Preface

The Institute’s thematic focus in 2014 was on “Having rights – obtaining justice”. Human rights require that access to justice be ensured to all persons affected by human rights violations. Only when effective judicial protection is guaranteed for everyone, can human rights develop to their full potential. Several of the Institute’s lines of work help to further the realization of the human right of access to justice. These range from strengthening the criminal prosecution of sexualized violence, to securing protections in connection with the exchange of data between intelligence services, to protecting against discrimination based on HIV status, on through to complaint mechanisms for bilateral German development cooperation. The project Lawyers for Human Rights and Diversity strengthens the capacities in the German legal profession for using human rights standards and procedures on behalf of persons affected by human rights violations.

Through the 2nd Berlin Human Rights Day, in September of 2014, the Institute brought prominence to the topic of access to justice as a human right in political circles, civil society and elsewhere. Opened by Heiko Maas, Federal Minister of Justice, the event addressed primarily the question of what prevents people from demanding that their human rights be respected. The Human Rights Day panels and fora made it clear that the various groups represented at the event often find themselves facing similar obstacles impeding access to mechanisms of judicial protection – including, in particular, lack of information, the absence of support structures, and insufficient awareness of societal diversity within the justice system.

The Institute had developed a database of judicial decisions it calls “ius menschenrechte” in order to provide an instrument enabling people, including legal professionals and the staff of associations and advising services, who need to find supporting arguments for use in their proceedings to do so in a quick and comprehensive manner. The database went online in December 2014, in the context of the year’s thematic focus. The first German-language database of jurisprudence relevant to human rights, it contains selected decisions and findings, particularly those of international bodies like the European Court of Human Rights, the Court of Justice of the European Union and the United Nations human rights treaty bodies. The database concentrates chiefly on jurisprudence concerning the issues of protection from discrimination, gender-specific violence, human trafficking and disability. The database will be continually updated and expanded to cover other topics the Institute works on through the addition of relevant decisions and findings.

In 2014, the Institute took part in a United Nations state reporting procedure once again. In accordance with the periodic reporting schedule, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child reviewed implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in Germany. The Committee welcomed the adoption of many pieces of legislation as well as Germany’s withdrawal of a reservation which had previously restricted the applicability of the CRC in this country. One of the Committee’s many recommendations elicited a very swift response from the Federal Ministry for Family, Seniors, Women and Youth: the recommendation that the state provide the German Institute for Human Rights with a mandate to monitor implementation of the CRC in Germany with a critical eye and provide constructive support for that process. The talks between the Ministry and the Institute on this topic have since lead to a gratifying outcome: the CRC Monitoring Body began its phase of setting up in August of 2015.

Only when effective judicial protection is guaranteed for everyone, can human rights develop to their full potential.
According to the Paris Principles of the United Nations – the international standards for national human rights institutions – the legislative basis should secure the independence and adequate funding of the national human rights institutions.

Another process that helped set the tone in 2014 was the debate over the legislative basis for the Institute that emerged in the wake of the recommendations issued by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation of the International Coordinating Committee for National Human Rights Institutions (ICC) in autumn 2013. The ICC had urged the establishment of such a basis in strong terms and deferred consideration of the GIFHR’s re-accreditation. According to the Paris Principles of the United Nations – the international standards for national human rights institutions – national human rights institutions should have a basis in law that secures their independence and adequate funding. This process also produced a positive outcome in 2015: in the summer the Bundestag established a basis for the Institute in a law published in the Federal Law Gazette (Budesgesetzblatt) in July.

Our annual report provides illustrative examples chosen to provide a picture of the Institute’s work over the past year. Topics were selected with the aim of reflecting the priorities of the 2014 annual planning, with the result that a great deal of advisory activities for the Federal and state parliaments and governments and civil society, as well as many international activities, must go unmentioned. Our website offers detailed information about the issues addressed in 2014.

Prof. Dr. Beate Rudolf  Michael Windfuhr  
Director  Deputy Director
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THE INSTITUTE
2014 in Review

JANUARY
On 27 January, Michael Windfuhr, the Institute’s Deputy Director, takes part in Geneva in the dialogue between the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Federal Government concerning Germany’s report on UN CRC Implementation. The Institute contributes to the review procedure with its own report and a statement that include recommendations on unaccompanied minor refugees, children with disabilities and intersexual children and other issues.

FEBRUARY
The Institute welcomes a motion from all parliamentary groups of the German Bundestag to support the recommendations included in the final report of the Bundestag Committee of Inquiry into the National Socialist Underground, discussed in a plenary debate on 20 February. The Institute calls for a determined promotion of diversity in police personnel and for police leadership to assume their responsibility for the prevention of discrimination, for the development of uniform national guidelines for the investigation of racist offenses and an overhaul of the system for recording racially motivated offences.

MARCH
On 19 March, Raúl Krauthausen and Andi Weiland from Leidmedien.de present several children’s books as part of the project Children’s Rights in Development Policy. The selection illustrates the great differences in how disabilities are presented and how children’s books are capable of reinforcing as well as undermining stereotypes. Their lecture, held in the Institute’s library, is very well received by the audience.

APRIL
On 8 April, the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) declares the Data Retention Directive to be invalid. In response to the ruling, the Institute states: “The CJEU judgement fundamentally undercuts the concept of comprehensive and undifferentiated retention of data. The CJEU – like the Federal Constitutional Court before it – emphasises the importance of the human right to data protection.”

MAY
On 6 May, the Institute releases a German-language policy paper on gaps in judicial protection associated with the criminal prosecution of rape. The paper demonstrates that the legal situation relating to rape in Germany conforms neither to the requirements of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) nor to the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights. The elements constituting the offenses of sexual coercion (sexuelle Nötigung) and rape in the German Criminal Code (§ 177 StGB) must therefore be changed in the context of ratification of the convention.

JUNE
In June, a jury made up of representatives of independent media awards research fellowships to the authors of four research concepts for journalistic works on the topic of access to justice as a human right. Through these fellowships, the Institute hopes to encourage journalists to adopt a human rights perspective in their work on current topics. The 2014 research topics: structural discrimination against persons with disabilities in the justice system, Roma in the courts, access to justice for persons with mental illness, and access to justice for unaccompanied minor refugees.
JULY
From 20 July to 1 August, the UN open-ended working group working on strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons holds its fifth working session in New York. The working group’s discussions focus on the human rights of older persons in care, on areas in which the human rights of older persons can be further strengthened, and on how any gaps that may exist in protection can be closed. Claudia Mahler, policy advisor at the Institute, receives an invitation to the session, where she presents the situation in Germany.

AUGUST
The Institute hosts its 12th Human Rights Academy “National and International Human Rights Protection”. From 17 to 21 August, 27 participants from Germany and Switzerland meet with Institute staff to explore human rights issue in depth and gain inspiration for effective human rights work of their own. Among those attending were students, (volunteer) staff from a diverse group of civil society organisations, and human rights activists.

