

Friedrich Naumann
STIFTUNG

FÜR DIE FREIHEIT

BRUSSELS BRIEF

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The Spanish slump - political crisis and the need for institutional reform

Spain is caught in a vicious circle of debt crisis, low productivity, unemployment, public mistrust and centrifugal forces from which it does not seem to be able to emerge. The government had to admit that the results of the

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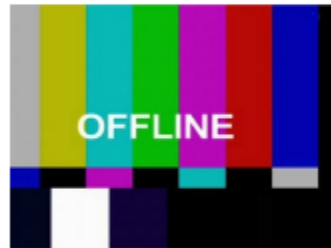
50 years of International Politics

Upcoming event: "Strengthening institutions and promoting civil society"

This year marks half a century during which FNF has been working towards fostering institutions based on the rule of law, engaging civil society and supporting democracy worldwide. Special guests who will look back and ahead on

previous reforms have not yet shown the expected results. Under pressure of the EU, Mariano Rajoy's government presented a new austerity package to tackle public debt and the economic crisis. What is striking in the new reform package is a firm commitment to reduce the budget deficit. But the package does not include new measures; most are an extension or deepening of previous reforms. To overcome the current economic and political crisis, Spain needs more than new policies, it needs a new institutional framework.

mehr



Griechenland: Den Bogen überspannt?

Am 11. Juni 2013 beschloss die griechische Regierung, den öffentlich-rechtlichen Rundfunk ERT (Ellinikí Radiofonía Tileóراسi) mit sofortiger Wirkung abzuschalten. Die rund 2700 Bediensteten wurden unvermittelt entlassen und teilweise während Livesendungen aus den Aufnahmestudios geleitet. Ab 21.00 Uhr erfolgte unter Polizeischutz die Abschaltung sämtlicher Sendeanlagen; gegen Mitternacht verstummte auch der letzte Mittelwellensender auf der Traditionsfrequenz 729 Kilohertz. Seit Mittwochnacht wird aus dem von Angestellten besetzt gehaltenen Rundfunkhaus nur noch über das Internet gesendet - und Griechenland steht vor der nächsten schweren Regierungskrise.

mehr

50 years of experience are Dr Irmgard Schwaetzer, Member of the Board of Directors of the FNF and former Federal Minister, Dr. Werner Hoyer, President of the European Investment Bank, Markus Löning, German Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid and Hans van Baalen MEP, Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) and President of Liberal International (LI). We are celebrating this anniversary on 8 July at 19h at the Palais des Académies, Rue Ducale 1, 1000 Brussels .

Please register by 5 July via <http://tinyurl.com/ngbclpk>.

mehr



Protest in white in Cuba - the Damas de Blanco - a conversation with Blanca Reyes

The Damas de Blanco - Ladies in White - were formed two weeks after the arrests by a small group of women related to the prisoners, mostly their wives. I (Blanca Reyes) was present the first day we went to the Santa Rita church for mass, dressed in white in sign for our pacific opposition to the massive arrests. Every Sunday, more women joined the protest and the movement grew bigger. However, as we gained visibility, the Cuban regime also started repressing our movement. In 2005, the Damas received the Sakharov Price of Freedom of Thought.

mehr



Upcoming event FNF Greece: "Liberal Café" with Alexander Graf Lambsdorff MEP

For more than three years Greece has been under the supervision of the troika. The beginning of Greece's recession dates back as early as 2008. In the past years, the European Union and its member states have made numerous efforts - financially and economically - to support Greece on its way back to economic growth and stability. The reform measures of the IMF, the ECB and the EU-Commission are a prerequisite for the financial aid granted to the Hellenic Republic and its people. However, their implementation lacks effectiveness, much to the chagrin of the Greek demos who feel more and more abandoned by their European partners. Does Greece therefore need more European solidarity? Does it need more Europe or less interference from abroad? Or can Greece's problems only be solved in Brussels, where a closer political union in addition to the monetary union is highly debated? What are liberal solutions to Greece's problems?

Kindly register by 02 July 2013 at <http://tinyurl.com/kcjaxcn>

mehr



Upcoming event: "Priorities of the Lithuanian Presidency 2013"

In the second half of 2013, Lithuania will hold the Presidency of the Council of the European Union and it is the first of the three Baltic States that joined the EU in 2004 to do so. While its predecessor Ireland focuses on "stability, jobs and growth", Lithuania will strive towards a "credible, growing and open Europe". One senior Lithuanian official recently said: "We need to work together effectively to achieve common goals, because the results depend on all of us... We need to keep building a Europe that is credible to its citizens and the world. A Europe which grows its economy and offers jobs. A Europe, which remains open to its partners and neighbours." Will Lithuania be able to stick to its ambitions and fulfill the promises it makes? Join our discussion with Sir Graham Watson MEP, President of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party, and Leonidas Donskis MEP, ALDE, Lithuanian Liberal Movement Party

Please register by 8 July via <http://tinyurl.com/kh6nvbk> - Please bring a valid ID

mehr

Wichtige Termine

24.06. - 01.07.2013 FNF Onlinekonferenz: "[Under construction: Auf dem Weg zu einem erneuerte Europa](#)", online 27.06 - 28.06.2013 [EU Council Meeting](#), Brussels 01.07.2013 [Croatia joins the EU](#), Brussels 04.07.2013 FNF Event: "[Liberal Café with Alexander Graf Lambsdorff MEP](#)". Athens 08.07.2013 FNF Event: "[Strengthening institutions and promoting civil society](#)".

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Brussels 10.07.2013 FNF Event: "[Priorities of the Lithuanian Presidency 2013](#)", Brussels

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Danke.

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