

Global Justice - A Fair(y) Tale?



Documentation



12 - 21 May 2017 ISWI

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 Welcoming Notes
- 2 Behind the Scenes
- 3 Getting to Ilmenau
- 4 Expectations
- 5 Lectures
- 6 Groupwork
- 7 Events
- 8 Miscellaneous
- 9 List of participants
- 10 Funders
- 11 And they live happily ever after...



Once Upon a Time . . .

Editorial Board: documentation group, groupleaders
Philipp Försch (ISWI e.V)

Photographs: ISWI Press

Groupleaders:

Ines Dirsch, Yuen-Teng Foo,
Anne Hüttenrauch, Ye Yun
Khor, Kseniia Likhinina

Group members:

Leyla Buyukbayarak, Regina
Makenova, Mariam Margiani,
Nahla Omer Mohamed Khair

Layout: Regina Makenova, Nahla Omer Mohamed Khair, Ines
Dirsch, Anne Hüttenrauch, Ye Yun Khor, Yuen-Teng Foo

Imprint:

ISWI e.V.
Max-Planck-Ring 7
98693 Ilmenau
GERMANY

ViSdP:

Lilly Sommer

1 WELCOMING NOTES RECTOR & PATRON



Photo by: Felix Dürrwald

Prof. Dr. Peter Scharff, Rector Technische Universität Ilmenau

“There is hardly any other conference at this university to which I more enjoy welcoming guests than the ISWI. Not only because this is the biggest conference of its kind throughout Germany; it is about quality rather than quantity. For ten days, ISWI turns the Technische Universität Ilmenau into a peaceful microcosm crossing national borders. People from 70 different nations across all continents will gather in Ilmenau to discuss the question “Global Justice – A Fair(y) Tale?” in a peaceful atmosphere and to celebrate together. With a smile I would like to welcome you to our university and wish you a wonderful time in Ilmenau.”



Photo by: Ivan Semyonov

Dr. Kumi Naidoo, Patron of ISWI 2017

“It gives me great pleasure to extend my support to the conference and its organisers, the ISWI e.V. The concept of the student week for bringing together youth from across the world to engage in dialogue and exchange culture and ideas, is to me a precious initiative with far-reaching impact on the world.

I believe ISWI 2017 is a sincere attempt to find answers to some of the vexed questions we face in this day and age, in an open environment conducive to discussion and learning. Global justice is the creation of social, economic, environmental frameworks and practices that ensures that all of humanity is able to share our fragile planet in an equitable, fair and sustainable manner. Our age of connectedness is characterised by vast imbalances and wide-spread injustice. The challenges humanity faces as a whole must be dealt with together, shunning the boundaries we have placed for ourselves.”

1 WELCOMING NOTES ISWI BOARD



Photo by: Felix Dürwald

Andy

On behalf of the ISWI Organising Committee, we would like to warmly welcome you to Ilmenau and to ISWI 2017! It's finally here. After almost 2 years of planning, discussing, and communicating with collaborators and applicants we've made it here. And you've made it here! You've come from all around the world on planes, trains, boats, cars, and buses to be with us here in the beautiful city of Ilmenau to take part in 10 days of discussions, lectures, workshops, concerts, and cultural activities; and to make new friends, broaden your horizons and have a lot of fun!

Just before Christmas a year and a half ago, much of what would become the ISWI 2017 Organising Committee

gathered to decide on a topic for the next youth gathering. We took a look at what was going on in the world, and we saw the increasing interconnectedness and interdependence of global society as a result of technological developments. We saw social justice issues take centre stage, with the legalisation of same-sex marriage in the United States, the massive number of people forced to leave their homes due to conflict and poverty, especially in the Middle East and Northern Africa, and the accelerating rise of right-wing populism. We saw the continuation of man-made climate change, harbouring the potential for global catastrophes that will disproportionately affect the world's least well-off. These issues and more led us to discuss the concept of a globally just world and its feasibility. We recognised that there is still much injustice in the world. Just look at our participants – so many accepted applicants are unable to be with us now, just because they were unlucky enough to live in a country where visas are hard to come by. However, there are also many things that give us hope; and seeing you all gathered here in Ilmenau is one of them. We hope you share our desire to make the world a better place. We hope our topic will inspire you to discuss, exchange your ideas and look for solutions to pressing global issues. And we hope that you will take the things you learn back home with you and spread them in your communities. This is what makes youth gatherings like this so special, and this is why I am so immensely proud to welcome you all to Ilmenau.

