

Invitation

HLPF Side Event

Reforming the Global Tax System: Global Tax Justice to Reduce Inequalities and Finance Sustainable Development?

When? Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 9:00 – 10:30 AM EDT | A light breakfast will be served

Where? Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung New York Office, 747 3rd Ave, 34th Floor, New York, NY 10017

RSVP: Please register with Lennart Inklaar (linklaar@fesny.org) by Monday, July 15. Seating is limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

The track record for implementing the 2030 Agenda has been disastrous: As things stand, it will only be possible to achieve 18 % of the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) by 2030.¹ In addition to a lack of political will, many governments in countries around the world are missing the financial resources required for effective implementation. The debt crisis is contributing to this significantly, as well as unjust international tax policy. Tax avoidance and profit shifting by corporations reduce revenues for nations just as much as tax evasion and illicit cross-border financial flows. As a result, important tools are missing for public investments. Insufficient financial transparency and accountability, as well as the granting of generous tax reliefs, constitute a key part of the problem. Especially in countries of the Global South, this results in significant resources being lost, which could otherwise be used to achieve the SDGs. A reform of the international tax system would therefore be an important lever to free up funds for financing the 2030 Agenda and thus help to reduce global inequalities. A UN tax convention represents the long overdue next step in this direction.

This side event to the 2024 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), hosted by the German NGO Forum on Environment and Development, the Global Call to Action Against Poverty, and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in New York, will feature a keynote by the Parliamentary State Secretary in the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Dr. Bärbel Kofler, on the importance of global tax reform to reduce inequalities and Germany's role in promoting tax justice. Moreover, we will present a recently published position paper. During a panel discussion, speakers from different backgrounds will discuss the necessary changes in the global tax system and shed light on which role Germany (and other countries from the Global North) can and should play.

[Download Position Paper](#)

¹ [Sustainable Development Report 2023 \(sdgindex.org\)](https://sdgindex.org)

Program

- 09:00 – 09:05 **Welcome and Introduction**
Michael Bröning, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung New York
Eileen Roth, German NGO Forum on Environment and Development
Ingo Ritz, Global Call to Action Against Poverty
- 09:05 – 09:15 **Keynote by Dr. Bärbel Kofler, Parliamentary State Secretary in the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development**
- 09:15 – 09:30 **Presentation of the [Position Paper](#) and Key Demands Regarding International Tax Justice**
Ingo Ritz, Global Call to Action Against Poverty
- 09:30 – 10:00 **Panel Discussion:**
Topic: Reducing Inequalities by Global Tax Justice - What can be done and which role can and should Germany play?
- Panel:**
- Dr. Bärbel Kofler, Parliamentary State Secretary in the German Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation
 - Mahinour ElBadrawi, Program Director, Council on Economic and Social Rights
 - Nicole Maloba, Economic Justice & Rights Lead, FEMNET (tbc)
 - Deepak Xavier, Head of Inequalities, Oxfam International
- Moderator:** Eileen Roth
- 10:00 – 10:30 **Q & A**
- Moderator:** Eileen Roth

