



## Finding new concepts and approaches to the future of International Democracy Promotion

### Dear Readers,

at the beginning of 2022, the Russian war against Ukraine marked a turning point in the global world order. Since then, new political concepts and approaches have been under discussion. How to deal with the challenges and consequences of the war against Ukraine and what options democratic actors have is also of concern to our EDP network members. Within the broader tendency on democratic backsliding, Julia Leininger proposes a concept of [democracy protection](#). Jonas Wolff et al. elaborate on [potential pitfalls](#) in the public discourse on how to deal with autocracies in light of a new German values-based foreign policy approach, and Vanessa Boese and her colleagues at the V-Dem Institute shed light on the [sequences of autocratization](#) and find common patterns in its process. With more academic contributions, new exciting projects, and publications regarding this topic

(and beyond), we are pleased to introduce EDP Interactions #13

For regular updates on network activities, publications and all things regarding democracy promotion, we recommend following our Twitter account [@edp\\_network](#) and get in touch via email: [edp@HSFK.de](mailto:edp@HSFK.de)

We welcome Vivien Görtz as our new EDP's scientific assistant.

**We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

Vivien and Rebecca for the EDP Network

### News

22 December 2022

[Rebecca Wagner is Electoral Integrity Project Fellow in 2023](#)

21 November 2022

[Jonas Wolff Inauguration lecture at Goethe University](#)

21 November 2022

[EDP members at the third DVPW Thementagung](#)

9 August 2022

[Vanessa Boese featured in German „fluter“ podcast](#)

27. June 2022

[New Name for EDP Network Institution: DIE now German Institute of Development and Sustainability \(IDOS\)](#)

Read all **News** [here](#).

### EDP Wires

24 October 2022 | Jonas Wolff, Lukas Harth, Florian Kriener

[Responding to Foreign Interference in the EU: Beware of Unintended Consequences](#)

The EU's emerging response to foreign interference, as it is currently debated in the EU Parliament, contains striking similarities to arguments put forth by some governments around the world seeking to justify harsh restrictions on foreign funding and „foreign agents.“

6 September 2022 | Jonas Wolff

[The Reconstitution of Liberal Hegemony in Comparative Regime Research: V-Dem's Discursive Turn from the Contestation to the Decontestation of Democracy](#)

Within just a few years, the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) projects has experienced a remarkable rise to both academic and political prominence. As Jonas Wolff shows in his paper that was just published open access with Contemporary Politics, this rise has been accompanied by a notable discursive shift.

Read all **EDP Wires** [here](#).





## The EDP Network meets in Leipzig

From the 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of December, the EDP Network met in person in Leipzig. We discussed future options for the EDP Network in the form of collaborations and shared research. The members also presented their current projects and discussed future conferences and plans for the following year. We also took the time to visit the famous Leipzig Christmas market. Special thanks go to Solveig Richter and to the University of Leipzig for hosting the meeting!



## In the Spotlight: Jonas Wolff



Jonas Wolff has been a member of the Network since 2005 and contributed significantly to the networks development throughout different project phases. He is an executive board member of the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF), where he directs the research department on intrastate

conflict. In his research, Jonas is particularly interested in the conceptual politics of democracy and democracy promotion, but he also studies social movements, civic space restrictions, post-conflict violence and international foreign and development politics. His regional expertise is on Latin America. In April this year, Jonas also joined Goethe University Frankfurt as a professor of political science. He held his inauguration lecture recently. You can find the news article [here](#). Jonas currently collaborates in „ConTrust“, a joint research initiative by Goethe University and PRIF, as well as in the regional research Center „Transformations of Political Violence“ (TraCe), which brings together PRIF and the Universities of Frankfurt, Darmstadt, Giessen, and Marburg. You can find more about Jonas [here](#) and [here](#).

## Publications (selected)

Henoch Gabriel Mandelbaum, Brigitte Weiffen

[The Belt and Road Initiative and Autocracy Promotion as Elements of China's Grand Strategy](#)

In: *Securitization and Democracy in Eurasia*, pp 361–374.

Julia Leininger

[International Democracy Promotion in Times of Autocratization: From Supporting to Protecting Democracy](#)

In: IDOS Discussion Paper 21/2022

Sarah von Billerbeck

[Talk from the Top: Leadership and Self Legitimation in International Organizations](#)

In: *International Studies Review*, Volume 24, Issue 3

Jonas Wolff

[From the Varieties of Democracy to the defense of liberal democracy: V-Dem and the reconstitution of liberal hegemony under threat](#)

In: *Contemporary Politics*

Vanessa Boese, Staffan Lindberg, Martin Lundstedt, Yuko Sato, Kelly Morrison

[Institutional Order in Episodes of Autocratization](#)

In: V-Dem Working Paper 133

Johannes Gerschewski, Constantine Boussalis, Alexander Dukalskis

[Why It Matters What Autocrats Say: Assessing Competing Theories Of Propaganda](#)

In: *Problems of Post-Communism*

Jonas Wolff

[Talking about self-determination: Contested conceptions and political implications of an undisputed concept](#)

In: *Contemporary Peacemaking*, pp.307-331.

See all **Publications** [here](#).