SEPTEMBER
On 26 September, the 2nd Berlin Human Rights Day explores the question “What prevents people from demanding that their human rights be respected?” Around 190 people take up the invitation to attend. Heiko Maas, Federal Minister of Justice, opens the event, which also serves to launch the two-year thematic focus “Having rights – obtaining justice”.

OCTOBER
Newly chosen Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Kailash Satyarthi visits the Institute on 16 October. The Indian children’s rights activist talks with Institute staff and representatives of children’s rights organisations about protecting the rights of children. “The state must ensure the realization of children’s rights, but we, the entire society, must take moral responsibility for protecting our children – above all the girls”, he said during the one-hour meeting.

NOVEMBER
The Institute uses the occasion of Intersex Solidarity Day, on November 8, to remind people about the human rights of intersexual persons. The UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the UN Committee against Torture, and the German government and parliament issued urgent calls for protection of the right to health of intersexual people back in 2011. In particular, Germany should ensure that medical treatments and surgical procedures take place only with the informed consent of those affected.

DECEMBER
At the occasion of the 11 December session of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs, the Institute’s National CRPD Monitoring Body calls for more targeted implementation of the concept of inclusive schooling of children and adolescents with disabilities than has yet been seen. Referring to its study on inclusive education, the Monitoring Body identified the systematic transfer of special needs education to the ordinary schools as one significant condition for the successful establishment of an inclusive education system.
The German Institute for Human Rights

The German Institute for Human Rights is Germany’s independent national human rights institution (an A-status institution under the UN Paris Principles). As such it contributes to the promotion and protection of human rights in and by Germany.

The Institute strives to ensure that human rights are taken into account in both domestic and foreign policy decisions and that the international human rights conventions are implemented in Germany. Its tasks are to advise political actors, to perform application-oriented research on human rights issues, to promote human rights education, to further dialogue and cooperation with national and international organisations, as well as documentation and the provision of information.

In 2009, the Institute was mandated to monitor implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and therefore set up the National CRPD Monitoring Body, which protects and promotes the rights of persons with disabilities. The National CRPD Monitoring Body takes a critical and constructive approach to watching over the process of CRPD implementation in Germany.

The Institute cooperates closely with the human rights bodies of the United Nations, with the Council of Europe and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights. It is a member of the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions (ICC), Geneva, and the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI), Brussels. The Institute is a member of the ENNHRI steering group and holds the chair of the ENNHRI Finance Committee. The Institute also conducts legal and empirical studies in its role as the German “focal point” for reporting on issues relating to fundamental rights to the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA).

How is the Institute set up?

The Institute is a registered non-profit association. It is politically independent and makes its own decisions regarding the thematic focuses of its work. Guidelines for the Institute’s substantive work are defined by an 18-member Board of Trustees, made up of representatives of the political arena, academia, civil society and the media. Funding for the Institute’s work comes from four German federal ministries – Justice and Consumer Protection, the Federal Foreign Office, Economic Cooperation and Development, Labour and Social Affairs – as well as from external sources.

How does the Institute carry out its work?

The Institute engages in range of activities: advising parliaments and the governments on the Federal and states levels and civil society on human rights issues; organising symposia, seminars, conferences and other events; offering training for journalists, educators, and people who work for legislatures, government agencies, the judiciary, the police and the German Armed Forces; publishing studies, opinions, position papers and educational materials on human rights issues, and writing amicus curiae briefs for submission in selected court cases.

What thematic areas does the Institute work on?

Protection against torture and ill-treatment; protection against racism and other discrimination; national and international security policy and human rights; women’s human rights; trafficking in human beings and modern forms of slavery; refugees, migration and integration; children’s rights; rights of older persons, rights of persons with disabilities; right to education; freedom of religion; rights to water, sanitation and food; human rights in development policy; business and human rights, and access to justice.
Library

The Institute’s library, open to the public, provides access to recent human rights research literature and periodicals. The library’s holdings include the largest collection of human rights educational materials in Germany. The library’s online offerings include electronic documents containing the major human rights treaties and reports about their implementation in Germany. http://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/menschenrechtsinstrumente.html.

The library is linked with national and international networks and is a member of the European Coordination Committee on Human Rights Documentation (ECCHRD).

Websites

Five largely barrier-free websites and the Institute’s newsletter offer extensive information on human rights issues for a range of target groups.

• www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de
• http://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/leichtesprache/
• www.ich-kenne-meine-rechte.de
• www.inklusion-als-menschenrecht.de
• www.aktiv-gegen-diskriminierung.de

Twitter
@DIMR_Berlin
RESEARCH & ADVICE
Institutional Developments and International Cooperation

Basis in law
Throughout 2014, advising on the establishment of a legislative basis for the Institute in keeping with the United Nations’ Paris Principles relating to national human rights institutions was of the highest priority at the Institute. Frequent exchanges took place between the Board of Directors and the heads of departments and the government and federal parliament. Although the Federal Minister for Justice submitted draft legislation after the summer parliamentary recess, the cabinet was unable to pass the legislation before the International Coordinating Committee for National Human Rights Institutions (ICC) met in October of 2014. Pointing to the draft legislation, the Board of Directors was able to convince the Sub-committee on Accreditation to defer consideration of the Institute’s re-accreditation until March 2015, thus ensuring the Institute’s retention of its “A”-status, which requires full compliance with the Paris Principles, for the time being.

Monitoring Body for the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
In early 2014, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, which was engaged with the review of Germany’s report, reiterated its recommendation that a mechanism be set up to monitor CRC implementation in Germany. The Committee suggested that the country’s national human rights institution be the body charged with performing that function, which is something that civil society representatives had advocated in strong terms during the proceedings. The Federal Minister for Family and Seniors, Women and Youth Affairs announced its intention to implement the Committee’s recommendation and initiated talks on the matter with the Institute’s Board. In August 2015, those talks resulted in the funding of a two-year project to establish a monitoring body within the Institute.

Working towards the National Action Plan for Business and Human Rights
With the Institute’s support, the Federal Government has begun a process aimed at national implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The Federal Foreign Office invited the Institute, along with econsense, a German business network, to advise on the process. In this capacity, the Institute developed the design for a process for developing a national action plan (NAP) for business and human rights, with the collaboration of various stakeholders and ministries. Ultimately, the NAP will be adopted by the Federal Government.

The Institute drew up, in summary form, a list of fields of political action of relevance for the development of an NAP for business and human rights for the first plenary assembly. On 6 November, this list served as the basis for the discussion at the start of a two-year process to draw up such a national action plan. With reference to these fields of action, twelve topics were identified for discussion 2014 and 2015: hearings on these are being scheduled for 2015 for the purpose of clarification of the subject matter. The Institute was also charged with drawing up a National Baseline Assessment, which will present the current status of implementation of the UN Guiding Principles as well as compile a list of questions that stakeholders believe should be discussed and/or investigated as the process continues.

