

### Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Worldwide

Founded in 1925 as Germany's first political foundation, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is a private, non-profit organization committed to the precepts of social democracy.



It bears the name of the first democratically elected president of Germany, Friedrich Ebert, preserving his legacy: the promotion of freedom, solidarity, and social justice through the political process.

With its projects in over 100 countries, the FES supports the building and strengthening civil society and public institutions. Central to its work are the promotion of democracy and social justice, economic and social development, strong and free trade unions, and the advocacy of human rights a gender equality.

**WITHOUT DEMOCRACY THERE CAN BE  
NO FREEDOM... TO PROTECT DEMOCRACY,  
TO RESTORE IT WHERE IT IS UNDER ATTACK,  
THIS IS THE DUTY OF ALL THOSE  
WHO LOVE FREEDOM.**

Friedrich Ebert

**FRIEDRICH  
EBERT**   
**STIFTUNG**

Egypt Office



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## Present in Egypt since 1976

Inspired by its general aims to promote democracy and social justice, to support economic and social development, as well as to advocate for human rights and gender equality, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) started working in Egypt in 1976. The office operates in cooperation with local partners within the framework of an agreement with the Egyptian government. This agreement was endorsed by Presidential Decree 139/1976 and by the Egyptian parliament. The agreement was renewed in 1988, endorsed by Presidential Decree 244/1989 and approved by the Egyptian parliament.



The Egyptian uprising of February 2011 was driven by demands for profound social and political change. Responding to these aspirations will be the main challenge for stakeholders and the whole of Egyptian society during the coming years. FES is ready to assist the Egyptian people during this transition process.

**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION  
IS FAR TOO IMPORTANT TO BE  
LEFT TO GOVERNMENTS ALONE.**  
Willy Brandt

## Fields of work of The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in Egypt

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung cooperates with Egyptian partners through conferences, seminars, training programs and workshops, academic research, discussion forums and exchange of experience in the following fields:



Environment and sustainable development

In the field of environment, the FES's objective is to support environmental policies, to raise environmental awareness, and to promote the exchange of information and experiences on a national and regional level by supporting non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to realize projects which contribute to raising environmental awareness. The FES also cooperates in the implementation of initiatives and pilot projects aiming at establishing environmental sustainability. The FES Egypt also cooperates regionally with other FES offices in the Middle East and North Africa on sustainable energy policy with a particular focus on renewable energies.



Socio-economic development

The FES cooperates with governmental and non-governmental organizations that contribute to socio-political discourse in order to achieve social justice, reduce the gap between the different social classes, and realize social democratic principles to balance and stabilize society. It also aims to encourage a constructive tripartite social dialogue in Egypt.

## Empowerment of youth and women

Special attention is given to the participation of young people in our activities. Therefore, the FES cooperates with different faculties in Egyptian universities to promote civic education programs for students.



Aiming to empower women and strengthen their role in Egyptian society, the FES provides activities in different relevant fields and is working in cooperation with e.g. research centers, university faculties, and NGOs to increase women's participation in public life. Furthermore, the FES seeks to strengthen the legal status of women and to reduce gender discrimination.

**DEVELOPMENT POLICY IS THE  
PEACE POLICY OF THE 21st CENTURY.**  
Willy Brandt

## Cooperation and international dialogue

The FES has eleven offices in the Middle East and North Africa region. "We believe in the importance of international dialogue as a way to avoid conflicts among countries." Thus, establishing a common ground for regional and international dialogue through the exchange of delegations and the participation of experts in conferences strengthens international understanding. In 2003, a cooperation agreement was signed between the foundation and the League of Arab States.

