



# HABITAT OF WOMEN'S NGOS IN BULGARIA IN 2020

ANALYSIS OF THE ANNUAL GRANTEE MEETING  
OF THE BULGARIAN FUND FOR WOMEN (BFW)

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# 1

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN THE GLOBAL INFORMATION FLOW IN 2020

2020 is a serious contender for a leading apocalyptic scenario, not only in the context of the global pandemic of coronavirus, better known as COVID-19, but also in terms of the eternal theme of equality between men and women. The year started with a report by the World Economic Forum<sup>1</sup> predicting that in just 99.5 years, women will be equal to men, although in 2020 they will lead countries such as Finland, Germany and New Zealand and occupy leading positions in the European Central Bank and the World Bank. And two months later the European Union (EU), marking March 8, announced that women in the Union are confronted by "... challenges, inequalities and threats in their daily lives: abuse and harassment, lower pay, fewer jobs and opportunities for professional development... a particularly worrying concern is the trivialisation of sexist hate speech, especially online, but also in public debates."<sup>2</sup> In the Gender Equality Strategy: Ambition to Build a Union for Equality<sup>3</sup>, the EU announced that women earn on average 16% less than men and still find difficulty in finding jobs and keeping their places of work. Women continue to be underrepresented in positions of management, including in the largest companies in the EU, where a mere 8% of CEOs are women. And to return to the topical COVID-19, in early April Evelyn Regner, Chair

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality in the European Parliament, noted<sup>4</sup> that the state of emergency currently contrasts sharply with gender inequality, considering that women are 70 % of the healthcare workforce and, in parallel with this, perform a large part of the unpaid social care in the conditions of social distancing and quarantine.

If we take a close look at the topic of the environment in which the so-called women's organisations operate, it is inevitable that we will encounter statistics on victims of domestic violence on a global and European scale, where the picture is no less apocalyptic - according to the World Health Organisation, 1 in 3 women in the world is a victim of domestic violence<sup>5</sup>. A study by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights<sup>6</sup> shows that violence against women and domestic violence are widespread abuse of fundamental rights throughout the EU and very often remain unreported. In the EU, 33% of women have been subjected to physical and / or sexual abuse and 55% have been sexually harassed. In Bulgaria, according to data of the Ministry of Interior in 2019, every third victim of murder was a woman<sup>7</sup>, and from 2016 to 2019 the number of women killed by their relatives increased by 50%<sup>8</sup>.

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1 Mind the 100 Year Gap - <https://www.weforum.org/reports/gender-gap-2020-report-100-years-pay-equality>  
2 Statement by the European Commission on the occasion of International Women's Day in 2019. - [https://ec.europa.eu/bulgaria/news/statement-european-commission-international-women-day-2019\\_bg](https://ec.europa.eu/bulgaria/news/statement-european-commission-international-women-day-2019_bg)  
3 Gender equality strategy – Achievements and Key Areas for Action - [https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality/gender-equality-strategy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality/gender-equality-strategy_en)

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4 Pressegespräch zum Thema häusliche Gewalt mit MEP Evelyn Regner und Maria Rösslhumer vom 8. April 2020 <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/austria/de/aktuell-presse/meldungen/2020-meldungen/april-2020/pr-2020-april-6.html>  
5 COVID-19 and violence against women - What the health sector/system can do - <https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/emergencies/COVID-19-VAW-full-text.pdf>  
6 Women as victims of partner violence [https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra\\_uploads/fra-2019-justice-for-victims-of-violent-crime-part-4-women\\_en.pdf](https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2019-justice-for-victims-of-violent-crime-part-4-women_en.pdf)  
7 Domestic violence in Bulgaria has killed 25 women per year. [https://www.dnevnik.bg/bulgaria/2020/01/20/4016164\\_domashno\\_nasilie\\_v\\_bulgariia\\_e\\_ubilo\\_25\\_jeni\\_za/](https://www.dnevnik.bg/bulgaria/2020/01/20/4016164_domashno_nasilie_v_bulgariia_e_ubilo_25_jeni_za/)  
8 Drastic increase in the killing of women in domestic violence <https://www.mediapool.bg/drastichen-rast-na-ubiystvata-na-zheni-pri-domashno-nasilie-news289376.html>

## 2

# WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN BULGARIA IN 2020

On 31 March 2020, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights Dunja Mijatović published a report from her visit to Bulgaria in November 2019, in which she expressed concern that the debate over the Istanbul Convention had escalated into worrying trends that pose a serious threat to the rights of women, children and LGBTI people. It is no less worrying that the services for victims of domestic violence are inadequate and do not sufficiently cover all regions in Bulgaria.