Katharina

We spent many months organising this conference. It was a lot of work, but it was a lot of fun, too. I am very grateful that I have the opportunity to make this experience that enriched my life. We are no professionals, only students mostly studying something technical or related to media, but nevertheless we have organised a big conference with

hundreds of participants from more than 70 countries. It is a very satisfying and pleasing feeling to do something that really matters and can have a meaningful impact on society.

While organising ISWI 2017, I have learned that it is always possible and very important to pursue your dreams. You should not feel obliged to choose a specific way just because your family, friends, or society wants you to. You should choose your own way because you want it to. Don't regard your dreams as mere fairy tales but make them come true! Everybody has a choice and the power to change society a bit. If everybody makes only a small change, altogether it will make a big change! That is why we are here: we want to change society for the better – and I hope we will get a lot of inspiration from the input lectures and the developing of new ideas during the coming week.

Let's enjoy the International Student Week in Ilmenau 2017 and spread awareness for global justice!

Benno

We would like to thank everyone who has been a part of planning and organising this year's ISWI, as well as everyone who is a part of the conference right now and during the next days. The base of this biannual event is the ISWI Organising Committee with about 30 members. We are truly blessed with having such imaginative, committed, supportive, and dear people around us in the preparation team. They have dedicated tremendous amounts of their free time to organise what is the 13th ISWI, for which we want to thank them very, very much.

As a group of students of TU Ilmenau, we are thankful for the constant support of our university for the past 25 years, since 1992, when the ISWI association was founded.

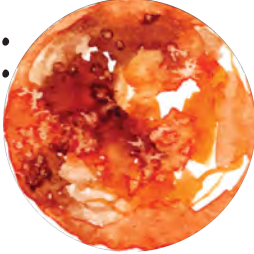
Also without the support of various other student's associations on our campus, all the hosts, and the numerous voluntary helpers in the preparation as well as during the

week, the Group leaders above all, ISWI would not be possible. Our special gratitude goes to our funders: The Federal Ministry of Education and Research, TU Ilmenau, the TU Ilmenau student council, the student union of Thuringia, the city of Ilmenau, the Ilm-Kreis local administration, the State Chancellery, Ministry of Economy, Science and Digital Society, and Ministry of Migration, Justice and Consumer Protection of Thuringia, the German Academic Exchange Service, the local partnership for democracy of Ilm-Kreis, Heinrich Böll foundation, the cultural foundation of Sparkasse Hessen-Thüringen, and proWiWi e.V. Thank you very much for your support!

Finally, I want to welcome you, the participants again, and thank you all for coming. You are the most important part of ISWI. You come because you have ideas that you want to share, because you want to be inspired by others, and because you want to change something. You are here because you believe in Global Justice and because you think we can make a fairy tale come true.

We wish you a great week, and a great ISWI 2017!

2 BEHIND THE SCENES: ORGA TEAM



The core idea of achieving global justice is based on the realization that collective effort of the people of our planet shall ultimately determine the fate of our civilization. Bringing forth this discussion, providing a platform for participants from around the world, engaging eminent speakers to gain insights, and enabling socializing through cultural events were the major tasks of the Orga-team. These ambitions were achieved through hard work and perseverance of each person involved.

About 350 participants of over 70 nationalities attended the conference this year, and even as everything on the surface looked flawless, behind the curtains there was a tremendous effort that made it all possible. When asked about the motivations of the Orga-team to fulfill their responsibilities, the purposefulness of making a difference was unanimously considered the driver to their altruism.

