



From floods to drought Under the spell of water

28.12.2023 – 30.12.2023

Nothing is more taken for granted than water. We drink it. We wash, clean, and cook with it. We consist of 2/3 of it. Seventy-one percent of the earth is covered by water. Even though we are constantly surrounded by it and use it directly and indirectly every day, we don't think about it much. We couldn't exist without water.

In recent years, water has been increasingly discussed in the media. Of course, we know that there are regions in the world where water is scarce. Everyone has heard of deserts like the Sahara. Fortunately, this is not a problem in (Northern) Europe. In Germany, public pools continue to be filled with water every spring, in the villages the water sprinkler is a norm and private pools seem to become one. Even if a lot of water is used in some places, you still have the water saving button on the toilet and as much as it rained in the "summer" of 2023, water can't be a problem – you might think.

At the same time, there are reports of once-in-a-century floods, like in the Ahr Valley in June 2021, or of record droughts, like in Germany in the summer of 2022. The groundwater level in Germany is falling, the dams in the Harz are too empty rather than in danger of overflowing and rivers are no longer navigable because the water level is too low.

The resource of water, as obvious as it may be in Northern Europe, is becoming an increasingly important issue. On the one hand because we don't have enough and on the other hand because we suddenly have a lot for a short time. Droughts and floods will only become more frequent in the future. We will delve deeper into this dichotomy of water at the New Year's Eve conference.

We'll hear from experts who approach the topic of water from various perspectives. Simultaneously, there will be time for exchange and discussion.

Please note that all times mentioned are in Central European Time.

Preliminary program

Thursday, 28.12.2023

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| From 02:00 p.m. | Arrival, resolving technical queries, testing technology, etc. (outside the scope of funding) |
| 02:30 – 02:45 p.m. | Introduction to Zoom and other conference technologies (outside the scope of funding) |
| 03:00 – 03:30 p.m. | Greetings and Getting Acquainted |
| 03:30 – 05:30 Uhr | Water is Everywhere!? Workshop for an Introduction to the Topic to the topic |

Friday, 29.12.2023

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| From 09:00 a.m. | Arrival, resolving technical queries, testing technology, etc. (outside the scope of funding) |
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10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	Welcome and Greetings
10:15 – 11:45 a.m.	Water Conflicts in Germany, Lecture and Discussion with Prof. Dr. Petra Dobner
12:00 – 01:30 p.m.	Floods, Droughts, and Climate Change - What's the Connection? Lecture and Discussion with Prof. Dr.-Ing. Helmut Grüning
02:30 – 04:00 p.m.	Water as a Cause of Migration? - Floods, Droughts, and their Consequences. Lecture and Discussion with Dr. Benjamin Schraven
04:15 – 05:45 p.m.	Our Global Water Consumption - Understanding Water Footprint and Virtual Water. Lecture and Discussion with Helege Swars

Saturday, 30.12.2023

From 09:00 a.m.	Arrival, resolving technical queries, testing technology, etc. (outside the scope of funding)
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	Welcome and Greetings
10:15 – 11:15 a.m.	"Viva con Agua - 'Water for All - All for Water!' Presentation by the Non-Profit Organization Viva con Agua and Discussion with Co-Founder Michel Fritz"
11:30 – 12:45 p.m.	Where Do We Stand Now? Outlook and Discussion on the Topic
01:00 – 01:30 p.m.	Conference Recap and Closing Evaluation

If no speaker is listed, the work unit will be conducted by the conference team.

Organizer

Sonnenberg-Kreis – Gesellschaft zur Förderung internationaler Zusammenarbeit e.V.
Clausthaler Str. 11, 37444 St. Andreasberg

Conference Management

Jonathan Utsch, Bildungsreferent, St. Andreasberg
Sarah Reuter, Trainerin, Leipzig

Referent

Prof. Dr. Petra Dobner, University Halle-Wittenberg
Michel Fritz, Mit-Gründer von Viva con Agua, Hamburg
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Helmut Grüning, University of Applied Sciences Münster
Dr. Benjamin Schraven, Migration Expert
Helege Swars, BUND Naturschutz in Bayern e.V.

Interpreter

Pia Sabados Loges, Diplom-Dolmetscherin, Meckenheim

Technical Management

Vinicius Borgas Abdo, St. Andreasberg

Conference language

Deutsch/Englisch

Conference Fee

20,00 € for digital participation via Zoom

Conference number

16820

Note on general accessibility

Dieses Seminar ist mit Inhalten und Konditionen allgemein ausgeschrieben / bekanntgegeben über die Homepage des Sonnenberg-Kreis e. V.: www.sonnenberg-international.de

Die Gesellschaft der Europäischen Akademien e.V. ist anerkannter Träger der bpb. Der Unterträger Sonnenberg-Kreis e.V. ist Mitglied der Gesellschaft der Europäischen Akademien.



Der Tagungsbeitrag wird gesplittet, 2/3 werden dem Seminar zugeordnet, 1/3 wird zur institutionellen Kostendeckung verwendet.

Bildungs- und Tagungsstätte – Heimvolkshochschule – Europa-Haus

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