For this reason, she appealed to the authorities to increase the number of crisis centres and various social services necessary for victims of domestic violence. It is recommended that Bulgaria undertake a set of measures to support efforts to combat violence against women and domestic violence. "What is needed is stronger support for NGOs and human rights defenders working in this field, and systematic data collection on all forms of gender-based violence against women. The authorities must impose dissuasive sanctions on the perpetrators, guarantee victims access to free legal aid and easily accessible measures for protection, and provide them with effective remedies."<sup>9</sup>

The Commissioner emphasised that the public debates that began surrounding Bulgaria's ratification

of the Istanbul Convention spread disinformation about the scope and aims of the convention, and deep-rooted stereotypes about the roles of the sexes in society came to the surface. In essence, Bulgaria does not have a mechanism for the systematic collection of data regarding violence against women and domestic violence, which hinders the process of establishing the specifics of these occurrences. In particular, in Bulgaria rape within marriage is not explicitly criminalised and the definition of rape (Article 152 of the Criminal Code) applies only to female victims, is not entirely based on the lack of consent, and does not cover all types of rape, whereby it does not meet the standards and the recommendations developed by the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. In addition, Article 93 (31) recognises that a crime is committed in conditions of domestic violence where "this is preceded by systematic physical, sexual or psychological violence." The term "systematic" is interpreted by the prosecution as requiring three separate acts of violence committed by the same perpetrator so that criminal proceedings can be initiated. According to the Commissioner, this provision not only puts victims of domestic violence at serious risk, but also limits the possibilities for sanctioning perpetrators and sends the dangerous message to the public that domestic violence is acceptable.

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<sup>9</sup> The Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights – a report on her visit to Bulgaria (2019) <https://rm.coe.int/16809e0d03>

# 3

## ANNUAL GRANTEE MEETING OF THE BULGARIAN FUND FOR WOMEN (BFW)

The annual meeting of the organisations financed by BFW, was held in Sofia in the period 9-10.03.2020, literally days before the introduction of the state of emergency in the country in connection with the spread of coronavirus infection. 27 representatives of 20 NGOs<sup>10</sup> from the whole the country participated in the meeting. Conceptually, we opted for the idea of “habitat” for women’s NGOs in Bulgaria, because for the third successive year the BFW community meeting has offered safe space in which activists and representatives of NGOs have been able to freely discuss problem areas and opportunities for the development of the women’s movement in the country.

The main focuses of the programme included the 25th anniversary of the UN Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and a summary of achievements in the fight for gender equality, advocacy strategies at an international level that could have an impact at legislative changes at national level, as well as the presentation of a model of a “Theory of change” and the accompanying values of BFW.

The programme of the Annual Meeting was structured in interactive discussions and experiential methods, which provided an opportunity for exchange of experience and information between the participants on the nature of the challenges they face and the issues of the local communities that they represent. Time was set aside for a comparison of the problems and needs of girls and women in Bulgaria, and those of their NGOs, as well as for the identification of current issues for advocacy and lobbying for women’s rights and gender equality in Bulgaria as compared with the focus points of 2019.