Communicative focus: Having rights – obtaining justice
Having rights and obtaining justice are two different things. Human rights are no exception to this. It is true that Germany has a sophisticated system for the judicial protection of rights. However, it is also true that situations can arise in our country in which people have no, or only very restricted, possibilities to defend themselves against human rights violations. From 2014 to 2016, the German Institute for Human Rights will be examining these barriers and gaps in protection in the context of access to justice and initiating discussions about this issue.
2nd Berlin Human Rights Day

The 2nd Berlin Human Rights Day event was held on 26 September at Berlin’s Kalkscheune; this year’s theme was “Having rights – obtaining justice: What prevents people from demanding that their human rights be respected”. Human Rights Day also marked the start of a two-year communicative focus at the Institute on access to justice as a human right. A broad spectrum of organisations and interested individuals from the political arena and civil society attended. The event was opened by Heiko Mass, Federal Minister of Justice. In the context of a talk with Michael Windfuhr, the Institute’s Deputy Director, people active in the field drew attention to several obstacles and deficits in this context. Discussion went into greater depth in five forums devoted to specific issues: access of people with disabilities to judicial proceedings, bodies to handle complaints from school-goers, diversity in the justice system, the right of associations to initiate proceedings for violation of data protection legislation, and complaint mechanisms in development cooperation. The event, which drew 190 attendees, was broadcast live on the Institute’s website in Livestream. In addition, tweets were posted throughout the day under #MRTag.

Essay on the human right to access to justice

To mark Berlin Human Rights Day and to kick off the thematic focus on access to justice as a human right, the Institute’s Director, Beate Rudolf, published the essay “Rechte haben – Recht bekommen. Das Menschenrecht auf Zugang zum Recht” (Having rights – obtaining justice: The human right to access to justice). The essay begins by noting that Germany has both a differentiated legal system and an independent judiciary and that, as a result, trust in the German justice system is high, even in comparison with that in other European countries. Nonetheless, even in this country, people still encounter obstacles when attempting to defend themselves against violations of their human rights. These obstacles can be of a legal or a factual nature. The essay outlines the problems, human rights standards and options for action, attempting to encourage a keener awareness of the necessity to keep on examining whether all people have effective access to justice, even in a state in which the rule of law prevails.

Video interviews: Obstacles in the access to justice

With the aim of presenting the human right to access to justice to a broader audience, the communications department produced five video interviews on obstacles impeding access to justice with experts and people who have experience with them. The videos were published on the Institute website and disseminated over multiple channels. The interview partners: Justice Susanne Baer of the Federal Constitutional Court; Thomas Geißler, Lecturer for Deaf Studies at Berlin’s Humboldt-Universität; the lawyer Sönke Hilbrans; the Institute’s Director, Beate Rudolf; and Thomas Specht, the managing director of the Federal Task Force on Homelessness. A trailer clearly explaining the objective behind the choice of the thematic focus was also produced. Additional videos in the series are planned for the future.

“Wait until you grow up!”

Five postcards relating to the thematic focus were produced for Berlin Human Rights Day and subsequent outreach work. The postcards highlight existing gaps in protection in the context of diversity in the justice system, data protection, access to justice for children, persons with disabilities and persons who are affected by human rights violations associated with German development policy or German business activities abroad.

Access to Justice in Germany: Research Fellowships for journalists

In December 2013, the Institute issued a call for applications for a research fellowship for journalists with the thematic focus “Access to justice in Germany”. In June 2014, a six-person jury awarded four fellowships on the basis of research proposals for journalistic texts to be published in German-language media by the end of the year. The following people served on the jury: Dr. Melanie Amann, Der Spiegel, Berlin; Gudula Geuther, Deutschlandradio, Berlin studio; Dr. Wolfgang Janisch, Süddeutsche Zeitung,
Karlsruhe; Prof. Dr. Beate Rudolf, Director of the German Institute for Human Rights, Berlin; Maximilian Steinbeis, author and editor, *Verfassungsblog: on Matters Constitutional*, Berlin; Dr. Heinrich Wefing, Deputy Director, Political Affairs, *Die Zeit*, Hamburg. The fellowships, which come with EUR 1,500 grants, were awarded for research on the following topics: structural discrimination against persons with disabilities in the justice system, Roma in the courts, access to justice for persons with mental illness, and access to justice for unaccompanied minor refugees.

**Ius menschenrechte – database of judicial decisions**

The ius menschenrechte database was launched in December 2014, in the context of the year’s thematic focus. The first German-language database of human rights jurisprudence, it contains selected decisions and findings, particularly those of international bodies like the European Court of Human Rights, the Court of Justice of the European Union and the United Nations human rights treaty bodies. The rulings are summarized in German and the full texts can be downloaded. The database concentrates chiefly on jurisprudence concerning the issues of protection from discrimination, gender-specific violence, human trafficking and disability. It is intended for use by lawyers, the staff of associations and advising services, and members of the (specialist) public. The purpose of the database is to help people taking recourse to human rights law to identify supporting arguments for their proceedings quickly.

**Institute participation in international and European bodies**

In March 2014, the Board of Directors took part in the annual meeting of the International Coordinating Committee for National Human Rights Institutions (ICC) in Geneva. Subjects of debate included the role of the national human rights institutions in the universal periodic review (UPR) procedure, the accreditation procedure, the relationship between national human rights institutions and parliaments, and the human rights of women. Acting jointly with the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI), the Institute used the meeting as an opportunity to organise a side event addressing the topic “Human rights in times of economic crisis”, at which members of the UN Human Rights Council were among those taking part. In addition to the United Nations’ Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt on human rights, speakers included representatives of the national human rights institutions of Greece, Spain and Ireland, who talked about the effects of austerity policies on human rights in their countries. Michael Windfuhr presented the ENNHRI joint initiative in this context.

