

REPORT

For the Years 2020–2022





DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD

When Erck Rickmers visited me in Spring 2019 on the premises of the Volkswagen Foundation in Hanover, we almost instantly agreed that in view of the multiple, interconnected crises and pressing existential problems facing humankind, it seemed quite urgent to provide time and space for opening new opportunities to some of the brightest minds to fundamentally rethink and reconfigure our value systems, our mindsets, and subsequently, our democratic and economic practices. In turn, all of that was to be realized in a not-for-profit, privately funded institutional setting.

In our jointly written statement on “Vision, Mission, and Purpose” (dated June 16, 2019), we sketched the intellectual and institutional ambition for “establishing a mission driven Institute for Advanced Study that shall become known for its imaginative capabilities, its readiness to get engaged in developing and implementing new insights and ideas, as well as in launching respective initiatives”. Like other institutes for advanced study, it would select and invite outstanding researchers and visionary thinkers based on intellectual rigor and on their ability and commitment to generate creative ideas. Moreover, we decided to add another dimension to the institutional mission by searching for fellows and projects whose goal would be to work on concrete and viable options for reconfigured social practices. On this basis, their research questions and results could potentially open up pathways toward scalable solutions. While building on the proven strengths of institutes for advanced study, it became clear that it would be crucial for THE NEW INSTITUTE to develop new structures and approaches for advancing comprehensively designed, interdisciplinary and trans-sectoral modes of inclusive knowledge creation. These should welcome the experiential wisdom of relevant stakeholders as well as new opportunities for the dissemination of results. In a nutshell: We wanted to create a breeding ground for new ideas that could potentially serve as an incubator and a platform for socio-ecological change.

While the already acquired set of nine classicist townhouses in central Hamburg had to undergo serious refurbishing, we began in January 2020 at Große Theaterstraße to provisionally establish office and meeting spaces as well as a dozen apartments for future fellows (whom we envisaged to start in the Autumn of 2021). The most challenging part of this first phase concerned specifying the overarching concept of the Institute, the scope and scale of its

programmatic operations, and the building of a highly professional facilitating team. In parallel to these tasks, we had to directly start to identify and approach eminent fellows, last but not least because institutes for advanced study usually plan about two years in advance (and universities generally only grant leave of absence in terms of academic years or semesters).

Right from the start it was clear that the activities of the Institute would focus on four areas: ecology, economy, democracy, and the human condition.

Primarily based on expertise from the humanities and social sciences, but open for exchanges with stakeholders from various sectors of society, the following areas of activities were selected for further exploration:

1. The Foundations of Value and Values
2. The Future of Democracy
3. Socio-Economic Transformation
4. Changing Mindsets – Changing Behaviour

In line with our aim to support and collaborate with outstanding theorists and practitioners addressing at least some of the most pressing social, ecological, and economic issues and potentially opening up pathways to impactful solutions, we focused on defining the specific areas of activity and on recruiting the first cohort of fellows in light of these areas. Of course, we were to begin with more questions than answers.

Largely in parallel to this, we worked on developing a common understanding of our operational tasks as well as the governance of the Institute. Among others, this included drafting the statutes for a Board of Trustees and an International Advisory Board, positioning the Institute in the overall global and local academic landscape, appropriate to its scale and scope. It should also support the fellowship selection process.

For the role and function of the facilitating team the following five points were considered to be crucial for the long-term success of THE NEW INSTITUTE:

- To make efficient and effective use of the autonomy, alertness, and flexibility of a privately funded institution in selecting the scale and scope of its activities.
- To encourage interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral, and integrative approaches to inspire and actively promote systemic change.
- To combine the ingredients of a high trust culture of creativity with rigorous and reliable processes of quality assurance.
- To ensure robustness and resilience of the respective research activities by providing the best possible environment for our fellows.
- To establish networks of like-minded people from various walks of life to achieve leverage through collaborative action.

Together with colleagues at the University of Oxford, in particular Colin Mayer and Dennis Snower, we were able to hold a first workshop in Große Theaterstraße on February 24 and 25, 2020, on a topic of mutual interest and of particular importance for further work at THE NEW INSTITUTE on **The Foundations of Value and Values**. After two days of intense discussions among the participants from across the humanities, science, and social sciences, it seemed quite promising for the start-up phase of THE NEW INSTITUTE to launch an initiative that would address questions such as: What are the origins of our values and value? How did they emerge and subsequently evolve? How do values impact on the way we conceive of the world from the perspective of different disciplines and intellectual lines of thinking? While conceptions of values and value are often taken for granted, we have to ask: What are their economic and societal consequences?

Only ten days later, the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to switch from in-person meetings to online communication. This had a considerable impact on the exploration of the other topical initiatives as well as the selection processes of fellows for the envisaged programs. Most conversations were conducted in small groups or even in one-on-one discussions. The latter particularly applied to the conceptual preparations for **The Future of Democracy**. Thanks to the early involvement of Christoph Möllers, at the time a Permanent Fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, we were able to identify two major topics that

seemed crucial for coping with the prevailing distrust in democratic forms of governance. On the one hand, it was urgent to think about new approaches to revitalizing democracy from below, while on the other hand, it was more or less obvious that constitutional and institutional frameworks were in need of substantial revisions. Among the issues raised were: What are the main reasons for questioning the legitimation and effectiveness of parliamentary democracies and their institutions in coping with the manifold challenges ahead? How can we strengthen democratic deliberations, encourage participation, and modernize institutions? What kind of constellations do we need to make democratic systems more compatible with a commitment to equity and environmental protection?

In several online and hybrid formats, we explored opportunities to make a difference in the social and behavioral sciences, in particular with respect to **Changing Mindsets – Changing Behaviour** and **Socio-Economic Transformation** (developed gradually in 2022 by Dennis Snower and colleagues from his Global Solutions Initiative). But in view of the limited capacity of our still quite small facilitating team and the apartment space available in Große Theaterstraße, it seemed inevitable for these areas to postpone concrete plans for fellowship programs until 2023 or perhaps even later. Therefore, jointly with Markus Gabriel as academic program lead for **The Foundations of Value and Values** and Christoph Möllers responsible for **The Future of Democracy**, we embarked upon recruiting leading researchers in the respective areas as well as launching open calls for more junior candidates to be selected based on rigorous assessments of their achievements and their potential to successfully contribute to the goals of the envisaged activities. All in all, we were pleased to see that (despite the still ongoing COVID-19 pandemic) so many creative and committed minds were willing to come to us as of September 2021 and to further develop the position of THE NEW INSTITUTE.

Also in September 2021, we were able to publish a first Discussion Paper by Geoff Mulgan, at University College London and co-opted as fellow to our Institute, on the topic *The Case for Exploratory Social Sciences*. Closely connected with THE NEW INSTITUTE's ambition to move beyond the usual patterns of mapping, measuring, and monitoring by encouraging our fellows to leverage their expertise in imagining, designing, and experimenting with new approaches, Geoff Mulgan called his colleagues in the social sciences to account. He urged them to transcend their domains of expertise and patterns of analysis and to make better use of their knowledge by envisioning and shaping a more sustainable path forward, but not without combining openness and imagination with rigor and depth.

The challenges outlined by Geoff Mulgan were also reflected almost a year earlier in a wider context at a hybrid workshop on “Research and Responsibility” (co-organized with Lisa Herzog, awardee of the highest German prize in philosophy: Deutscher Preis für Philosophie und Sozialethik) held on October 22 and 23, 2020, and picked up at the start of the 2021–22 academic year in both fellow groups with a specific emphasis on the role of ethics in academic institutions, their codes of conduct, as well as the importance of scholarly and scientific knowledge in modern democracies. After several weeks of intense discussions on related issues, the fellows focusing on **The Foundations of Value and Values** agreed to embark upon a journey to collaboratively write a paper tackling some of the fundamental questions concerning the changing role of academic discourse in a crisis-ridden world like: What role can the humanities play in shaping our common future? What are the values that guide us in the 21st century? How can we unleash the potential of the humanities for shaping a more just and sustainable world? The booklet *Towards a New Enlightenment: The Case for Future-Oriented Humanities* (published in German and English in October 2022) met with great interest in other institutes for advanced study, academies, and in numerous universities across Europe and beyond. Subsequently, presentations were held and discussions pursued at various institutions in Aarhus, Berlin, Bonn, Odense, St. Gallen, Stanford, and Tokyo (to name but a few).

In the first half of 2022, several events and workshops were organized that opened up new perspectives for future work. Among them was the kick-off conference for the think tank consultations – the Think7 (led by Dennis Snower) – as part of the German G7 presidency. To mark the 50th anniversary of *The Limits to Growth* report, a two-part workshop with two of its authors (Dennis Meadows and Jørgen Randers) was held in June 2022, in particular with a view to the question: How to imagine possible futures? In mid-June, a workshop on “Eco-Scenarios – Performing ‘Scale Critique’” (led by Elisabeth Strowick) was held in Große Theaterstraße. And in mid-September 2022, an in-person workshop with university leaders was organized by John Douglass and me on “Promoting Democracy through Universities”.

Jointly with the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin – Institute for Advanced Study, we paved the way for a new kind of fellowship: the Yehudit and Yehuda Elkana Fellowship to support free scientific exchange and to offer selective scholars at risk an opportunity to continue their research work in a safe environment through stays at the two institutes as well as funding of a project specifically designed to enhance academic freedom in their respective home country.

