamérica
- Heinrich Böll Stiftung Berlin
- Anke Giesen (Memorial Deutschland / Uni Magdeburg)
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