The Institute was an active participant in processes, working groups and projects of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions, serving as one the driving forces behind the network’s conceptual, substantive and organizational work in 2014 once again. The Board of Directors continues to play an active role as a member of the ENNHRI steering group. In early January, the Board of Directors took the lead in the writing of open letters on the subject of EU austerity policy to José Manuel Barroso, then President of the European Commission, and Mario Draghi, President of the European Central Bank. In March 2014, Michael Windfuhr was elected Chairman of the ENNHRI Finance Committee. As a member of the ENNHRI Asylum and Migration Working Group, Petra Follmar-Otto took the lead in preparing an ENNHRI submission to the European Commission regarding the future of European asylum policy as well as a statement on the detention of asylum seekers issued in the context of the meeting of the European Council. Claudia Mahler was one of those who played a key role in the group drawing up an ENNHRI proposal for a project on the human rights of older persons.
Human Rights Policies, Germany/Europe

Supporting implementation of the recommendations of the NSU inquiry committee

The Institute sees supporting implementation of the multi-partisan recommendations issued in 2013 by the Bundestag Committee on the Inquiry into the National Socialist Underground as a springboard for the improvement of protection against racism in Germany. Petra Follmar-Otto, Hendrik Cremer and Eric Töpfer held intensive talks on this issue with members of all parliamentary groups of the Bundestag, primarily concerning the question of what steps can be taken to ensure that the police and the justice system recognise and respond adequately to racially motivated acts in the future and to prevent discrimination on the part of government agencies. The Institute released an issue of “aktuell” containing its recommendations with respect to the justice system, and it also broached the subject directly with representatives of the media.

Police and intelligence services

Having given a statement at the oral proceedings conducted at the Federal Constitutional Court on the constitutionality of the Counter-Terrorism Database Act and published a policy paper on the consequences of the ruling, the Institute closely followed both the legislative procedure for amending the statute and the legislation establishing a database on right-wing extremism in the first quarter of 2014. Eric Töpfer released multiple statements in conjunction with the legislative process, as well as an issue of “aktuell”, published in mid April, in which the Institute specifically called for improved oversight with respect to data protection requirements and an assessment from a human rights perspective. He also criticized the plans for the expanded use of data in the light of Constitutional Court rulings.

The Institute also followed the political response to Edward Snowden’s revelations of the mass surveillance of internet and other telecommunication traffic by intelligence agencies closely. Responding to the growing willingness on the part of politicians to set up independent police complaint bodies in some federal states, the institute put out a policy paper containing recommendations on how such mechanisms should be structured.

Access to justice: the example of gender-specific violence

Against the backdrop of the upcoming ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), and within the context of its focus on the “gender-specific violence/access to justice” area, the Institute took up the issue of the standard of criminal accountability in Germany for sexualised violence against adult women, which is inadequate from a human-rights perspective. Heike Rabe and Julia von Normann wrote a policy paper on the topic, in which they analysed the current legal situation, taking the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights as their yardstick. Talks on the issue were held with the relevant Bundestag members from the various parliamentary groups. Heike Rabe organised a closed-door high-level expert discussion, at which senior representatives from the relevant ministries and associations, as well as experts in criminal law, shared their views on specific changes to the law governing sexual offences (particularly §§ 177 and 179 of the Criminal Code [StGB: Strafgesetzbuch]). On this basis, the Institute commissioned Professor Tatjana Hörmle, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, to produce an expert opinion on § 177 StGB. The resulting report provides an overview of several different options for formulating the criminal offense that centre around the lack of consent of the person concerned, discusses the pros and cons of those options and concludes with a specific proposal for an amended § 177 StGB that would be consistent with human rights.

Lawyers for Human Rights and Diversity

The three-year project Lawyers for Human Rights and Diversity, led by Nina Althoff, came to a successful close in 2014. The project was able to secure the sustainability of its output: the professional
training on human-rights based protection against discrimination and for diversity competence building will be continued by the non-profit legal education and training provider Deutsches Anwaltsinstitut in the coming year. The rules governing the training and conduct of specialist lawyers defined by Germany’s bar associations have been modified to require a thorough familiarity with human rights aspects of the relevant area of specialisation. The project’s high-level advisory board certainly contributed to its success.

The project developed training and informational offerings for lawyers that are aimed at strengthening the legal profession’s ability to protect human rights in practice, at raising awareness of discrimination and at contributing to diversity competence. The project’s practice-based training and informational offerings include seminars for specialists lawyers, diversity training for the legal profession in general and training for law graduates undergoing their practical training. The legal education programme focussed particularly on human-rights based protection against discrimination at the national level, as well as on the use of international human-rights judicial and appeal proceedings at the European Court of Justice, the European Court of Human Rights, or the UN treaty bodies. A series of publications entitled “Handreichungen” was also developed in the project.

Symposia were arranged to facilitate exchange and networking between lawyers and NGOs combating discrimination. The training was conducted nationally in partnership with a wide range of legal-education providers, and it will continue to be offered after the project’s close by the Deutsches Anwaltsinstitut and other providers. Target groups consisted of lawyers specialising in labour and social law, the legal profession in general, both individual lawyers and employees or partners at medium-sized partnerships and large firms – as well as law graduates completing their practical training. The project was funded by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs under the XENOS – Integration and Diversity programme and by the European Social Fund.

Human rights of refugees

Challenges resulting from the rapid rise in the numbers of refugees starting in 2014 and the extensive legislative changes to Germany’s asylum law were reflected in the Institute’s advocacy of respect for refugee and human rights in its policy advising activity and media activities. A summertime issue of “aktuell” discussed elements in the draft legislation on asylum and residency that are problematic from a human rights perspective. This was followed in December by the release of a policy paper written by Hendrik Cremer discussing the human rights obligations connected with the accommodation of refugees. A conference held on Human Rights Day in December, organised jointly by the Institute’s Claudia Mahler and Diakonie, the social welfare organisation of Germany’s Protestant churches, addressed the economic, social and cultural rights of refugees in Germany.

Human Rights of Older Persons

In 2014, the UN’s annual Social Forum (1–3 April) focussed on the human rights of older persons. Claudia Mahler, the Institute’s representative for the ICC, who took part in the forum panel on long-term care, issued a statement there on the situation and areas of human-rights problems associated with long-term care in Germany. In addition, she spoke about the topic of violence in the care system at the session of the UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (29 July–2 August) in New York, where she also gave a paper on the topic of long-term care and human rights at an EU side event. The ICC, with the Institute’s assistance, submitted a statement at the meeting about strengthening the human rights of older persons, in which it called for a new convention on the human rights of older persons.

Reporting to the European Agency for Fundamental Rights

The Institute carried out reporting on the human rights situation in Germany to the European Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) again in 2014. The Department of Human Rights Policy Germany/Europe compiled extensive field-research reports on the role of children in court proceedings and serious forms of labour exploitation for the FRA. The department also wrote texts for the FRA’s annual report and on mass intelligence surveillance. The FRA awarded the Institute a new 4-year framework contract in 2014.
Human Rights Education

Publication of study on human rights education for children and young people

Sandra Reitz and Beate Rudolf co-authored a study titled “Menschenrechtsbildung für Kinder und Jugendliche” (Human rights education for children and young people), which was released on 20 November 2014, the 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The study involved a survey of the ministries responsible for school and non-school education in Germany’s federal states. The study focused on establishing explicit human rights education in the laws governing education, in curricula and in the initial and continuing training of education professionals. Further, survey respondents were asked about strengthening participation rights in the education system and support for suitable materials addressing the levels of consciousness and action, as well as the knowledge level. The authors included recommendations derived from the evaluation of the survey results and based on Germany’s human rights obligations and the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training. These recommendations include establishing explicit human rights education in education legislation and the promotion of human rights educational materials for younger persons that are developed in participative processes.