Numerous colleagues contributed to the successful launch of THE NEW INSTITUTE. First and foremost our founder and funder, Erck Rickmers, the program lead Markus Gabriel and the Program Director Christoph Möllers, the pioneering fellows of the first cohort (see Section 1) and from the facilitating team in particular Georg Diez, Christoph Gottschalk, Anika Haverig, Charlotte Hasenkamp, Anke Hennings, Ronan Kaczynski, Anna Luisa Lippold, Nina Rismal, and Barbara Sheldon. Their expertise, enthusiasm, empathy, care, creativity, and courage, as well as their impressive and continued commitment to our common endeavor, were indispensable for rapidly achieving widely recognized progress in setting up an institute for advanced study that, in the long run, could help to open up pathways to viable solutions for socio-economic and environmental change.

In the Summer of 2022, a change in leadership took place at THE NEW INSTITUTE, and I was able to welcome two already familiar fellows, Anna Katsman and Markus Gabriel, as my successors in the new role of Academic Directors. They enjoyed the privilege of opening the 2022–23 academic year with the new cohort of fellows at the renovated premises in Warburgstraße, the final home of THE NEW INSTITUTE.

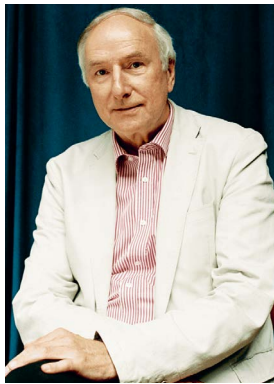


Photo by Jelka von Langen

Wilhelm Krull

Founding Director



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PROGRAMS AND FELLOWS

Under the banner of future-oriented humanities and social sciences, all our activities were clustered around three research programs – **The Foundations of Value and Values, The Future of Democracy, and Socio-Economic Transformation**. They framed our research activities and academic exchange through fellowship programs, lectures, explorative workshops, and exchange with practitioners.

The inaugural 2021–22 academic year convened two fellow groups associated respectively with the programs **The Future of Democracy** and **The Foundations of Value and Values**. Groups regularly met each week or more often, with working sessions dedicated to collaborative or individual projects curated by the Program Directors and Program Managers. Preparatory work for the program **Socio-Economic Transformation** started in September 2021. In the following, we introduce the activities in the research programs and associated fellows.*

* The fellow profiles below show biographical information upon arrival.



Serge Attukwei Clottey, "Start somewhere" (2019).
Courtesy: The artist.

The Foundations of Value and Values

THE NEW INSTITUTE's first fellowship program focused on **The Foundations of Value and Values**. The program was initiated as a central element of the fundamental research activities of our Institute, dedicated to promoting systemic change and finding answers to the most urgent ecological, economic, and political challenges of our time.

The program **The Foundations of Value and Values** was meant to explore the idea and concept of value-driven transformation along with a number of key questions: Where does value come from in current society? How do new values emerge? And what does it mean to initiate the transformation of society by changing value-sets? Do universal values grounded in the human condition exist? Or are values thoroughly path-dependent? Under which conditions would change be sustainable? THE NEW INSTITUTE approaches these questions with the belief that values hold a central role in shaping behavior and driving social change.

The program was directed by Markus Gabriel. Several other academics, in particular from the University of Oxford, were involved in the program planning, among them Colin Mayer (Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford), Dennis Snower (Global Solutions Initiative) or Corine Pelluchon (Université Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée).

During the 2021–22 academic year, the first weeks were dedicated to the group getting to know each other, discussing Max Weber's *Wissenschaft als Beruf (Science as a Vocation)* and developing a Code of Conduct for future work. Subsequently, the idea for a collective writing project emerged and a table of contents was developed. The fellow group embarked on regular meetings to present and discuss their work in progress. Various contributions at workshops and events were planned. The working sessions were dedicated to a joint writing project, which eventually resulted in the Discussion Paper *Towards a New Enlightenment: The Case for Future-Oriented Humanities*.

AVRAM ALPERT

PhD, Writer, Educator
Comparative Literature, Princeton University

How to be Wise in the 21st Century

May 2022 – April 2024

Avram Alpert is a writer, educator, and organizer working to understand what values we can live by in a world as connected, chaotic, and potentially catastrophic as the present. He has written three previous books on these themes, including, most recently, *The Good-Enough Life*, an argument for why appreciating our limitations (we are only ever good enough) should lead us to ensure decency (goodness) and sufficiency (enoughness) for all. He has also written for publications including *Aeon*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *Truthout*, and the *Brooklyn Rail*. He is a lecturer in the Writing Program at Princeton University. With Sreshta Rit Premnath, he is co-editor and co-manager of programming for *Shifter Magazine*. With Meleko Mokgosi and Anthea Behm, he is co-founder of the Interdisciplinary Art and Theory Program at Jack Shainman Gallery. And with Danny Snelson and Mashinka Firunts, he is a member of the academic-artist collective Research Service.

Photo by Yvonne Schmedemann



GEORGE ELLIS

Professor, Department of Mathematics and
Applied Mathematics, University of Cape Town

Foundations of Value and Values, and their Relation to Moral Realism

April – June 2022

George Ellis is considered one of the world's leading theorists in cosmology. However, his research involves many more aspects than just a cosmological perspective. He is engaged in the relation between human emotion and brain plasticity, the nature of social indicators, and in low-income housing. The debate between philosophers and physicists prompted him to take a critical position towards overly reductionist physicists. His work consists of more than five hundred articles, sixteen books, and numerous book chapters for which he was awarded several honorary degrees. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society, London (FRS). Besides this, he received the John F. W. Herschel Medal of the Royal Society of South Africa (RSSA), the Templeton Prize in 2004, and as a special honor, Nelson Mandela awarded him the Order of the Star of South Africa in 1999.

Photo Private / George Ellis



ISABEL FEICHTNER

Professor of Public Law and International Economic Law, University of Würzburg

Value Transformation from within: Monetary Redesign to Rebuild the Global Commons

March 2022 – August 2023

Also affiliated with *The Future of Democracy*

Isabel Feichtner is Professor of Public Law and International Economic Law at the University of Würzburg. Her research interests cover the distributive effects of law, the democratization of society, and the law of the commons and commoning. She explores how institutional experiments, e.g., the redesign of money or Commons Public Partnerships, can support social-ecological transformation through democratization and commoning. Her monograph, *The Law and Politics of WTO Waivers: Stability and Flexibility in Public International Law*, published in 2011 by Cambridge University Press, gained renewed relevance with regard to recent demands for a TRIPS Waiver to facilitate the global fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Isabel founded the Law Clinic Transformation Law at Würzburg University.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



MARKUS GABRIEL

Professor and Chair in Epistemology, Modern and Contemporary Philosophy, University of Bonn

Foundations and Ontologies of Value

October 2021 – September 2022

Markus Gabriel is an internationally acclaimed philosopher and holds the Chair in Epistemology, Modern and Contemporary Philosophy at the University of Bonn. He is the Director of the Center for Science and Thought as well as Chairman of the International Centre for Philosophy NRW. He has been awarded numerous prizes, fellowships, and visiting professorships. His books have been translated into many languages.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



CHRISTOPH HORN

Professor and Director of Practical Philosophy and Ancient Philosophy, University of Bonn

Foundational Goods

October 2021 – September 2022

Christoph Horn is Professor and Director of Practical Philosophy and Ancient Philosophy at the University of Bonn. His work focuses on ancient philosophy and contemporary practical philosophy. He is particularly interested in the writings of Plato, Aristotle, and Kant. His systematic interest lies mainly in contemporary moral philosophy, political philosophy, and the theory of action. In his monographs, he has dealt with Plotinus, Augustine, and the ancient art of living. In 2003/2004, Christoph was a fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, and in 2008/2009, he was a senior fellow at the Forschungsinstitut für Philosophie Hannover (FIPH). He is also the editor of the journals *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* and *Gnomon*.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



ANNA KATSMAN

PhD, Philosophy, The New School for Social Research

Earthly Goods: On the Moral Limits of Markets for Natural Resources

October 2021 – March 2022

Anna Katsman completed her PhD in Philosophy at the New School for Social Research in New York in Spring 2021. Her dissertation tackled the vexed issue of how *Hegel's The Phenomenology of Spirit* stands as an introduction to his *Science of Logic*. In addition to her work on Hegel, her areas of philosophical expertise include German idealism, critical theory, and social and political philosophy. Her areas of interest include feminism, democratic theory, aesthetics, and contemporary dance.

Photo by Maximilian Glas



ERIKA KISS

PhD, Comparative Literature, Director of the UCHV Film Forum, Princeton University

How Can the Art of Film Advance Environmental Justice?

June – July 2022

Erika Kiss is the Director of the UCHV Film Forum at Princeton University where she teaches critical film curation, environmental film studies, as well as architectonic and film rhetoric. She studied history, literature, and linguistics in Hungary, and comparative literature at Harvard University. She was a member of the Department of Medieval and Modern Languages at the University of Oxford and a fellow of Balliol College, Oxford. She was a co-founder, the first CEO and Academic Dean of Germany's first private English-language liberal arts college, known today as Bard College Berlin. In Princeton, she started the UCHV Film Forum and an extracurricular Research Film Studio dedicated to collective filmmaking based on student and faculty research. With a group of Princeton faculty, she launched the Local Spirit Initiative to act upon the increasing importance and opportunities of sensory learning and research through film and digital media.



