



Governance, Law & Development

A discussion of the 2017 World Development Report

February 23, 17.30 – 19.00

ETH Zurich, Rämistrasse 101, main building

HG D 1.2

Programme

- 17.30** **Keynote Dr. Finn Heinrich (Transparency International)**
- 18:00** **Panel discussion**
 Dr. Finn Heinrich (Transparency International)
 Dr. Benjamin Blumenthal (Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation)
 Dr. Andrea Iff (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation)
- 19.00** **Apéro**

Summary

The World Development Report (WDR), published each year by the World Bank, provides an in-depth analysis of a specific aspect of economic development. Due to its high profile and the quality of research underpinning it, the WDR has an important role in shaping the agenda and thinking of policy makers around the world. The 2017 WDR on “Governance and the Law”, to be launched in January 2017, seeks to shed light on how a better understanding of governance can bring about more effective policy interventions to achieve development.

The 2017 WDR examines the institutional foundations of a well-functioning state and addresses two sets of issues facing the development community: (i) the complicated interaction between economic development and the underlying factors that influence the quality of governance; and (ii) the persistence of gaps between intended governance reforms and the reality on the ground. The report argues that in order to implement desired policies, institutions must enable *commitment*, enhance *coordination*, and induce *cooperation* between the different actors in the policy arena. The relative power of different actors in the policy arena is hence critical for policy effectiveness. Unhealthy power asymmetries can lead to persistent policy failure through *exclusion*, *capture* and *clientelism*. The report also argues that *elites*, *citizens* and *international actors* should reshape the policy arena by (i) changing the incentives of actors to pursue reforms, (ii) shaping actors’ preferences and beliefs, and (iii) increasing contestability by under-represented actors.

In his keynote speech, Dr. Finn Heinrich will summarize the key findings of the WDR and will give his own view about the report. A panel discussion will follow, focusing on how the lessons of the WDR can be applied to development cooperation.

Speakers

Finn Heinrich (Keynote)

Research Director at Transparency International, Germany

Finn Heinrich is an International NGO leader passionate about the role of civil society in governance and development. He has extensive experience in programme development, applied research and knowledge-brokering on civil society, governance, and anti-corruption issues. At the Policy and Research Department of Transparency International (TI), Finn Heinrich contributes to anti-corruption research tools with a focus on the National Integrity System Assessment. Prior to joining TI, he was Director of Programs at the World Alliance for Citizen Participation (CIVICUS). Finn Heinrich holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and a Master's degree in Social Sciences. He has published numerous articles and several books on civil society and governance.

Benjamin Blumenthal (Panelist)

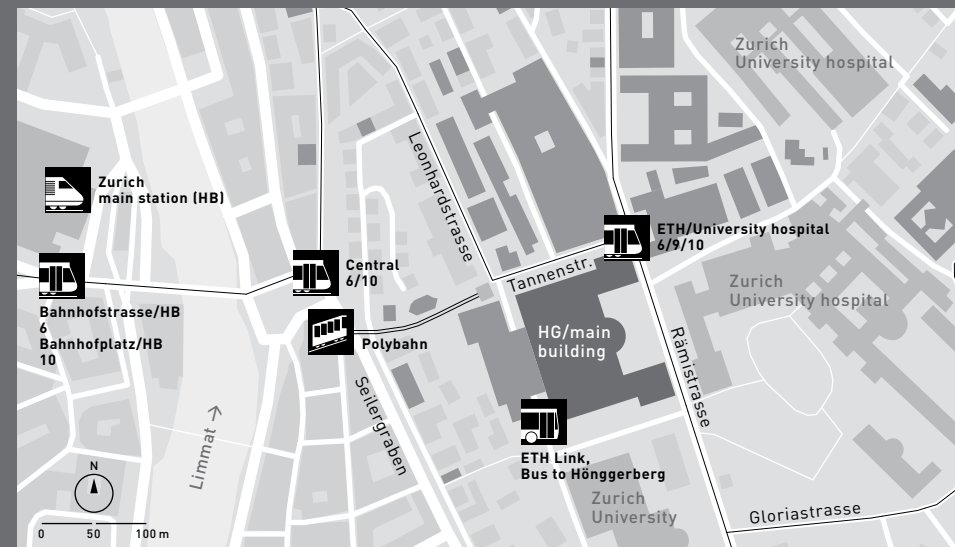
Teamleader Governance & Peace and Senior Advisor Governance at HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation

Benjamin Blumenthal has more than 20 years of working experience providing management advisory services in International Development with a special focus on public sector management and good governance. He specializes in assisting national governments, state agencies and local administrations in developing result-based strategies, formulating and implementing decentralization processes, pursuing far-reaching public sector reforms, improving public service delivery, and building adequate structures and processes. At Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, Benjamin Blumenthal leads the governance team and provides thematic advisory services to internal and external clients. His academic background is in international relations and politics.

Andrea Iff (Panelist)

Policy Advisor, Democratization, Decentralization and Local Governance, SDC

As Policy Advisor within the SDC's network on democratization, decentralization and local governance, Andrea Iff supports competences on governance, political economy, public finance as well as governance in fragile situations. Prior to SDC, Andrea Iff worked at swisspeace where she headed the team responsible for business and statehood, implementing mandates for public and private clients, and leading a research project on the role of private sector in peacebuilding in South Sudan and El Salvador. Her PhD on federalism and conflict transformation in India and Nigeria profited from practical insights gained while she was a policy advisor in Sri Lanka. Throughout her training as a political scientist, Andrea Iff has worked for PwC's public sector unit.



Map and Directions

ETH Zurich, Rämistrasse 101, 8092 Zurich
Main building **room HG D 1.2**

How to get to ETH Zurich by public transport:

From Zurich main station by tram 6 or tram 10, and from Zurich Bellevue by tram 9.

Contact

ETH Zurich, NADEL – Center for Development and Cooperation
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Link for registration

<https://ethnadel.wufoo.com/forms/wlkaurt0xkf5lk/>

Please register by **February 16**.