In 2019, the analytical work of the participants in the Annual Grantee Meeting of BFW presented the

following main directions and challenges for NGOs working in support of women and girls:

- **conflict between the established patriarchal model and the dilemma of personal / professional realisation;**
- **violence against women** in the variety of forms in which it appears in our daily lives: sexual harassment, domestic violence, gender-based violence, violence against specifically vulnerable people, in particular in refugee centres and among the so-called invisible groups - trans-women and sex workers, and those with illegal status, a lack of income and / or access to health care;
- **health and sex education** and the lack of trained specialists to present the topic at school, apart from the usual class teacher and / or biology teacher;
- the lack of **modern supportive maternity care**, which should empower women with regard to the choices they make to conceive, monitor and complete the term of their pregnancies, as well as with regard to the birth of their children;
- **the lack of health services and staff in small settlements;**
- **the lack of accessible feminist literature** in the Bulgarian language;
- the need for **horizontal gender sensitivity in institutions;**
- **hostile public discourse**, the lack of sensitivity to specific purely female issues, online and physical attacks and cases of assault;
- **feeble financial sustainability** and the lack of capacity to provide stable organisations;
- **opposition to the professionalisation and the volunteering** of people involved in women’s NGOs;
- the development of a **communication policy and culture**, resistance to dark PR in cases of *de facto* lack of media coverage in the conditions of external intervention and hybrid war.

<sup>10</sup> The full list of participating organizations could be found at the end of the Analysis.

# 4

## PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

In 2020, the participants in the Annual Meeting categorically reaffirmed the main problems identified in 2019 regarding women in Bulgaria (18+ years) and further developed them in the following direction:

### 1. A patriarchal model against the dilemma of personal / professional realisation

A serious difficulty arises in connection with the bad and insufficient infrastructure, which hinders access to quality social and health care and therefore deprives women of choice in their realisation. On the labour market, women of childbearing age and mothers are subject to discrimination; they are predominantly employed in low-paid professional spheres, allowing flexibility and a combination of a number of responsibilities and commitments, such as nurses, teachers, personal assistants, social workers. The disparity in pay with men in similar positions remains large, with women often allocating their income disproportionately to men in order to cover various household expenses. According to the participants in the meeting, it is necessary to endeavour to promote the opportunities offered by legislation, namely - for men to take advantage of paid leave to look after a child of up to 2 years of age and to share parental responsibilities.

### 2. Violence against women remains topical in the ranking of problems facing women's organisations in 2020.

The attention of the participants in the meeting focused on the public lack of understanding of the term "domestic violence" and what it encompasses. People cannot comprehend the variety of mechanisms by which a woman becomes the object of aggression, the types of violence that do not end with physical aggression, the silence of neighbours and the implications for children who are also victims of the processes in a family.

The pressure on women in labour to choose a Caesarean section, rather than natural childbirth, the lack of the opportunity to give birth with a doula and support for the emotional recovery of women after childbirth were also addressed in the context of the topic of violence against women. The problems presented in this way also addressed the issues from 2019 regarding the lack of modern maternity care in Bulgaria and the sexual and reproductive problems of couples in the country.

As before, in 2020, the participants spoke about the lack of adequate support for in vitro programmes for



single women with municipal assistance, about the impossibility of using paid leave during in vitro procedures and about the imprecise and, at times incorrect, information on the Internet, which complements the missing sexual education and state policy in this area. In certain social groups we still talk about early marriages and pregnancies; in some places there is a severe form of “menstrual poverty” and the inability to provide hygiene products; new solutions, such as menstrual cups, are unknown.

### 3. Urban challenges

The topic of the environment in which we live and work and the needs of women received considerably more attention in 2020. The participants in the Annual Meeting identified problems in public transport and hygiene in public places and reflected the lack of public toilets, vending machines for hygienic products, places for breastfeeding babies in public buildings, poor lighting and hence an uncertain environment for moving from place to place. Getting around with a pushchair remains a serious challenge even in big cities, where there are partial repairs of pavements, subways and public transport stops.

### 4. Challenges facing the women’s movement

The hostile environment remains a leading element in the difficulties facing women’s organisations in the country. The majority do not understand feminism, or deliberately a blind eye is turned to different women’s problems. The media cover the rights and concerns of women according to stereotypical models, such as the difficulties of raising children with special needs or the combination of work and care for children and older members of the family. Nobody talks about the difficulties in the segment of older women and those of pre-retirement age; there are no reports or articles about “invisible” communities - women in refugee camps, sex workers, or female prisoners. And if in 2019 the anti-gender issue was still at the crest of the wave, today, considering the global pandemic, the topic no longer occupies the public space and, although there is an anti-narrative, it does not move large groups to discussions or protests against the work of women’s organisations, but just sporadically arouses smouldering hostility and verbal aggression.