Photo by Sabine Vielmo

PAUL KOTTMAN

Professor of Comparative Literature and Chair of Liberal Studies, The New School for Social Research

Where Do Objective Moral Values Come From?

May – July 2022

Paul Kottman is Professor of Comparative Literature and Chair of Liberal Studies at the New School for Social Research in New York. He edits the book series "Square One: First Order Questions in the Humanities" for Stanford University Press and is the author of several books, most recently *Love as Human Freedom*, which sees love as a practice that changes over time through which new social realities are brought into being. He is working on a book on *Objectivity in the Humanities* (to be co-authored with Markus Gabriel) as well as a project to explain how and with what implications moral meaning is articulated in and through social practices and the fate of aesthetic forms.



Photo by Sabine Vielmo

GEOFF MULGAN

Professor of Collective Intelligence, Public Policy and Social Innovation, University College London

March 2022 – September 2023

Geoff Mulgan is a social entrepreneur, policymaker, and author, who has worked at different times in civil society, government, the technology sector, and academia. After nine years running Nesta, an innovation foundation in the UK, in 2020 Geoff took on the position of Professor of Collective Intelligence, Public Policy, and Social Innovation at University College London. Prior to joining Nesta, Geoff had roles in the UK government, including Director of the Government's Strategy Unit and Head of Policy in the Prime Minister's Office. At the moment, he is also WEF Schwab Fellow and is working with the UNDP, Demos Helsinki, and various national governments.

Photo by Lewis Khan



TOBIAS MÜLLER

Affiliated Lecturer at the Department of Politics and International Studies (POLIS) and College Research Associate at King's College, University of Cambridge

Climate Change and the Challenge to State Legitimacy

February 2022 – April 2024

Also affiliated with *The Future of Democracy*

Tobias Müller is an Affiliated Lecturer at the Department of Politics and International Studies (POLIS) and College Research Associate at King's College, University of Cambridge. Tobias is a post-doctoral researcher at the EU funded Horizon 2020 project DRIVE at Leiden University and was principal researcher of SORGES, a project on religion, gender, and the state at the Woolf Institute and the University of Cambridge. He is interested in political and social theory, postcolonial and feminist theory, secularism and religion, and the politics of the climate emergency. With a preference for ethnographic methods, he examines how different groups challenge political institutions and how contemporary states respond to these challenges.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



CORINE PELLUCHON

Professor of Philosophy, Gustave Eiffel University
Paris

Values and Narrative Identity

October 2021–December 2022

Corine Pelluchon is a Professor of Philosophy at Gustave Eiffel University. She is also a statutory member of the Hannah Arendt Interdisciplinary Laboratory for Political Studies. Her areas of research are moral and political philosophy, as well as medical, environmental, and animal ethics. Corine is an expert on the work of Leo Strauss and Emmanuel Lévinas. In her book *Éthique de la consideration*, she develops an “ethics of virtue”, helping us to deal with the challenges of modern societies. In 2020, she received the Günther Anders Prize for Critical Thinking.

VLADIMIR SAFATLE

Professor in the Department of Philosophy and
the Department of Psychology, University of São
Paulo

**Freedom without Belonging: Rethinking
Autonomy**

February – November 2022

Vladimir Safatle is Professor in the Department of Philosophy and the Department of Psychology at the University of São Paulo. He examines the relationship between philosophy and human sciences, especially psychoanalysis and psychology, in contemporary French thought and the Frankfurt School. He is also an expert in Lacanian thought and Leftist politics. His research interests include Hegelian philosophy, the post-Hegelian dialectical tradition, as well as the philosophy of music. Beyond this, Vladimir is responsible for the translation of Theodor W. Adorno’s complete works into Portuguese and for the coordination of the book series “Explosante” (Ubu Press). He also writes a column in *El País*.

Photo by Maximilian Glas



Photo by Maximilian Glas



Professor of International Law and Social Justice, University of Amsterdam

Global Economic Order: A History for the Present

October 2021 – June 2023

Also affiliated with *The Future of Democracy*

Ingo Venzke is Professor of International Law and Social Justice at the University of Amsterdam and Director of the Amsterdam Center for International Law (ACIL). In the past, he served, *inter alia*, as Hauser Research Scholar at New York University and Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg. His work focuses on different dimensions of sustainability as well as the theory and practice of interpretation in international law. His recent attention goes to critical moments in the history of international law and the role of international law in creating the conditions for social (in)justice. His monographs include *How Interpretation Makes International Law: On Semantic Change and Normative Twists* (2012) and *In Whose Name? A Public Law Theory of International Adjudication* (together with Armin von Bogdandy, 2014).



Photo by Sabine Vielmo



Raisa Galofre, "El fuego vivo de la cumbia vive en nosotros (The vivid fire of Cumbia lives within us)" (2015 – ongoing). Courtesy: The artist.

The Future of Democracy

The Future of Democracy program envisaged to address current challenges and failures of the democratic system and to find ways to strengthen participation. It started from questions such as: How can we strengthen democratic deliberation? How can we enhance decision-making at the intersection of politics and knowledge? How can we reconfigure social and political communication in the digital age? How can we reinvent political representation?

Coined by the circumstances of its time, the inaugurating cohort of **The Future of Democracy** program, led by Christoph Möllers, began with comparative discussions of democratic society's and governments' reactions to the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change. How can the respective crises be seen as categorically different from conventional crises concerning proposed or implemented political and institutional solutions? Which role does science acquire vis-à-vis the realm of the political? To what extent do traditional or emerging political cleavage structures provide for a meaningful representation of political conflicts in these contexts? And which role falls to social and political theory – factually as well as normatively? Such were the questions that guided the working sessions, taking changes from text-based discussions to presentations on related work in progress by fellows.

The second two terms of the academic year continued in this vein, deepening the topics of the first term through readings or discussing work in progress by fellows. In addition, guests from academia and social movements engaged in climate advocacy were invited, partly also to comment on draft papers by fellows. Over the course of the working sessions, this provided a further angle to the guiding themes through more engagement with the role of capitalism's entanglement with liberal democracy and structural power relations. Eventually, the course of the discussion shifted the focus to the extreme right and its various positions in relation to the economic order and climate change, ranging from the libertarian right's denial of climate change to eco-fascist discourses and the rise of the new right as aspiring counter-hegemonic project to the liberal order.

NICOLE DEITELHOFF

Professor of International Relations and Theories of Global Orders, Political Science, Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main

Konflikt und Demokratie

March – July 2022

Nicole Deitelhoff is Professor of International Relations and Theories of Global Orders at the Goethe University Frankfurt. She is also Executive Director of the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF), where she is responsible for the research departments on International Institutions and Transnational Politics (co-director). She is a spokesperson for the Leibniz Research Network “Crises of a Globalized World” and one of the three spokespersons for the newly founded federal Research Institute Social Cohesion (RISC). The focal points of her research are on international political theory, global governance, security policy, and social movements.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



PHILIP MANOW

Professor of Comparative Political Economy, University of Bremen

Die Beobachtung der Beobachtung der Demokratie

October 2021 – September 2022

Philip Manow is Professor of Comparative Political Economy at the University of Bremen. He is interested in a wide range of topics across the humanities and the social sciences. His main research areas include the role of the welfare state in the political economy of advanced industrialized countries, political symbolism, modern parliamentarism, electoral systems, and the theory of democracy. In his research, he deals with extensive data sets and complex statistical methods. Philip was elected to the Social Science Class of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and invited to the Center of Excellence at the University of Konstanz, Cultural Foundations of Integration (2017/2018). From 2014 to 2015, he was a fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



CHRISTOPH MÖLLERS

Professor of Public Law and Jurisprudence,
Humboldt University of Berlin
July 2021 – September 2022

Christoph Möllers is a Professor of Public Law and Jurisprudence at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Permanent Fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. In his research, he is concerned with German, European, and comparative constitutional law, democratic practices, and theories of social norms. He represented the German Parliament, Federal Council, and Government at the German Federal Constitutional Court. In 2016, Christoph received the Leibniz Prize awarded by the German Research Foundation.



Photo by Jelka von Langen

JAN-WERNER MÜLLER

Roger Williams Straus Professor of Social
Sciences and Professor of Politics, Princeton
University

What Kinds of Spaces Does Democracy Need?
October–November 2021, June – July 2022

Jan-Werner Müller is Roger Williams Straus Professor of Social Sciences and Professor of Politics at Princeton University. He works mainly in democratic theory and the history of modern political thought; he also has a research interest in the relationship between architecture and politics, as well as the normative implications of the current structural transformations of the public sphere. Publications include *Constitutional Patriotism* (2007) and *What is Populism?* (2016), which has been translated into more than twenty languages. He is also a columnist for *The Guardian* in the US and writes regularly for the *London Review of Books*.