12th Human Rights Academy – National and International Human Rights Protection

From 17 to 21 August, the Department of Human Rights Education held the 12th Human Rights Academy “National and International Human Rights Protection”. A new record for participants was set, with 27 attending. This year’s academy centred around an in-depth exploration of current human rights issues in the light of the work of the international human rights bodies. In addition, participants were able to hone the skills needed to use the international system for the protection of human rights to benefit their own activities in the field. On 4 December, the department invited speakers and attendees of the Academy, including attendees of earlier years, to attend a post-Academy meeting in order to find out what stimuli the Academy had been able to give and whether/how its participants had engaged with the topics further. Possible changes to the format for the coming years were also discussed.

Extending human rights education networks

The exchange of opinions and experience with scholars and non-governmental organisations played an important role in the work of the department once again in 2014. A conference on children’s rights in educational relationships was held in Rochow Museum, Reckahn, from 31 October to 1 November; the conference was hosted jointly by the Institute and the University of Potsdam, the German Youth Institute and the Helga Breuninger Foundation. Judith Feige and Sandra Reitz also served as moderators. On 17 November, the department hosted again meeting of the Human Rights Education Network. Discussion there centred on bringing together practical concepts, inclusion, diversity and human rights education. On 10-11 November, Sandra Reitz and Mareike Niendorf attended a meeting of representatives of national human rights institutions, who shared and discussed their experiences with strengthening human rights education.

Children’s rights training for development professionals

Judith Feige and Sandra Reitz continued to support the sector project Implementation of Rights of Children and Young People of the German development cooperation agency Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) by leading training offerings and performing post-training evaluations. This training is aimed at national and international development professionals and is intended to encourage better integration of the topic of the rights of children and young people in all aspects of development cooperation. Judith Feige led a seminar in Kyrgyzstan, where participants concentrated particularly on participation rights and human rights education methods and were asked
about their experiences with the implementation of children’s rights in the context of their work since the training held in 2013. The 80-page handbook, which provides a methodological guide to implementing the rights of children and young people in development work, makes the project’s outcomes accessible to other professionals as well. The handbook primarily describes methods intended to make it easier for development professionals to take the rights of children and young people into account in the context of their work and approaches for drawing up specific options for action on the ground. A “training of trainers” seminar led by Judith Feige ensured further dissemination of the handbook.

**Inclusive and diversity-oriented human rights education**

The human rights education department was very active in the areas of inclusion and diversity in 2014. In April, a symposium at the Institute examined different perspectives on inclusion in the field of education, with particular reference to the “Index for Inclusion”. Around 30 participants from diverse fields of practice, educational contexts and academia discussed the links between inclusion, human rights and education from their different perspectives. The Institute’s human rights education department and the Steering Group for the further development of the “Index for Inclusion in Education” hosted the event. In June, the department held a symposium on the online manual on inclusion, in an attempt to find out how well the website had worked in practice. The event also served as the concluding event for the inclusion manual project, the funding of which ran out in April. Both the symposium and the project were funded by the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future (EVZ). In three working groups, the participants held intensive discussions about how the contents of the online manual might be expanded and better disseminated, how progress towards inclusion in Germany can be encouraged, and on the concept of participation.
Human Rights Policies, International

Children's rights in development cooperation

In the series ‘ABC of Children’s Rights’, the project Children’s Rights in Development Cooperation released six brief practice-oriented publications for development professionals. One of the publications addressed the state’s duty of monitoring, and the others contained easily understood summaries of the General Comments Nos. 1, 2, 10 and 12 of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. In this respect the Institute benefited from close collaboration with the committee’s (then) chairwoman, Kirsten Sandberg, and committee member Renate Winter.

Additional study visits were conducted for the purpose of investigating potential ways to foster the participation rights of children and young people in German development cooperation. Lena Stamm and Annika Kluth, the research project fellows, conducted research within the context of two GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) projects: Strengthening the structures for youth empowerment and participation, Serbia, and Prospects for youth, Kyrgyzstan. A research collaboration with a member of the research staff of the “Rights of the Child” degree programme at the University of Belgrade’s law faculty was initiated and collaboration with the master’s programme in children’s rights at Freie Universität Berlin grew more intense.

The project staff presented the initial results and recommendations emerging from their study on ways to promote participation rights of children and young people in German development cooperation to various bodies, including the team at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) that works on the issue of the rights of children and young people, and the members of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Results and recommendations for creating a solid basis for participation in development cooperation were presented at a ministry event entitled “The Future of Children’s Rights – 25 Years of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child”, which took place on 25 November 2014.

In collaboration with the communications department, the project held its own event marking the 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, a seminar for journalists on strengthening children’s rights in development cooperation held on 20 November 2014.

Business and human rights project

The business and human rights team organised two further consultations aimed at transnational cooperation among national human rights institutions in the field of business and human rights. These took place in Bogotá and Delhi, with the participation of the relevant regional networks of national human rights institutions. In Bogotá representatives of the institutions of Columbia, Chile Paraguay, Venezuela and Bolivia attended; those from Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, India, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar and Thailand came to Delhi. The two Institute staff members also took part in sessions of the ICC working group on business and human rights, and organised a side event at the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva, where they presented a project study highlighting the futures needs of national human rights institutions for transnational cooperation in the field of human rights and business and proposing a model for a networking strategy in this area. The study was presented at the side event, where it met with very great interest. It should be possible to considerably strengthen cooperation among national human rights institutions in the coming years.

In addition, four studies were drawn up on the requirements for national legal systems arising from the UN’s Guiding Principles Business and Human Rights and on the current situation with implementation in Germany. These served as background material and presented Germany as an example of the
possibility of implementing the UN Guiding Principles Business and Human Rights through a national action plan. The Institute’s business and human rights team subsequently developed a summary of possible fields for action of a national action plan for business and human rights.

Development policy and human rights

The staff working on development policy continued their work with the GIZ and continued to advise the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Safeguards in development banks remained the major focus in this advising activity.

In association with the position paper by Andrea Kämpf on complaint mechanisms, a page in English and German was created on the Institute’s website on the issue of accountability and transparency in development policy, summarizing the work the Institute has done on this issue so far. In addition, the Institute continued to advise the BMZ on the subject of a complaint mechanism. In July, Andrea Kämpf and Anna Würth organised a discussion on European Union sanctions, at which Dr. Clara Portela (Singapore Management University) gave a lecture analysing EU sanctions from a human rights perspective. In addition, Andrea Kämpf and Christopher Schuller organised a workshop held on Berlin Human Rights Day in September 2014, which looked at accountability in German development cooperation and economic players in the context of activities abroad.