In Bulgaria there is a lack of horizontal gender sensitivity in institutions, nor is there knowledge of the

nature of women’s issues. At schools there is a stereotypical attitude towards gender, and the lack of civic education and activity contributes to ignorance of personal rights, unprotected personal data online and various forms of harassment and aggression on the Internet, including “sexting”<sup>11</sup>, photo blackmail, various eating disorders among girls, and the imposing of visions and image / appearance that are neither realistic nor healthy.

### 5. Opposition to professionalisation and volunteering in the sector of women’s NGOs

It is a fact that in 2020 in Bulgaria there is no Law on Volunteering, which would view this activity outside situations of reaction to natural disasters and cataclysms. Work in the non-governmental sector is still not taken seriously by the majority; it remains unclear, and opportunities for civic participation and influence are continually declining. Organisations suffer from a lack of basic funding to allow for the sustainability of the team and the expertise gathered. The problem of fragmented funding often leaves women’s NGOs in periods when they lack funding between projects. There is a turnover of staff and a shortage of staff, which in turn leads to debilitation and burnout of some of the most involved activists.

It is important to mention that the participants pointed out the lack of continuity in women’s organisations and the lack of sharing of know-how as a problem of this domain. There are still organisations that are forced to adapt their activities to each call for applications and the different priorities of different donors in order to survive, which in turn reduces the possibility of focused, sustainable and effective intervention regarding specific women’s issues.

### 6. The culture and policy of communications

In the non-governmental sector in 2020 there are still problems related to working adequately with the media, coverage of various initiatives and the difficulties related to the implementation of various standards and regulatory requirements (GDPR, anti-money laundering measures, implementation of audit procedures and transparency in the work of organisations). The participants mentioned the difference between the generations of people involved in the sector and the difficulties that smaller and newer organisations experience in breaking into public discourse.

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<sup>11</sup> “Sexting” is a term that refers to the sending of messages, photos or video clips with sexual content by mobile phone.



# 5

## POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS OR WHERE TO IN 2021?

Notwithstanding the temporarily calm environment in the global pandemic, which creates a false sense of absence of difficulties in the work of women's organisations, the participants in the Annual Meeting of BFW outlined the directions through which a change in the status quo might be achieved.

### 1. Women organizing and the development of new role models

- Clear, professional and well-addressed communication of women's organisations;
- Attracting new supporters and engaging different generations of women in the current activities and projects of the organisations;
- A strong focus on sharing personal stories and efforts in order to change attitudes in society.

### 2. Involvement of men in the issues of the women's sector

- Involving men in volunteer initiatives through inclusive messages;
- engaging male teachers, educators and medical staff, and presenting them in typically female professional fields as stereotype-breaking role models;
- involvement of the family as a participant in various projects and initiatives;
- identification of male feminists and influencers.

### 3. Directing finances to the sector

- Attracting business angels to different projects and investing in the monetisation of current initiatives of organisations;
- seeking core funding for women's NGOs;
- providing scholarships for activists and girls;
- working with large companies in the context of their corporate social responsibility and image as companies supporting women and girls;

### 4. Efforts against hostile discourse

- information campaigns incorporating influencers and public figures;
- work with psychologists and specialists who should highlight women's issues in their professional field;
- initiating an Academy for Parents, including work on breaking down stereotypes and layered attitudes (for example, attracting football teams to women's causes);



- attracting media partners, who should cover the activities of the women's movement in the country and its causes.

Every one of the measures outlined so far will at some point inevitably lead to one of the most serious and horizontal challenges facing women's NGOs - the issue of **financial sustainability** and the capacity to provide stable organisations with the resources to address the problems identified. At the beginning of 2020, participants commented on the dependence of their organisations on project and donor financing, as well as possible ways of diversifying the portfolio of financial income for organisations through donations, merchandising and social entrepreneurship.

Just as in 2019, some municipalities were mentioned that allocate a budget to support non-governmental sectors - Varna and Sofia, but access to these instruments at a local level is heavily influenced by the political climate and the conjuncture in the city. The majority of the representatives of women's non-governmental organisations outlined a perspective for BFW for 2021 in the direction of providing the so-called "core funding" of the very existence of organisations (their human resource costs, as well as maintaining the office and consumables) in order for the existing staff to be stabilised, their capacity strengthened and activists to be focused on long-term solutions, regardless of the priorities of the various donors and benefactors.