Photo by Sabine Vielmo

Editor, *Arts of the Working Class*

Transmissions: Formats* at the Intersection between Academic Research and Activism

October 2021 – September 2022

María Inés Plaza Lazo likes to develop curatorial and communication strategies for others, both individuals and institutions. She grew up in Guayaquil, Ecuador, and lives and works between the streets of Berlin and the world. She was trained as an art historian at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich and at the Elite Network of Bavaria's interdisciplinary program Historical Art and Image Discourses. Together with Paul Sochacki, she founded the street journal on poverty and wealth, art and society, *Arts of the Working Class*, which they edit and publish with Alina Kolar. *Arts of the Working Class* contains contributions by artists and thinkers from different fields and in different languages. Its focus is on the working class, meaning everyone, and it reports on everything that belongs to everyone. Anyone who sells this street journal earns money directly with vendors keeping 100% of sales.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



Journalist, Director of the Master's program Digital Communication, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (HAW)

Learning Machines, Disinformation and the Digital Public

October 2021 – December 2022

Christian Stöcker is a writer, journalist, and the course director of the Master's program Digital Communication at Hamburg's University of Applied Sciences. He has published research on fundamental aspects of human behavior control and worked as a freelance journalist for publications including *DIE ZEIT* and *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and as the head of *DER SPIEGEL*'s "Netzwelt" department. He holds a PhD in Cognitive Psychology from the University of Würzburg and a degree in cultural criticism. His research focuses on (dis-)information in the context of the interaction of technology and the public sphere. He has published a number of non-fiction books, most recently *Das Experiment sind wir* on humanity's cognitive, ecological, and societal problems with exponential change. He writes a weekly column for *DER SPIEGEL* since 2016.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



ECE TEMELKURAN

Writer, Journalist

A New Progressive Vocabulary for the 21st Century: How can Faith and Radical Love Be Applied to Today's Politics?

March 2022 – September 2023

Ece Temelkuran is a novelist and political thinker whose writings appeared in *The Guardian*, the *New York Times*, and the *New Statesman*. She has twice been named Turkey's most read woman columnist. In the book *How to Lose a Country*, she looks at political events around the world and addresses trends of authoritarianism. Her work also explores issues that are controversial in Turkey, such as the Kurdish and Armenian struggles and freedom of expression. She was fired in 2011 for criticizing the Turkish government and subsequently she moved to Zagreb. She is strongly engaged in democratic issues and known to raise her voice for the oppressed. The project "Letters From Now" is her contribution to a world with strong interpersonal relations, sincere listening, and diverse friendships.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



JONATHAN WHITE

Professor of Politics and Deputy Head of the European Institute, London School of Economics
In the Long Run: The Future as Political Idea

August 2021 – July 2022

Jonathan White is Professor of Politics at the London School of Economics. His research interests lie in the fields of political sociology and political theory. He has held visiting positions at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Harvard, Stanford, the Humboldt University, Hertie School of Governance, Sciences Po in Paris, and the Australian National University. Books include *Politics of Last Resort: Governing by Emergency in the European Union* (Oxford University Press, 2019), *The Meaning of Partisanship* (with Lea Ypi, Oxford University Press, 2016), and *Political Allegiance after European Integration* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011). He has also written for *The Guardian*, *New Statesman*, *OpenDemocracy*, and *Boston Review*. He was awarded the 2017 British Academy Brian Barry Prize for Excellence in Political Science.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



LEA YPI

Professor in Political Theory, London School of Economics

What is Political Progress?

August 2021 – July 2022

Lea Ypi is Professor in Political Theory at the London School of Economics and Adjunct Associate Professor in Philosophy at the Australian National University. Her research centers on issues of global justice, normative political theory, as well as the philosophy of the Enlightenment. She is the author of *The Meaning of Partisanship* (2016) and *Global Justice and Avant-Garde Political Agency* (2011). Her latest book *Free*, a philosophical memoir about growing up in communist Albania and the transition to liberalism, was published in 2021. She is working on a project “What is political progress?” funded through a Philip Leverhulme Prize.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo





Ian Teh, "London city skyline seen from Peckham" (2015).

Courtesy: The artist.

Socio-Economic Transformation

The program **Socio-Economic Transformation** explored how to transform our current economic system in a way that meets human social needs without undermining the integrity and stability of the environment. The economic system is responsible for progressing climate change and growing inequalities within societies. Hence, a fundamental transformation of the socio-economic system, toward an economy driven by solidarity and empowerment of people, is critical.

Directed by Dennis Snower, and supported by visiting fellows and visitors, three longer-term research initiatives were developed: (1) *New Paradigms in Economics* built the conceptual framework, investigating paradigms that feature a new understanding of the purpose of economics. Based on an underlying critique of orthodox economics, they focused on the mobilization of resources in the pursuit of well-being, now and in the future. (2) *Measuring Prosperity* formed the empirical background of the framework, exploring possibilities to align the measurement of economic performance beyond GDP, and of business performance beyond shareholder value. (3) *Digital Empowerment* was an application of the framework to digital governance, suggesting concrete steps to empower and protect individuals and democracy in a digital economy distorted by surveillance capitalism. The full-time fellowship program in these initiatives started in September 2022.

The program initiated several strategic cooperations, for example with the Berlin-based Global Solutions Initiative, the T20 and T7 think tank networks advising the G20 and G7, and the Council for Global Problem-Solving. Jointly, they hosted a number of conferences and workshops, as well as an online seminars series for each of the research initiatives (see Section 3 for details). This series continued beyond this academic year.

The program staff also began research work on frameworks that measure prosperity beyond GDP. Special focus lay on the SAGE dashboard (which stands for solidarity, agency, material gain, and environmental prosperity). The development of this dashboard was continued in the following academic year.

SIMON DENNY

Fine Arts, University of Fine Arts of Hamburg

Podcast: Seed Phrase

April 2022 – March 2023

Simon Denny is an artist and curator who has had major exhibitions at MoMA PS1 in New York, the Hammer Museum, affiliated with the University of California, Los Angeles, the Serpentine Galleries in London, and the Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen (K21) in Düsseldorf, among others. He represented New Zealand at the 56th Venice Biennale. He is Professor at the Hochschule für bildende Künste Hamburg (HFBK), and he co-founded the artist mentoring program BPA / Berlin Program for Artists. His research driven work focuses on the politics and aesthetics of technology and technologists with a special focus on web-based paradigm changes. Blockchain, web3, and cryptocurrencies are currently a major focus of his work.

Photo by Sabine Vietmo



DENNIS SNOWER

President, Global Solutions Initiative

October 2020 – September 2022

Dennis Snower is the President of the Global Solutions Initiative, Senior Research Fellow at the Blavatnik School of Government in Oxford University, and a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC. He is an expert on labor economics and public policy and is well-known for the insider-outsider theory of employment and unemployment. Dennis has acted as an adviser to a variety of international organizations and national governments and has published extensively on employment policy, the design of social systems, caring economics, and monetary and fiscal policy.

Photo by Sabine Engel

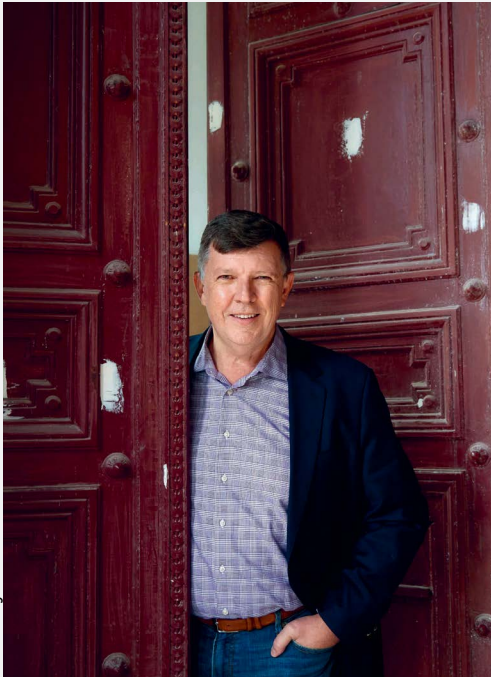


PAUL TWOMEY

Former President & CEO, ICANN
January 2022 – December 2022

Paul Twomey is a serial entrepreneur in the legal, cybersecurity, talent, and biosecurity sectors. Paul is a fellow and Core Theme Leader for “managing information and technology in the public interest” at the Global Solutions Initiative. He is also a Distinguished Fellow at the Center for International Governance Innovation and a Commissioner of the Global Commission for Internet Governance. Paul is a founding figure and former CEO of ICANN, the global coordination body of the Internet, a role in which he was described by the *New York Times* as “the Chief Operating Officer of the Internet”. Paul was CEO of the Australian Government’s National Office for the Information Economy and Deputy at the Australian Trade Commission. Formerly with McKinsey & Company, he was a special advisor to several Australian Ministers in the Keating and Howard Governments. He is a member of the SAP Artificial Intelligence Ethics Advisory Panel. He received his PhD from Cambridge University.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



JANINE VON WOLFERSDORFF

PhD, Tax Consultant

Paris-Aligned Accounting

October 2022 – September 2023

Janine von Wolfersdorff is a tax consultant and an active member of the Advisory Board of OMFIF, the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum, London/Berlin. For the past ten years, she was Managing Director of the Institute for Finance and Taxes, Berlin. She advises businesses and politicians on issues relating to the implementation of sustainable accounting – ESG accounting / true cost accounting – and taxes.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



VISITORS

Next to our fellows, we welcomed a diverse group of visitors who enriched both of our programmatic and individual efforts. Some of them came for a short period of time to advise one of the programs, while others stayed longer and became full members of the fellow community. All of them are now active members of our alumni network.