Freedom of religion and belief, convention on enforced disappearances, rights to water and sanitation

The Institute supported the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Professor Heiner Bielefeldt, by performing various forms of background research on issues such as addressing religious hatred, and freedom of religion at the workplace. It also published a German-language summary of the Special Rapporteur’s report to the UN Human Rights Council on tackling manifestations of collective forms of religious hatred. Further, the Institute worked with the representatives of the EU Commission and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung to organize two events with Heiner Bielefeldt.

The Institute also supported Dr Rainer Huhle, a member of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances. The Institute’s work in this respect focused largely on aspects of victim orientation in the UN treaty bodies and the approach of state institutions to enforced disappearances in Mexico. In addition, at the suggestion of the UN Committee, the Institute organized a conference in September of 2014 on the topic of victim orientation, which was attended by experts from the UN system and from two international criminal courts, as well as by representatives of the Federal Foreign Office and of the Federal Ministry of Justice and representatives of non-governmental organizations. Several recommendations for improving the victim orientation were formulated during the conference.

Funding for the Institute’s support of the work of Catarina de Albuquerque, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Right to Water and Sanitation, ran out in January 2014. The Institute coordinated the work for the Special Rapporteur’s two reports on participation and for one report on violations of the human rights to water and sanitation. It also performed work in preparation for a consultation on the report to the UN General Assembly, as well as contributing to the compilation of the handbook “Realising the human rights to water and sanitation”. This handbook is intended to provide practical assistance in the implementation of the rights to water and sanitation by state and private actors.
National CRPD Monitoring Body

The national report review procedure
Closely following and supporting the procedure associated with Germany’s first national report to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was of central importance for the National CRPD Monitoring Body’s work in 2014. The Institute published an issue of “aktuell” on the subject in January (“UN-Behindertenrechtskonvention: UN prüfen 2015 die Umsetzung in Deutschland”) in order to direct political attention to the process at the federal and federal states level.

In February, the National CRPD Monitoring Body submitted its suggestions for the list of issues to the UN committee. At the “pre-session” held in Geneva in April, it then made an oral statement based on those suggestions and responded to questions at an informal discussion with committee members. The list of issues the committee ultimately compiled incorporated many of the topics identified as important in the National CRPD Monitoring Body’s submission.

Work on the National CRPD Monitoring Body’s own parallel report was also begun. The purpose of this report is to identify a broad spectrum of practical issues relating to implementation in Germany and to provide information to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by presenting evidence-based viewpoints. Meanwhile, preparations got underway for the follow-up to the CRPD treaty body’s concluding observations. A large conference in Berlin was planned for 2015, with the aim of creating a forum for discussion of needs for action at the federal and state level arising from the recommendations, at the highest possible level and with broad participation.

Ultimately, the National CRPD Monitoring Body took every appropriate opportunity to make various stakeholders aware of the national review, and draw their attention to the opportunities and tasks associated with it, as well as to develop specific approaches for taking action and securing participation. It did so in particular through its contacts with members of the German Bundestag, at the meeting with the disabilities representatives, at the symposium for staff of disability commissions, in its consultations with civil society organisations active in the field of disability policy, through public lectures and, last but not least, through its media activities. There were frequent visitors to the section of the Institute’s website especially created for this process “State report review” (http://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/en/crpd-monitoring-body/state-report-audit/).

Supporting implementation of the UNCRPD at the federal state level
In 2014 the National CRPD Monitoring Body again carried out several projects intended to support implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) at the state (“Länder”) level. Although supporting implementation at both the state and local levels forms part of its mandate, intensive engagement at those levels by the National CRPD Monitoring Body is contingent on the availability of additional funding.

In December, the National CRPD Monitoring Body completed an evaluation (published in 2015) relating to the Hessian Action Plan. Producing the evaluation involved gathering data through an online survey and conducting and evaluating interviews with key organisations and individuals.

The CRPD Monitoring Body's advising activities for the State of Brandenburg were continued with great intensity. In the context of that project, the National CRPD Monitoring Body drew up a brief report (also published in 2015) on one set of policy measures of the State of Brandenburg and the status of their implementation. The results were presented by Leander Palleit prior to publication at an event held in Potsdam.
The Legal Provisions Testing Project, funded by the Berlin Senate Department for Health and Social Affairs, entered a phase wherein the results were presented to the competent Senate departments in a total of 11 discussion sessions. These sessions helped to advance the preparation of a law implementing the UNCRPD in Berlin. They also contributed substantially to a paper discussing the results ("Ergebnisse der Normenprüfung zum Landesgleichberechtigungsgesetz (LGBG)", Valenin Aichele and Daniel Scherr). The project also produced substantive results relating to the subject matter of other laws, such as the areas of education, psychiatric care, awarding of contracts, budget, etc. Thus it addresses issues that concern all 16 states of the Federal Republic and its relevance therefore extends far beyond Berlin’s borders.

Increasingly, other states are also addressing the subject of UNCRPD implementation in their law. As a result, the National CRPD Monitoring Body was asked to attend advising sessions with the state governments of Hamburg, Lower Saxony and North Rhine-Westphalia. In addition, the State of Saxony-Anhalt commissioned the National CRPD Monitoring Body to serve as an expert advisor to support the state’s own legal provisions’ testing, which is being carried out by an cross-departmental task force specifically created for this purpose.

**Amicus curiae brief**

In December, the National CRPD Monitoring Body published an amicus curiae brief it had filed in appeal proceedings before the Federal Labour Court. The court had to rule on whether the lower courts had applied the General Equal Treatment Act (AGG) accurately in the case of a young HIV-infected man. The National CRPD Monitoring Body argued that the term “disability” in the AGG had to be interpreted in the light of the UNCRPD. In stating the grounds for its decision, the Court re-addressed the key points: the understanding of disability, reversal of the burden of proof and reasonable accommodation. The ruling generated considerable attention nationwide.
From 16 to 22 August, around 4,000 librarians from all over the world came together in Lyon for the 80th World Library and Information Congress of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). The congress included a two-hour session on what the UNCRPD means for libraries, originally proposed by Anne Sieberns, Head of the Library, and a member of the IFLA section Library Services to People with Special Needs. Around 140 people attended the session, which succeeded in having Professor Theresia Degener, member of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as a key speaker. Professor Degener provided an introduction to the basic principles of the UNCRPD and presented those articles of the convention that have particular relevance for libraries. She then suggested some ways by which libraries could actively contribute to the convention’s implementation in their professional and social environments. The UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is going to take up the subject of accessibility of libraries in future proceedings associated with national reports, a decision which can be traced, in part, to the stimuli provided by this event.

Anne Sieberns herself gave a lecture on freedom from barriers in libraries at the annual meeting of the European Coordination Committee on Human Rights Documentation (ECCHRD), hosted by the Council of Europe in Strasbourg (11–13 June).

