



Social Dialogue and Promoting Social Democracy



Concept and Mission

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung's International Dialogue Department promotes dialogue with partners in Europe, the United States, Canada, Turkey and Japan. Global Networks are critical to this work as almost every aspect of the economy, society and politics is influenced by European and global developments. These global networks create new possibilities for international cooperation but also bring with them new challenges.

Through our work in Western Europe and North America we:

- organise policy debates within the framework of conferences, expert seminars and roundtables on current European policy and transatlantic issues;
- promote policy dialogue and networks, together with our partners from the political sphere, trade unions, civil society, academia and the media in order to develop a mutual understanding of current challenges and to identify strategies for joint action;
- contribute to deepening understanding and strengthening social democracy through up-to-date analyses, focused advisory activities and political education.



Established in 1925, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is the oldest political foundation in Germany. It is a private, non-profit institution committed to the values of social democracy. The FES was named after the first democratically elected president of Germany, Friedrich Ebert, and continues his legacy of shaping freedom, solidarity and social justice through political means. The FES pursues these aims both in Germany and abroad with programmes devoted to political education, international cooperation, scholarships and research.

European Dialogue

EU policies affect every policy area in the member states. Conversely, the member states play a role in shaping future EU policies. Within the framework of a closely integrated European dialogue we:

- present policy options for an economically sustainable and social Europe and advocate to ensure that these options achieve consensus in the European debate;
- formulate responses to current foreign and security policy issues with the goal of strengthening European foreign and security policy; and
- organise a European dialogue on the challenges arising from energy and climate policy.





Our EU Office in Brussels organises dialogues on political, economic, social and environmental issues between Germany and Europe, both within Europe and – taking advantage of our worldwide network of offices – between Europe and other continents.

Turkey, as an EU accession candidate country and a member of NATO, as well as because of its economic growth, is an emerging regional power. Our offices in Istanbul and Ankara provide support for:

- the democratisation process in Turkey;
- further development of the rule of law and social justice;
- Turkey's convergence with European structures; and
- its integration in regional and international networks.



Dialogue with the United States, Canada and Japan

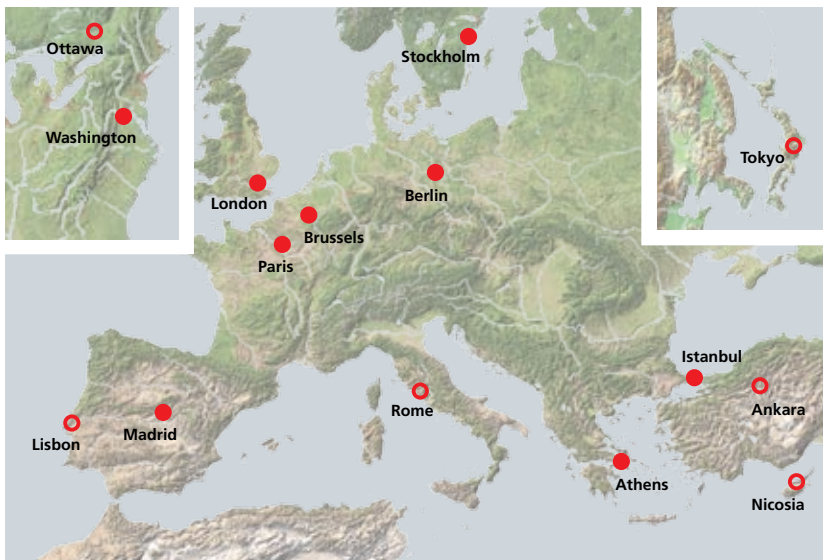
Fundamental to close and successful relations with these countries is regular open bilateral dialogue between political and civil society decision-makers. Our transatlantic activities:

- contribute to a better understanding of the close interplay between the »three E's« – energy, environment and economy – by promoting economic policy exchanges on sustainable approaches and by supporting efforts to make progress in international climate policy;
- develop strategies in the German–US dialogue with third countries, such as Russia or Middle Eastern states, to expand and stabilise democratic structures and to settle conflicts;
- provide forums for exchanges of views on current issues of foreign, security, economic, labour market and financial policy.

Japan and Germany share many social policy challenges. Our Tokyo Office organises exchanges of experiences between Germany and Japan on current issues of economic, labour and social policy and promotes dialogue on foreign and security policy questions in East Asia.



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● Office management by FES staff

○ Office management by local employees

FES Offices of the Department for Western Europe/North America

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is represented in 14 locations in the region. Ten staff on assignment and over 30 local expert and administrative staff organise work on the ground and establish contacts with our partners.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung

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