HOMI BHABHA

Anne F. Rothenberg Professor of the Humanities,
Harvard University

December 2022 (associated event postponed
due to the COVID-19 pandemic)

Homi Bhabha is the Anne F. Rothenberg Professor of the Humanities in the English and Comparative Literature Departments at Harvard University. He was founding Director of the Mahindra Humanities Center at Harvard University and Director of the Harvard Humanities Center. His work explores postcolonial theory, cultural change and power, contemporary art, and cosmopolitanism. He leads a research project on the Global Humanities supported by the Volkswagen and Mellon Foundations. He is a member of the Academic Committee for the Shanghai Power Station of Art, advisor on the Contemporary and Modern Art Perspectives project at New York's Museum of Modern Art, and Curator in Residence of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. In 2012, Homi was awarded the India's Padma Bhushan Presidential Award in the field of literature and education. He holds honorary degrees from Université Paris 8, University College London, the Free University Berlin, and Stellenbosch University. Early in 2020, Homi was elected as Fellow of the British Academy.

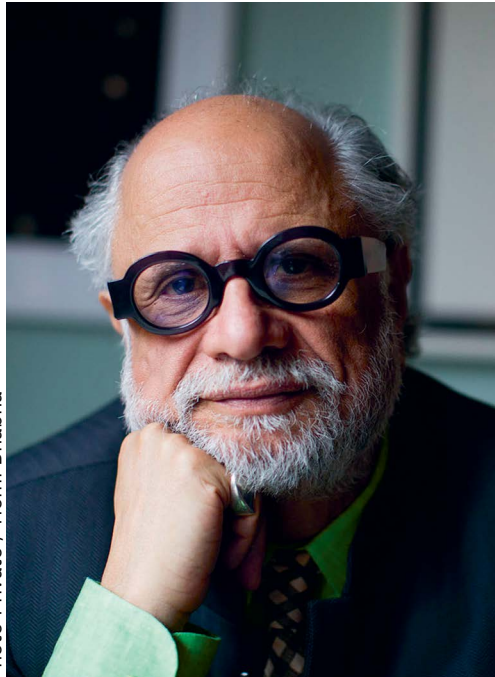


Photo Private / Homi Bhabha

JOHN AUBREY DOUGLASS

Senior Research Fellow and Research Professor of
Public Policy and Higher Education, University
of California, Berkeley

September 2022

John Aubrey Douglass is a Senior Research Fellow and Research Professor of Public Policy and Higher Education at the Center for Studies in Higher Education at the University of California, Berkeley. His research focus is directed towards comparative international higher education and consultancy of issues related to institutional strategic planning, and access and academic program quality assurance. John is the editor of the *Center's Research and Occasional Paper Series (ROPS)* and serves on the international advisory boards of several higher education institutes.

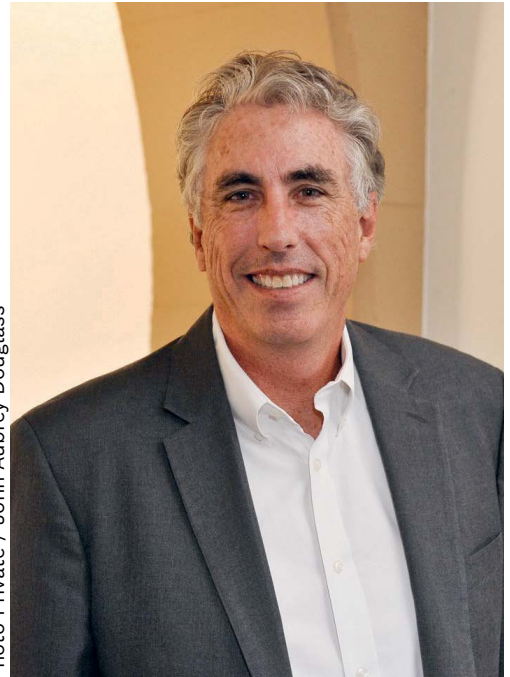


Photo Private / John Aubrey Douglass

MARINA GARCÉS

Director of the Master's and Research Program in Philosophy for Contemporary Challenges at the Open University of Catalonia

May – June 2022

Marina Garcés is director of the Master's and Research Program in Philosophy for Contemporary Challenges at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya / Open University of Catalonia. In her work, she focuses on politics and critical thinking. She also expresses the need for a philosophical voice that is capable of challenging and engaging. In one of her most famous books, *Nova il·lustració radical* (2017; *New Radical Enlightenment*, 2024), she rethinks the relation of humans to the world and criticizes how easily humanity currently accepts forms of oppression instead of striving for dignity and freedom. Next to her professorship at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Marina is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Fundació l'ARC, devoted to arts as social transformation, and founder of the collective project Espai en Blanc.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



FEN OSLER HAMPSON

Chancellor's Professor and Professor of International Affairs, Carleton University

Multiple visits in 2021/22

Fen Osler Hampson is Chancellor's Professor and Professor of International Affairs at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs. His work focuses on international, digital, and Internet governance and international negotiations. He explores global attitudes towards the Internet and online platforms and the development of narratives. Among several major awards, he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a recipient of the Distinguished Peace Scholar Award and the Distinguished Canadian Scholar Award, both of the International Studies Association. He is a frequent commentator and contributor in the national and international media. Moreover, he served as Director of the Global Commission on Internet Governance and is the President of the World Refugee & Migration Council.

Photo Private / Fen Hampson



ELISABETH STROWICK

Professor of German and Chair of the
Department of German at New York University
June 2022

Elisabeth Strowick is Professor of German and Chair of the Department of German at New York University. Before joining NYU, she was Professor of German and Chair of the Department of German and Romance Languages and Literatures at Johns Hopkins University. Elisabeth held several academic positions, including visiting professorships, at universities throughout the United States (Yale, Vanderbilt), Germany (FU Berlin, Center for Literary and Cultural Research, Berlin, University of Hamburg), and Switzerland (University of Zurich, University of Basel). She was awarded a Feodor Lynen Fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Elisabeth's areas of expertise are German literature, culture, and thought from the 19th century to the present, with a special emphasis on literary theory, psychoanalysis, ecocriticism, aesthetics, and poetics of knowledge.



Photo by Sabine Vielmo

2.

OUTPUT

We support scientific and scholarly work and aim to provide optimal conditions for our fellows to work on their individual and collective publications. In addition, we also aim to produce publications of THE NEW INSTITUTE.

Our first Discussion Paper, *The Case for Exploratory Social Sciences* by Geoff Mulgan, published in September 2021, starts from the notion that social sciences and humanities do not supply sufficient options for the future. It then explores the potential of “exploratory social sciences” as a remedy.

In September 2022, the Discussion Paper entitled *Towards a New Enlightenment – The Case for Future-Oriented Humanities*, co-written by fellows and staff members (Markus Gabriel, Christoph Horn, Anna Katsman, Wilhelm Krull, Anna Luisa Lippold, Corine Pelluchon, and Ingo Venzke), was published. This book and the German translation, which was released shortly thereafter, have been published and distributed by Bielefeld-based academic publisher transcript; both publications are also available as open access e-books and, as such, visible and freely accessible worldwide via repositories and library catalogues. The paper was reviewed by several journals and newspapers. The authors call for the humanities to reach beyond the confines of universities and engage in some of the most urgent debates facing humanity – in a multidisciplinary, trans-sectoral, and constructive manner to ensure that societal change can be inclusive and equitable for the good of humans and non-humans alike.

Other kinds of outreach were also supported, for example, interviews, podcasts, public readings, and artistic research. We have listed the publications that were produced, either in parts or in full, during our fellows’ tenure at THE NEW INSTITUTE, as indicated by them.

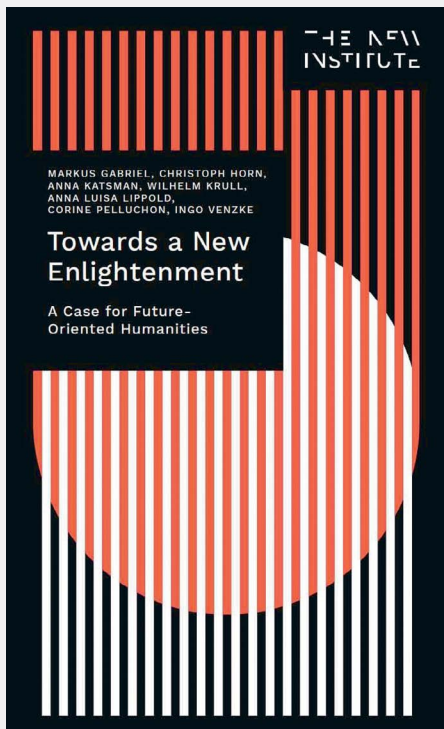
Institutional Publications

Gabriel, Markus; Horn, Christoph; Katsman, Anna; Krull, Wilhelm; Lippold, Anna Luisa; Pelluchon, Corine and Venzke, Ingo (2022).

Towards a New Enlightenment: The Case for Future-Oriented Humanities. Bielefeld: transcript.

This book was also published in German in 2022: *Auf dem Weg zu einer Neuen Aufklärung*. Bielefeld: transcript.