Always an attraction: Readings at the Institute library

A talk about the images of disability in children’s books, jointly hosted by the library and the project on children’s rights in development policy, took place in the library on 19 March. Raúl Krauthausen and Andi Weiland from Leidmedien.de presented children’s books on the subject of disability. They illustrated the great differences in the ways that disabilities are presented and how children’s books are capable of reinforcing as well as undermining stereotypes. Meike Günther of the human rights education department acted as moderator.

On 6 May, Deniz Utlu read from his début novel “Die Ungehaltenen”, which centres on the story of Turkish migrant workers in the Federal Republic of Germany, told from the perspective of the second generation (the children of “Gastarbeiter”). Utlu’s reading and the conversation with Michael Windfuhr that followed touched on a wide range of issues, from "wildcat strikes" by Turkish workers in the 1970s to the arson attack in Solingen in 1993 through to the NSU murders and the integration debates of recent years.

On 14 November, Ahmad Milad Karimi, Professor for Islamic Philosophy and Mysticism at the University of Münster, read from his autobiographical book “Osama bin Laden schläft bei den Fischen. Warum ich gerne Muslim bin und wieso Marlon Brando viel damit zu tun hat”. The library was well filled, with an audience of approximately 50 people.
FACTS & FIGURES
## Annual Financial Statement 2014

**Income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous income</td>
<td>€1,781,019.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional allocation from the Federal Government</td>
<td>€2,307,703.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from third-party funding (earmarked for specific purposes)</td>
<td>€5,318.31</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>€4,094,042.15</strong></td>
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**Expenditures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Human rights policy Germany/Europe</td>
<td>€333,702.23</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Third-party funded projects, Human rights policy Germany/Europe</td>
<td>€431,155.18</td>
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<td>3 International human rights policy</td>
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<td>4 Third-party funded projects, International human rights policy</td>
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<td>5 Human rights education</td>
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<td>6 Third-party funded projects, Human rights education</td>
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<td>7 Library</td>
<td>€172,844.71</td>
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<td>8 Communications</td>
<td>€355,440.61</td>
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<td>9 National CRPD Monitoring Body</td>
<td>€345,726.25</td>
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<td>10 Third-party funded projects, National CRPD Monitoring Body</td>
<td>€86,357.23</td>
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<td>11 Administration (overhead)</td>
<td>€685,854.27</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Board of Directors</td>
<td>€472,178.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
<td><strong>€4,094,042.15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2014 Result**

€0.00
In 2014, German Institute for Human Rights obtained a total institutional allocation from the federal government in the amount of EUR 2,307,703.95. The Institute receives this basic funding every year. It is intended to secure the Institute’s funding, as required for an independent national human rights institution under the Paris Principles of the United Nations. The funding is comprised of contributions from the Federal Ministry of Justice and for Consumer Protection (BMJV), contributing a 34% share; the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), contributing 26%; the Federal Foreign Office (AA), 21%, and the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS), contributing 19%. The lattermost (the BMAS grant) relates to the financing for the National Monitoring Body for the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This grant forms part of the institutional allocation since 2012.

The miscellaneous income item in the annual financial statement, in the total amount of EUR 1,781,019.89, is comprised of other income from federal grants, income derived from mandates from third parties, and various other revenue. Income from third party funding represents funding from the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future. According to the standards set down in the Paris Principles, national human rights institutions must be financed primarily through institutional funding, to ensure that they can freely choose the themes and areas of their activity, which is not the case with project-tied funding. In 2014, the Institute’s project-tied funding amounted to approx. 47% of the institutional income. In the past, the Institute has successfully acquired project funding that supports its work on issues previously defined as the main focuses of its activities. This constitutes an Institute policy that will continue to determine the direction of the Institute’s grant acquisition activities.

Funding from federal grants relates, for example, to the scholarly input produced for the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Right to Water and Sanitation (Catarina de Albuquerque), the Special Rapporteur on the Freedom of Religion or Belief (Heiner Bielefeldt) and for the German member of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (Rainer Huhle). In 2014 the German Institute for Human Rights also received funds from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development for two research projects – one on children’s rights and another on business and human rights – as well as funding for human rights and diversity competence building among legal professionals from the BMAS programme XENOS Integration and Diversity and from the European Social Fund. The State of Berlin also provided funds for mandates accepted by the National CRPD Monitoring Body.

The income from third-party mandates is made up of project funds (Implementing a Human Rights Based Approach in Development Policy) received from the German development cooperation agency Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (reporting to FRANET Network) and Dreilinden gGmbH (LGBTI Rights in Development Cooperation). The Institute would like to express its sincere gratitude to all of those who have granted funding to support its work.

The summary of expenditures indicates the financial resources available for the work of each of the Institute’s departments. The item “Expenses not assignable to individual departments” includes, among other things, the Institute’s running costs – e.g. rent, utilities, business expenses, office supplies – as well as the costs of activities at the supra-institutional level.

The Financial Report of the German Institute for Human Rights is examined by an auditor appointed by the Board of Trustees; the Annual General Meeting is approves the financial discharge of the Board of Directors.
Events in 2014

- Full-day and multi-day conferences: 10 events
- Expert discussions: 20 events
- Panel discussions: 6 events
- Seminars/Workshops: 21 events
- Monitoring Body Civil Society Consultations: 3 events
- Parliamentary hearings: 3 events
- Parliamentary breakfasts: 1 event
- Readings: 3 events
- Film screenings: 2 events
- Academies: 2 events

Institute staff also gave many external lectures and advised policy makers and members of civil society at the federal and state level.
Partners in 2014

Our partners in events

- Amnesty International, German section
- Berlin Senate Department for Health and Social Affairs
- Brot für die Welt
- Danish Institute for Human Rights
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
- Deutsche Welle Akademie
- Deutsche Welthungerhilfe
- Diakonie Deutschland
- Federal Foreign Office
- Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection
- FIAN Deutschland
- Forum Menschenrechte
- Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
- Geneva Call
- German Commission for UNESCO
- German Commission Justitia et Pax
- German Institute for International and Security Affairs - SWP
- German Youth Institute, DJI
- Helga Breuninger Foundation
- Humboldt-Viadrina School of Governance
- kijufi – Landesverband Kinder- & Jugendfilm Berlin e.V.
- Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of Saxony-Anhalt
- MISEREOR
- Representation of the European Commission in Germany
- University of Kassel
- University of Potsdam

Our project partners

- Berlin Senate Department for Health and Social Affairs
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
- Dreilinden gGmbH
- European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights
- Federal Foreign Office
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
- Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of Saxony-Anhalt
- Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Women and Family of the Federal State of Brandenburg
- Sector project “Implementation of Rights of Children and Young People”, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
Publications in 2014


Valentin Aichele; Daniel Scherr: Diskussionspapier. Ergebnisse der Normenprüfung zum Landesgleichberechtigungsgesetz (LGBG) im Rahmen der „Expertise für ein Artikelgesetz zur Umsetzung der UN-Behindertenrechtskonvention im Land Berlin“. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2014. 146 pp. (online only)


Lorand Bartels: Eine menschenrechtliche Modellklausel für die völkerrechtlichen Abkommen der Europäischen Union.

Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2014. 44 pp. ISBN 978-3-945139-10-3 (study)


Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte: M for monitoring and S for state obligation. Fundamentals and significance of the convention and what German bilateral government development cooperation can do to support its implementation. Berlin, 2014. 6 pp. ISBN 978-3-945139-08-0 (ABC of children’s rights) (online only)


Sven Mißling; Oliver Ückert: Vorabfassung der Studie Inklusive Bildung: Schulgesetze auf dem Prüfstand. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2014. 89 pp. (online only)


Daniel Scherr: Diskussionspapier. Ergebnisse der Normenprüfung zum Berliner Wahlrecht im Rahmen der „Expertise für ein Artikelgesetz zur Umsetzung der UN-Behindertenrechtskonvention im Land Berlin“ des Projektes „Monitoring-Stelle Berlin“. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2014. 44 pp. (online only)


Eric Töpfer: Neufassung des Antiterrordateigesetzes: Gesetzgeber muss Menschenrechtsschutz ernst nehmen. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für
Menschenrechte, 2014. 4 pp. (aktuell 2/2014) (online only)


**Aliyeh Yegane Arani:** Diversity in der anwaltlichen Kommunikation und Rechtsberatung. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2014. 20 pp., ISBN 978-3-945139-37-0 (Handreichung: Anwaltschaft für Menschenrechte und Vielfalt) (online only)


**Statements issued by the Institute**


Schriftliche Stellungnahme zur öffentlichen Anhörung zum Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung des Antiterrordateigesetzes und anderer Gesetze (BT-Drucksache 18/1565) am 22. September 2014. Author: Eric Töpfer. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2014. 6 pp. (statement) (online only)


Stellungnahme zum Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung des Antiterrordateigesetzes und anderer Gesetze (BR-Drs. 153/14). Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2014. 3 pp. (statement) (online only)

Response of the German Institute for Human Rights to the questionnaire for the evaluation of the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings by the parties. Berlin: Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte, 2014. 13 pp. (online only)

In cooperation with the German Institute for Human Rights


Nationale Menschenrechtsinstitutionen (NMRI). Deutsche Gesellschaft für


Staff in 2014

Valentin Aichele  Nina Althoff  Ebru Apitz  Jan Arend  René Badtke
Petra Balint  Antje Berger  Lissa Bettzieche  Paola Carega  Hendrik
Cremer  Christine Dechant  Nina Eschke  Judith Feige  Petra
Follmar-Otto  Sabine Froschmaier  Annemarie Graf-van Kesteren
Meike Günther  Judy Gummich  Klaus-Dieter Haesler  Wolfgang
Heinz  Lisa Heuermann  Bettina Hildebrand  Ulrike Hoffmann
Dirk Joestel  Andrea Kämpf  Cathrin Kameni  Julia Kercher  André
Klüber  Hanno Koloska  Eva Küblbeck  Cornelia Kuntze  Silvia
Krankemann  Kerstin Krell  Britta Leisering  Claudia Leonhardt
Peter Litschke  Lara Ludin  Claudia Mahler  Daniela Marquordt
Jana Mattert  Namrata Mehta  Ingrid Müller  Sebastian Müller
Mareike Niendorf  Julia von Normann  Kevin Oehme  Leander
Palleit  Heike Rabe  Sandra Reitz  Dagmar Rother-Degen  Beate
Rudolf  Ingrid Scheffer  Daniel Scherr  Muriel Schiessl  Clara
Schneider  Christopher Schuller  Anne Sieberns  Ute Sonnenberg
Lena Stamm  Eric Töpfer  Srdjan Tošić  Brigitta Ulrichs  Deniz Utlu
Michael Windfuhr  Inga Winkler  Anna Würth  Aliyeh Yegane
Board of Trustees

The guidelines for the work of the Institute are defined by the Board of Trustees, which consists of representatives from civil society, academia, the media and politics. The representatives of the Federal Foreign Office, the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, as well as one representative appointed by Germany’s Federal Council (Deutscher Bundesrat), do not have voting rights.

Hans-Peter Baur, Head of Directorate 20 – Social Development, Security, Human Rights, Governance, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Selmin Çalışkan, Secretary General, Amnesty International, German section

Prof. Dr. Theresia Degener, Professor of Law and Disability Studies, member of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Richard Fischels, Head of Division V a – Prevention, Rehabilitation and Disability Policy, Federal Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs

Uta Gerlant, Adviser to the Board of Directors, Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future

Ute Hausmann, Executive Director, FIAN Deutschland e.V

Dr Rainer Huhle, Deputy Chair of the Board of Trustees, political scientist, member of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances

Prof. Dr. Egon Jüttner, Member of the Bundestag, member of the Bundestag Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid (until May 2014)

Jürgen Klimke, Member of the Bundestag, member of the Bundestag Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid (since May 2014)


Dr. Michael Meier-Borst, Policy adviser to the Federal Government Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration

Prof. em. Dr. Eibe Riedel, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, former member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Swiss Chair for Human Rights at the Geneva Institute for International Law and Development (HEID)

Frank Schwabe, Member of the Bundestag, member of the Bundestag Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid (since May 2014)

Christoph Strässer, Member of the Bundestag, speaker for human rights and humanitarian aid of the SPD Parliamentary Group (until March 2014), Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid at the Federal Foreign Office (since March 2014)

Claudia Tietz, Policy adviser, Sozialverband Deutschland e. V.
Barbara Unmüßig, Deputy Chair of the Board of Trustees, member of the Executive Board of the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

Erhard Weimann, State Secretary of the Free State of Saxony, Representative of the Free State of Saxony in the Federal Council, and Head of the Representative Office of the Free State of Saxony in Berlin


Prof. Dr Andreas Zimmermann, LL.M., Professor of Public Law, European Law and Public International Law, University of Potsdam, Director of the Human Rights Centre at the University of Potsdam

Andreas Zumach, journalist and UN correspondent, Geneva

As of December 2014
Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte e. V. Membership

Aktion Courage e. V.
Aktion der Christen für die Abschaffung der Folter e. V.
amnesty international, Sektion der Bundesrepublik Deutschland e. V.
Interessenvertretung Selbstbestimmt Leben in Deutschland e. V. (ISL)
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Rudolf Bindig, founding member, former Spokesman of the Social Democratic Party for human rights and humanitarian aid
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As of December 2014