# 6

## PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bulgaria Association** in Plovdiv, works in the interest of children to realise and develop their potential, creating a better future for the children themselves, for the people around them, and for their country. The mission of the association is to help children in Bulgaria to develop their potential through professionally supported friendly relationships that have measurable effects. In order to achieve this goal, the team provides an opportunity for young people to actively participate in civil society and to enrich the opportunities for participating in voluntary work.

**The Bulgarian Association of University Women**, Sofia, is one of the oldest civic organisations in Bulgaria. BAUW aims to unite female university professors and researchers and to encourage their active involvement simultaneously in both scientific and social activities.

**The Bulgarian Helsinki Committee - BHC**, Sofia, promotes the respect and protection of human rights, lobbies for legislative changes to bring Bulgarian legislation in line with international standards, encourages public debate on human rights issues and popularises the idea of the protection of human rights among the general public.

**The Institute for Peace Studies / Ekaterina Karavelova Academy** in Plovdiv, works for the development and promotion of peace and spiritual values, education, science, culture, and civil society, supports and promotes the education of young people, promotes and supports the role of young people in matters of peace and security, and develops research and consulting, as well as raising citizens' awareness of global issues and their response around the world.

**The format "SHE in ..."**, Plovdiv, shows and narrates the stories of women who do incredible things every day, but are not famous. By sharing their stories, they instil confidence in other women to pursue their goals while simultaneously receiving well-deserved recognition. The format has "SHE in..." is already established in various cities around the country such as Varna, Veliko Tarnovo, Gabrovo and others.

**Rodopchanka Women's Club**, Smolyan, supports the social integration and personal realisation of women, and protects the human rights of children and women; it actively participates in the development and strengthening of civil society in Bulgaria.

**"Girls from the city"**, the largest independent women's site in Bulgaria. The topics are urban culture, fashion, photography, lifestyle, literature, theatre, cinema and cooking. The authors write about those smiling, eternally young, inspired and positive girls aged from 18 to 78, who, like a magic wand, change the world around them, always for the better.

**"You're Not Alone - together against violence"**, Sofia, aims to give support to the thousands of women in Bulgaria who are victims of violence. The aim is to create public, political, media and personal intolerance to all forms of domestic violence, to accumulate public support for victims, and to give practical information to those affected and their loved ones about how to seek salvation.

**Zona-Lovech Association** in Lovech, aims to improve the quality of life of people living in the municipality of Lovech and who are disadvantaged in society, by supporting them and protecting their rights and legitimate interests. The sphere of activity of the association is: improvement, development of the infrastructure of the settlement and protection of the environment; activities related to the education, personal development and civic participation of children, young people and the elderly; activities that focus on family and public health.

**Young, Active, Creative Association** in Karlovo has the following aims: to create conditions for activating the role of young people as well as disadvantaged people in society; to promote a healthy lifestyle and sport among young people; to support the socially disadvantaged, people with disabilities and those in need of care; to stimulate youth activity and social appearances of young people living in isolated rural areas; to support the free exchange of ideas and information, scientific knowledge and intellectual values.

**Forum for Glocal Change Association**, Gabrovo, aims to improve the conditions for democratic participation of all members of society, to promote intercultural dialogue and active citizenship, which can connect global and local phenomena for the benefit of communities.

**CVS-Bulgaria** was founded by Bulgarian volunteers who participated in short-term voluntary projects abroad - job exchanges in Switzerland, the Netherlands and Germany. The organisation promotes the development of social values and responsible behaviour towards peace, social justice and the culture of the protection of nature. This is achieved through the organisation of volunteer initiatives and educational programmes.

**Animus Association Foundation**, Sofia, aims to achieve healthy communication between people and gender equality in Bulgarian society. It works actively for the formation of attitudes of tolerance of difference, respect for suffering and rejection of violence in Bulgarian society; the availability of affordable psychotherapeutic services and programmes offering competent professional help to those in need; understanding and accepting the values of psychodynamic psychotherapy.