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Academic Publications

Journal Articles	20
Books	11
Book Chapters	22
Total	53

JOURNAL ARTICLES

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- Strowick, Elisabeth** (2023). “Eco-Szenarien der Finsternis: Chorisches im Anthropozän”, *The Germanic Review: Literature, Culture, Theory*, 98(2), pp. 197–222. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00168890.2023.2204395>
- White, Jonathan** (2022). “The De-Institutionalisation of Power Beyond the State”, *European Journal of International Relations*, 28 (1), pp. 187–208. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13540661211053683>
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Other Publications (Selection)

POLICY AND WORKING PAPERS

Douglass, John A. (2023). *US Universities Face a Red Tide and a Precipice: A Neo-Nationalism and University Brief*. Berkeley: UC Berkeley Center for Studies in Higher Education. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/6zb9602z>

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3.

EVENTS

Internal and external events such as colloquia, panel discussions, workshops, conferences, and book readings are of central importance to the work of THE NEW INSTITUTE. While there were still relatively few events in 2021 due to the first academic year of fellows beginning in October and because of the recurring COVID-19 pandemic, activities increased in 2022.

Evening Lectures

The Evening Lectures were the central internal event series for the fellows at THE NEW INSTITUTE. The format gave them, visitors, and guests the opportunity to present their work and discuss it with their fellow colleagues. In addition to the plenary discussion, it was continued at a weekly dinner following the events. In 2021, a total of ten Evening Lectures were held, contributing significantly to the discourse culture and fostering cohesion among the fellows.

13.10.21

Marina Garcés, “New Radical Enlightenment”

20.10.21

Christoph Horn, “Value, Goods and Moral Constitutivism”

27.10.21

Christoph Möllers, “Courts as Political Actors in the Fight Against Climate Change”

03.11.21

Christiane Wopen, “National Ethics and Bioethics”

09.11.21

Jan-Werner Müller, “The Critical Infrastructure of Democracy”

17.11.21

Maria Inez Plaza Lazo, “Transmissions: Formats at the Intersection between Academic Research and Activism”

24.11.21

Corine Pelluchon, “Ecology, Universalism, and Emancipation: The Case for A New Enlightenment”

-
- 01.12.21** **Philip Manow**, “An Observation of the Observation of Democracy”
-
- 08.12.21** **Jonathan White**, “Circadian Justice: On the Politics of Sleep”
-
- 19.12.21** **Christian Stöcker**, “Learning Machines, Disinformation, and the Digital Public”
-
- 26.01.22** **Lea Ypi**, “Immigration, Solidarity, and Social Class”
-
- 09.02.22** **Patrick O’Mahoney**, “The Critical Theory of Society: Understanding Society in order to Democratically Change It”
-
- 16.02.22** **Ingo Venzke**, “Part of the Problem: Law and Justice in the Climate Crisis”
-
- 23.02.22** **Paul Twomey**, “Empowering Digital Citizens: Making Humane Markets Work in the Digital Age”
-
- 02.03.22** **Vladimir Safatle**, “The Collapse of Freedom as a Normative Horizon for Social Rationalization”
-
- 09.03.22** **Dirk Brockmann**, “Doing Science like a Fungus: An Anti-Disciplinary Perspective on Complex Phenomena (plus a bit of Covid-19)”

16.03.22 **Francesca Bria**, “Framework of New Hanse and Data Politics”

23.03.22 **Tobias Müller**, “Confronting Climate Leviathan?: Transnational Activism and the State in the Age of Climate Change”

30.03.22 **Nicole Deitelhoff**, “Disentangled Futures: Re-Building a European Peace Architecture”

27.04.22 **George Ellis**, “Complexity, Downward Causation, and Stochasticity: The Basis of Emergent Dynamics and Agency”

04.05.22 **Ece Temelkuran**, “Why, but why?”

11.05.22 **Isabel Feichtner**, “The Constitutional Study of Value and Reconstitution of the Commons”

18.05.22 **Markus Gabriel**, “Another Kind of Growth: Recoupling Moral Progress and Economic Activity”

01.06.22 **Christoph Huber**, “Translating Research into Survival”

08.06.22 **Stephen Reichert**, “Crowds and the Making of Modern Society”

22.06.22 **Geoff Mulgan**, “Against Fatalism: How Can We Amplify Social and Political Imagination for the Transitions Ahead?”



Workshops

31.08.21

“Wohlstand im 21. Jahrhundert: Besser Wirtschaften nach Corona” convened by Dennis Snower in cooperation with Thomas Fricke (Forum New Economy)

The COVID-19 pandemic was often considered a wake-up call showing how wrong risk assessment and sustainability have gone in our economies. Many thought it would be a catalyst for restructuring the global economy. But what does that mean? What does a different way of doing business look like? How indispensable is the goal of constant growth? And what would be the alternative? What is the state of research and practice on measuring prosperity in ways other than gross domestic product? Is it possible to manage the economy in a way that allows for the regeneration of natural resources, which would be just as urgent as stopping climate change? And what does all this mean for the next German government? Jointly with the *Forum New Economy*, THE NEW INSTITUTE commissioned a series of studies from internationally renowned experts to study these questions. This conference served as a platform to discuss the results and to explore the questions with other representatives from science, politics, and society.

12.10. –
13.10.21

“Measuring National Performance Beyond GDP” convened by Dennis Görlich

Growth in production, measured by GDP, is the key performance indicator of a country’s success. Moreover, the prevailing thinking in economic policy and theory says that social value is a derivative of economic growth. But this is an inadequate portrayal of human wellbeing and has put us onto an unsustainable path to the future. In addition to GDP and its distribution, we must also assess social cohesion and solidarity, personal and social empowerment, as well as environmental sustainability of our economic activities and policies. With this debate on the measurement of national performance beyond GDP gaining significant traction, this workshop aimed at promoting convergence among dashboards of indicators that measure all dimensions of prosperity which are important for human flourishing. We welcomed more than twenty speakers from renowned academic institutions, think tanks, as well as international organizations.

18.02.22

“Restoring Constitutionalism” convened by Christoph Möllers and Ronan Kaczynski in cooperation with Maximilian Steinbeis (Chief Editor of *Verfassungsblog*)

How to deal with a constitution that has been turned into a tool to perpetuate the governing party’s power even in the case of a lost election? How to dispose of these undemocratic constraints without violating the rule of law oneself? Two towering figures of constitutional scholarship, Andrew Arato and András Sajó, addressed questions to the global constitutionalist community on how to deal with this dilemma. In collaboration with THE NEW INSTITUTE, *Verfassungsblog* published a collection of answers. This workshop aimed to further consolidate this debate by bringing together international scholars on constitutional as well as EU law with experts knowledgeable in the concrete case.

07.04. –
08.04.22

“How to Bring Our Moral Values into What We Value?: Rethinking Prosperity for Governments and Business” convened by Dennis Snower and Katharina Lima de Miranda

How can we ensure that the way we value our economic, political, and social contributions reflects our moral values? Our focus on valuing goods and services, as well as connecting its growth to the esteem of policy makers, business leaders, and civil society leaders, has led to a decoupling from our conceptions of the personal and common good. The challenge, in short, is to recouple value and values. At the micro level, the aim is to live one’s life in consonance with one’s highest moral aspirations. At the macro level, our economies and businesses must serve our social needs and respect planetary boundaries. This workshop explored the norms and values underlying prosperity, applications of holistic measurement of prosperity at the micro-level (business) and macro-level (countries), the possibilities of aligning the measurement of economic performance beyond GDP, and the measurement of business performance beyond shareholder value and putting them on a comparable basis. We welcomed sixteen speakers from renowned academic institutions to Hamburg.

16.06. –
17.06.22

“Eco-Scenarios: Performing Scale Critique” convened by Elisabeth Strowick and Anna Luisa Lippold

Scenarios are among the most important tools for modelling climate change. Yet it is not only the natural sciences and social sciences that use these as a way to represent possible futures; the arts and humanities, too, generate ecological knowledge in the form of (epistemic) scenarios. To what extent does the Anthropocene lend itself to be thought of in terms of eco-scenarios? What kind of expertise can art, aesthetics, and literary, cultural, and media studies offer toward the analysis of scenarios that generate imagination, knowledge, and ecological thinking across disciplines, discourses, and media? This workshop aimed to develop a transformative concept of eco-scenarios that gives rise to other forms of imagination, along with a mode of collective agency whose social and political resonances remain to be further explored.

14.09. –
15.09.22

“Promoting Democracy through Universities” convened by John Douglass and Wilhelm Krull

Historically, universities, and more specifically their academic communities, have been key players in the promotion of democratic values and national identity. In light of a changing global political landscape that includes neo-nationalist movements, populist leaders, and autocratic leaning governments, how might universities strengthen and expand their role in promoting and, in some cases, preserving democracy? How might they innovate to be more influential in combating attacks on civil society?

With a focus on universities in the European Union, this workshop explored these questions and discussed the best practices being pursued by universities and their stakeholders.

12.12. –
14.12.22

“The Right to Interpretation” convened by Homi Bhabha and Wilhelm Krull

The displays of intolerance that have come to characterize the history of the culture wars that so polarize our public life, are arguably all the more threatening to text-based disciplines. After all, these disciplines exist on the basis of what we might call a “right to interpretation”. A right to interpretation is an aspirational idea; it does not have the status of an established right and hence it cannot be immediately implemented by law or institutionalized by policy. However, this aspiration is based on a claim to autonomy and agency in critical judgment that is part of pedagogical practice in the humanities classroom as well as the newsroom. How can we come to a more general understanding of the parameters that govern claims to interpretation which are, at once, forms of critical knowledge and potential forms of social action? How to ensure the goal of humane education to teach civility in dissent and democracy through debate? It is the foundational purpose of the humanities to connect the pedagogy of textual interpretation to the civility of humane interaction. How can we humanely engage with difference, otherness, and minoritization? This workshop explored the notion of a “right to interpretation” further.

Online Seminar Series

Socio-Economic Transformation

In preparation of the fellowship program in the research area *Socio-Economic Transformation*, an online seminar series was initiated. It continued throughout the following academic year.

New Paradigms for Economics

This seminar series featured papers that contain a new understanding of the purpose of economics, focused on the mobilization of resources in the pursuit of wellbeing in thriving societies, now and in the future. The new paradigms are based on an underlying critique of orthodox economics in terms of its central characteristics: individualism, socially disengaged behavior, ignorance as risk, utility-based wellbeing, and progress as economic growth. The new paradigms also involved new approaches to economic policy and business practice, which were also to be explored in the workshop series.

17.05.22

Dennis J. Snower and David Sloan Wilson, “Rethinking the Theoretical Foundations of Economics: The Multilevel Paradigm”

Digital Empowerment

This seminar series was dedicated to ideas improving the rules of digital governance to better empower and protect individuals and democracy in an environment distorted by the power of obscure, mass data aggregation, and influencer-paid surveillance capitalism. The benefits from the digital revolution are not immutably tied to the current digital governance regimes. The central challenge of digital governance regimes lies in finding ways of making these regimes humanistic without sacrificing the technological benefits.

02.06.22

Paul Twomey & Fen Hampson, “Narratives & International Negotiation: WCIT-12”

Public Events/Conferences

24.01. –
26.01.22

Conference – “Think7 Inception”, cooperation with Global Solutions Initiative and German Development Institute

In 2022, Germany held the presidency of the G7. The accompanying Think7 process, which was part of the dialogue with civil society of Germany’s G7 presidency, was initiated with a digital inception conference on January 24–26, 2022, hosted by THE NEW INSTITUTE. We welcomed around 300 representatives from think tanks, research institutions, foundations, civil society, and politics from the G7 countries and beyond. The inception conference was officially opened on January 24 by Jörg Kukies, G7 sherpa to Germany’s Chancellor Olaf Scholz. He introduced the working priorities of the German G7 presidency. During the conference, the participants decided on the topics of the task forces, which worked to support the priorities of the German G7 presidency with research-based policy recommendations.

02.06.22

Partner Event with Felix Jud / Book Presentation – *Together: 10 Choices for a Better Now* (2021) with author Ece Temelkuran, moderated by Jan Ehlert (NDR).

07.06.22

Conference – “Limits and Limitations”

27.06. –

28.06.22

In 2022, THE NEW INSTITUTE celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Club of Rome publication *The Limits to Growth* with the authors of the original study in exchange with activists and researchers. Among the participants were such eminent Club of Rome activists as Jørgen Randers and Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker. *The Limits to Growth*, published in 1972, was a warning for humankind, but even 50 years later, the warnings has not trigger the necessary systemic transformation. The first event on June 7, “Limits and Limitations – Is It too Late for Climate Action?”, with John Schellnhuber, Dennis Meadows, Max Schön, Antje Boetius, and others, opened up the discussion. It continued on June 27–28 with the second event “Limits and Limitations – Imagining Possible Futures 50 Years after the Club of Rome Report”, which created a space to explore how the past and present can inform opportunities for a sustainable future.

26.06.22

Partner Event with Felix Jud / Book Presentation – *Free* (2022) with author Lea Ypi, moderated by Peter Neumann (*DIE ZEIT*).



4.

PROJECTS

In addition to the fellowship programs, the Institute also carried out concrete research projects. These were primarily launched during the Institute's start-up phase in order to begin programmatic activities already during the development of the organization and the Institutes' future home. Projects were done in collaboration with external partners such as the City of Hamburg or the University of Bielefeld. One of the aims of these trans-sectoral projects was to combine theory with practice from the outset and to create an experimental space for collaboration.

THE NEW HANSE

The New Hanse project was one of the original projects of THE NEW INSTITUTE, aimed to showcase the ambition of innovation and impact. It was conceived by Georg Diez and Nina Rismal and supported by Wilhelm Krull and Christoph Gottschalk. Francesca Bria became the project lead in 2020. In order to foster local networks, a collaboration with the City of Hamburg was agreed upon, creating Europe-wide visibility and putting this tech project and THE NEW INSTITUTE on the map of change-makers.

Under the leadership of Francesca Bria, and guided by Christoph Gottschalk, the project addressed the question: How can the city become more eco-friendly using technology and harnessing the idea of data commons and data for common good? In its explorations, the European perspective was kept in mind.

During 2022, the project moved from the conceptual to the implementation phase. Along the way, a Letter of Intent for the partnership between THE NEW INSTITUTE and the City of Hamburg was signed, the Challenge Design & Specific Question (project stream 1) was designed, and the Data Commons Working Group (project stream 2) was kicked off. The project was continued and finalized during the next academic year.

FRANCESCA BRIA

President of the Italian Innovation Fund
September 2021 – August 2023

Francesca Bria is one of Europe's leading digital policy experts. An innovation economist, she works at the intersection of technology, geopolitics, economics, and society. Before taking on her current role as President of the Italian Innovation Fund, she was Chief Digital Technology and Innovation Officer of the City of Barcelona and Advisor on Next Generation Internet and Innovation Policy to the European Commission. She also led major European research and innovation projects, such as the DECODE project, an effort to reclaim citizens' data sovereignty, and D-CENT, a Europe-wide project on digital democracy and economic empowerment based at Nesta, Britain's innovation agency for social good. Francesca is Honorary Professor at the Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose at University College London, where she teaches on digital sovereignty and people-centered smart cities. She is also Senior Advisor on Digital Cities and Digital Rights to the UN. In 2018, *Forbes* magazine voted her among Europe's Top 50 Women in Tech.

Photo by Sabine Vielmo



VOICES FROM THE PAST – LESSONS FOR THE FUTURE

The **Voices** project was initiated in 2020 by Arin Ayanian (Bielefeld University), Steve Reicher (St. Andrews University), and Andreas Zick (Bielefeld University), in collaboration with Wilhelm Krull. The project aimed to create an archive of filmed interviews with people who had participated in a series of transformative events and social movements since WWII. These events range from the collapse of the Berlin Wall up to recent climate protest movements. **Voices** positions itself at the interface between the historical, the societal, and the personal, covering past, present, and future. In 2021, interviews were conducted with social movement participants and the concept was refined through workshops with external experts. Toward the end of the year, the strategic decision was taken not to continue the project. The data has been handed over to the Universities of Bielefeld and St. Andrews.



5.

COOPERATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

We actively promote cooperation and collaboration with partners including those from academia, civil society, and administration. Below, you will find a selection of further partners with whom we have worked this year.

The Centers

In 2016 and 2017, preceding the founding of THE NEW INSTITUTE, Erck Rickmers founded four centers at different international universities, each of them committed to research at the intersection of academia and social transformation.

THE NEW INSTITUTE's Center for Social Critique at Humboldt University Berlin

THE NEW INSTITUTE's Center for Environmental Humanities at Ca' Foscari University Venice (until March 2025)

Humanities and Social Change Center at the UN Santa Barbara (phased out in June 2022)

Humanities and Social Change Center at the University of Cambridge (until April 2024)

Yehudit and Yehuda Elkana Fellowship Program

The Yehudit and Yehuda Elkana Fellowship invites researchers who have served the free exchange of knowledge and open space for academic controversies to spend three to six months at THE NEW INSTITUTE in Hamburg or at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. This initiative was launched in cooperation with the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, with additional support from the Volkswagen Foundation and Möllgaard Stiftung (Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft).



Photo by Phil Dera for DIE ZEIT.

Helmut-Schmidt-Zukunftspreis

The Helmut-Schmidt-Zukunftspreis is a joint initiative of *DIE ZEIT*, the Bundeskanzler-Helmut-Schmidt Stiftung, and THE NEW INSTITUTE and is awarded annually to individuals who have demonstrated innovative achievements in the realms of democracy, society, and technology on the international stage. On June 28, 2022, Vanessa Nakate, climate protection activist from Uganda, received the first Helmut Schmidt Future Prize at the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg. As a leading advocate for climate justice, she represents the voice of the young generation, the future, and the Global South.

6.

MEDIA

The goal of the media team is to reflect and promote the Institute's thinking, enrich it with external perspectives, and introduce the fellows and their research to the public. The team aims to facilitate programmatic content production and to serve as a gateway to local and global communities. In this context, art is integral to the Institute's visual language and conceptual self-understanding. Through art, we aim to open up spaces for reflection and to create networks of like-minded creative practitioners and thinkers.

In 2021 and 2022, we increased the visibility of the Institute in the public domain and increased our dedicated audience through various communication channels.