**BlueLink Foundation**, Sofia, is an established organisation with the ideal goal of developing the capacity of a progressive civil society and supporting democracy, environmentally sustainable development and the implementation of the values of a united Europe. BlueLink realises its goal by promoting the strategic

use of the Internet, community journalism, research, and advocacy for the policies that mould them.

**Media Democracy Foundation**, Sofia, aims to establish independent and effective monitoring of the Bulgarian media environment by means of: diagnosing key issues of publicity and initiating public debates; promotion of civic actions in cooperation with Bulgarian and foreign institutions in the media sphere; stimulating self-criticism within the Bulgarian media.

**GenerationFoundation** works for the development of children and youth in order to form free, thinking and creative citizens, creators of an active and just society in the future. In this regard the foundation carries out the following activities: it provides training and advice on key competencies; it organises and conducts advocacy and information campaigns; it works for the promotion of traditional and innovative methods of working with children and young people; it encourages intergenerational dialogue; it creates conditions for dialogue with all groups of persons with a vested interest; and it participates in partner networks and associations.

**Gender Alternatives Foundation** in Plovdiv supports the establishment of a balanced civil society in the country through the accomplishment of equal opportunities and equal representation of men and women and of different ethnic groups in the public and private sectors; it encourages the active participation of young people in public life by protecting and popular-



ising their rights; it conducts research in all spheres of public and private life on issues related to social gender (gender research); it supports people in difficult social and economic situations, victims of violence, etc.

**Right to a Childhood Foundation** is an organisation whose main goal is to bring to the centre of public attention the protection of children's rights as part of the protection of human rights. Specialists and volunteers with a variety of professional fields and interests work in the organisation, united by the idea of working actively to acquaint children, adolescents and young people with their basic rights and the ways of protecting them; acquainting parents and professionals working with children with the meaning of protecting children's rights and their role as adults in ensuring the best interests of the child and in providing conditions for a dignified life, education and upbringing for all children in Bulgaria.

**The Crime Prevention Fund "IGA Fund"**, Pazardzhik, is an independent professional organisation that initiates civic activity and works to reduce crime. In order to accomplish its goals the organisation does the following: it develops and implements experimental programmes and

models; develops training, consulting, information-educational and publishing activities; it improves dialogue and interinstitutional relations; it monitors the institutions working on the problems of crime; it conducts advocacy campaigns for the benefit of the target groups; it provides social services to offenders; it establishes national and international partnerships.

**P.U.L.S. Foundation**, Pernik, aims to build and establish an effective care programme in the region of Southwestern Bulgaria for adults, adolescents and children and their families who have experienced violence. The foundation works in two main areas in terms of violence - prevention and rehabilitation.

**Umenie-2003 Community Center**, Yambol, is a non-profit legal entity. The goals of the association are: development and enrichment of the cultural life, social and educational activity in the settlement where they carry out their activity; preservation of the customs and traditions of the Bulgarian people; expanding the knowledge of citizens and their inclusion in the values and achievements of science, art and culture; education and confirmation of the national self-consciousness; and ensuring access to information.





#### **ABOUT THE BULGARIAN FUND FOR WOMEN**

The Bulgarian Fund for Women is the only foundation in Bulgaria that supports local non-governmental organisations working for women's and girls' rights and for achieving real gender equality in all spheres of life. The vision of BFW is that of a world without violence, discrimination and inequality, in which every girl or woman has the conditions to achieve her full potential, has equal opportunities and access to resources, and is free to make informed choices about her life and body. The mission of BFW is to develop the women's movement and philanthropy for women's rights in the country by raising money at a national and international level and investing it in achieving gender equality.

#### **ABOUT THE FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG**

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is the oldest political foundation in Germany with a rich tradition dating back to its foundation in 1925. Today, it remains loyal to the legacy of its namesake and campaigns for the core ideas and values of social democracy: freedom, justice and solidarity. It has a close connection to social democracy and free trade unions. FES promotes the advancement of social democracy, in particular by political educational work to strengthen civil society, Think Tanks, international cooperation with our international network of offices in more than 100 countries, support for talented young people, maintaining the collective memory of social democracy with archives, libraries and more.



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