Newsletter

The newsletters served as direct and consistent communication with an engaged audience. Our newsletters were designed to reach beyond academia and engage with practitioners in various fields. Our subscriber base grew from 4,561 to 8,146 in 2021 and continued to grow to 8,559 subscribers in 2022.

In 2021, we inaugurated a monthly newsletter *The Challenge* (14 issues). Each edition spotlighted an individual associated with a program at THE NEW INSTITUTE and focused on a specific theme, complemented by artwork selected by a guest curator.

Additionally, in 2021, we also published the special newsletter *The German Election Special* (14 issues), which was published on a weekly basis every Friday before the federal elections. Here, the fellows had an opportunity to use their expertise to reflect on current times and to create a trusted voice in the public discourse.

In 2022, we published *The Ukraine Special – Beyond the War* (31 issues). This newsletter looked at the tragedy in Ukraine intimately through art and testimony, and more broadly through the expertise of the fellows of THE NEW INSTITUTE and valuable outside voices.

Paper Edition

In 2021, we introduced the “*Covid Special*” Paper Edition, a distinctive media product that combined texts and visual elements – with a lasting value, through the paper format. The Paper Edition attempted to make sense of the tumultuous year of the pandemic by asking experts from various fields to reflect on what has happened and how they think 2020 will affect what comes next. The art in this “*Covid Special*” was curated by Berlin-based gallerist Esther Schipper.

In 2021, we additionally published the “*On Hope*” Paper Edition. Within its pages, we featured twelve interviews, bringing together the voices of our fellows and other influential figures from the outside. “*On Hope*” aimed to set a tone of optimism, looking beyond current events.

Film

In 2021, in collaboration with Studio Premo, we produced the mission film, an artistic portrayal of our mission’s essence. Simultaneously, we introduced fellow profiles, offering insights into their how they view the meaning of the “new”, hope, and change.



7.

LIBRARY

The library aims to facilitate knowledge creation within the Institute. It does this by curating a customized collection of print and digital resources that reflects the current work at the Institute. Our ambition is to ensure that topical, relevant titles are already in stock before they are requested. This collection is also shaped to inspire fellows to look beyond the focus of their own research.

In the first few years, the main task of the library was to establish the necessary infrastructure to provide fellows and staff with all types of literature as quickly and efficiently as possible. The purpose is to create an environment that supports the fellows in their research and projects in the best possible way by offering customized services and an inspiring in-house collection.

This includes a physical/digital collection of monographs and journals available on site; it focuses on the core topics and primarily covers current academic literature, particularly from the humanities and social sciences on the topic of “transformation”. This profile is continuously adjusted to the program’s changing research themes. The collection is managed by a library system that enables uncomplicated loan management but above all a convenient catalogue search (with ubiquitous online access).

Additionally, we have developed networks with other institutions that allow us to access their resources; this also enables us to fulfill information requirements via local loans, interlibrary loans, or article delivery services on short notice. The library has also signed up to the DEAL agreements through which the fellows have immediate access to journal articles from Springer and Wiley publishers.

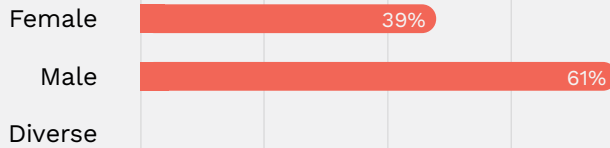
The library moreover considers itself an interface to the wider public and organizes public events such as readings and book presentations, in particular featuring fellows’ publications.



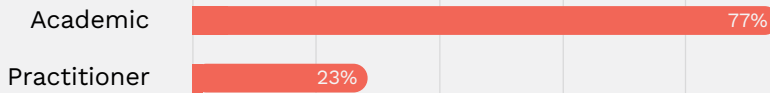
8.

FELLOW
STATISTICS

Gender

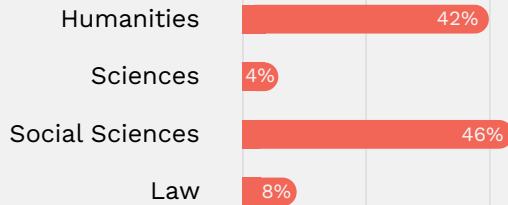


Sector



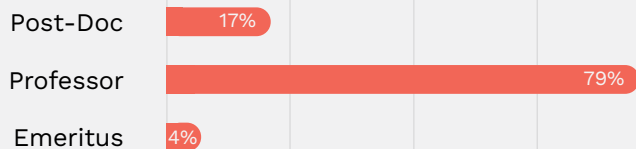
Field

(Academic Sector)



Career Stage

(Academic Sector)



0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35

Number of Program Chairs, Fellows, and Visitors

CONTINENT AND COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

Africa

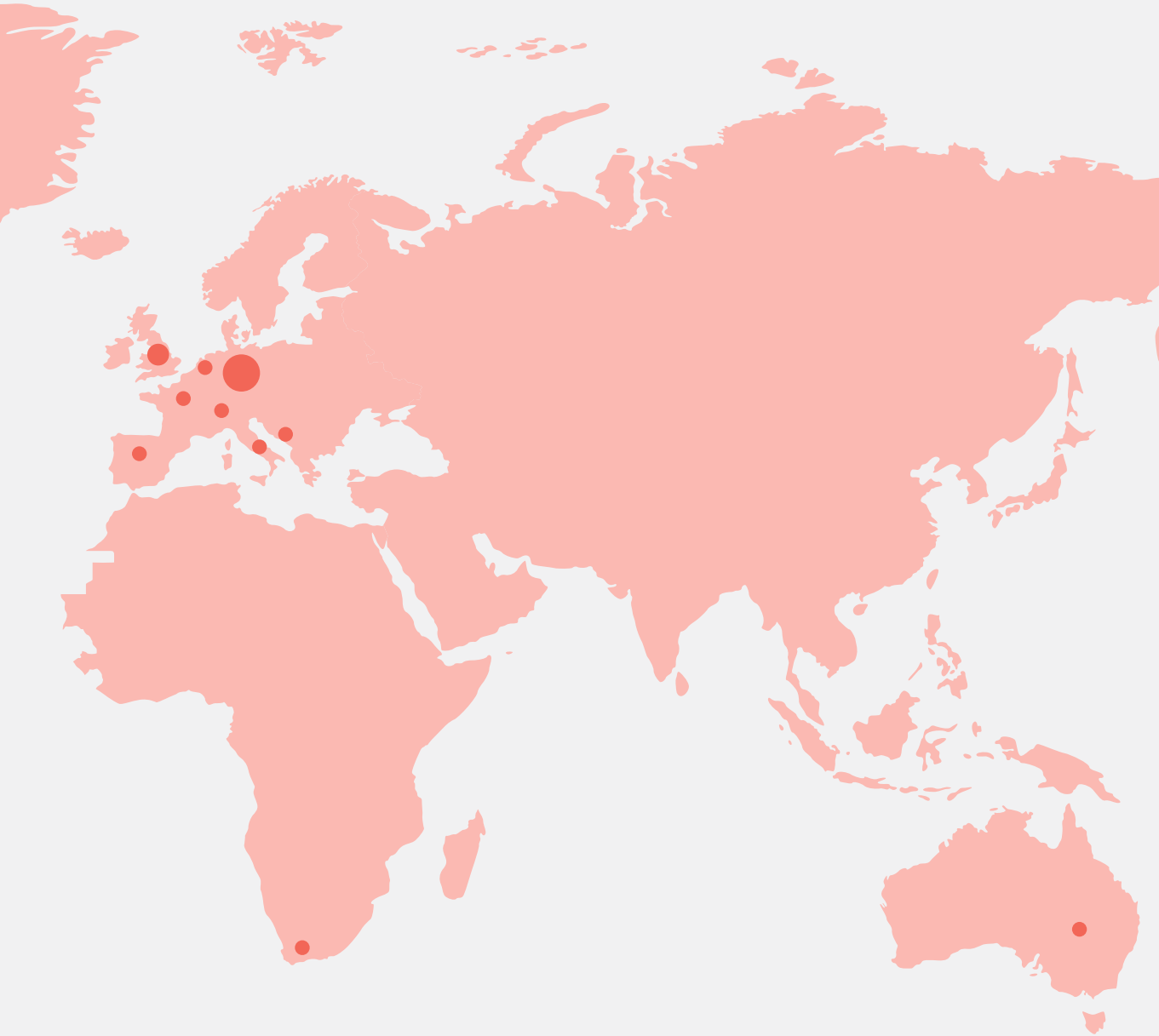
South Africa	1	
Total	1	3%

Australia

Australia	1	
Total	1	3%

Europe

Croatia	1	
France	1	
Germany	11	
Italy	1	
Netherlands	1	
Spain	1	
UK	4	
Total	20	65%





North America	Canada	1	
	USA	7	
	Total	8	26%

South America	Brazil	1	
	Total	1	3%



THE NEW INSTITUTE Report for the Years 2020-22

Published:

May 2024

THE NEW INSTITUTE Foundation gGmbH
Warburgstr. 8, 20354 Hamburg

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Design & Typesetting:

CDLX GmbH and THE NEW INSTITUTE

Copy Editing:

José Enrique Macián

Printing:

RESET ST. PAULI Druckerei GmbH

Virchowstraße 8, 22767 Hamburg

Photography:

Maximilian Glas, Sabine Vielmo