ISWI has always been about bringing people together. The energy and enthusiasm with which Group leaders and helpers contributed relieved considerable stress from the Orga. Of course, we are immensely thankful to the support of TU Ilmenau staff and students, the many student associations and the people of Ilmenau city. The turn-out at the lectures and cultural events is a testimony to the success of the events.

Even as the Orga-team had to make sacrifices and committed to executing plans made after months of preparation, the generous mutual appreciation, love and connection shared

with the participants, collaborators, and among the team itself made it all worthwhile.

Looking back at about 15 months when the team first started thinking about the topic and the main ideas for ISWI 2017, this has definitely been a cherishable journey. While this is only the beginning to the global conversation to reach for equality and equity, we hope that we have succeeded in enabling a confluence of knowledge, experience, and culture.



3 JOURNEY TO ILMENAU



"It took me about 40 hours. I traveled from Dhaka to Abu Dhabi and had a transit for 8 hours. Then I took a plane to Frankfurt and a train to Ilmenau. I missed the first train, the second was cancelled and I got there at the third attempt"

– Akm Fozla Rabbi from Bangladesh



"My whole trip was 23 hours. I traveled for 6 hours from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to Muscat, Oman. My transit was 2 hours and then I had another 7 hour flight to Frankfurt, and my journey to Ilmenau from Frankfurt took 8 hours in total."

- Nahla Khair from Sudan

12
hours from
Poland
By car, train and bus.

11
hours from
Serbia
By plane, train and bus.

24 hours from
Sudan
By 2 planes, train and bus.

4
minutes from
**Karl-Liebknecht-
Strasse**
By bike

14
hours from
Kazakhstan
By plane, train and bus.

12
hours from
Bulgaria

19
hours from
Argentina
By 2 planes, train and bus.

9
hours from
Georgia
By plane and train

4 FAIR TALE vs FAIRY TALE EXPECTATIONS

WHAT MY PARENTS
THINK I WILL DO



Photo by: Felix Dürrwald

WHAT MY FRIENDS
THINK I WILL DO



Photo by: Ivan Semyonov

WHAT I THINK
I WILL DO



Photo by: Max Richter

WHAT I
REALLY DID



Photo by: Max Richter

5 KEYNOTE: KUMI NAIDOO



Photo by: Ivan Semyonov

Do you feel like your actions have no real impact, like you are not making any difference in the world around you? Dr. Kumi Naidoo is a human rights activist from South Africa and the Patron of ISWI 2017. He leads global campaigns to protect human rights and to end poverty and advocates for environmental issues. Dr. Kumi Naidoo presented his experience in his NGO “Africans Rising” and how important it is to bring different people together in order to fight inequality, poverty, climate change and even corruption. He has set an example in fighting for human rights since his teenage activism against the apartheid regime. According to him, there is still so much injustice in the world, especially

when intersectionalities between different issues are taken into account.

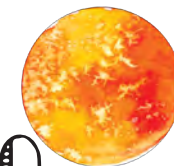
There is still a long way to go to get to equality. He provided one piece of advice about how to fight for equality which everyone should keep in mind: people should listen each other and not accuse people with power, but instead try to talk to them and make them understand your point.

While Kumi is an inspiration as far as not giving up and standing up for your dreams and goals goes, it is obvious that change starts with each individual. The road to equality is a difficult struggle, but if we do this together to involve those around us and get them socially active, we have a chance to actually make a difference.



Photo by: Ivan Semyonov

5 KEYNOTE: ALICIA CABEZUDO



“Education for Global Justice-Vision, Goals and Actions”, the theme of the lecture conducted by Prof. Dr. Alicia Cabezudo, an activist in education for peace and respect for human rights. In the lecture, she emphasized the content of education for global justice, instead of simply the theories and standards. Global justice is not only about concepts and establishment of different systems, it is about the basic right of every human being to be treated fairly, to be respected, regardless of race, religion, gender or political opinion.

Traditional teaching methods, where the teacher talks in front of the class while the students listen, daydream and doze off; involve continuously imparting knowledge on the student, without knowing whether they have digested it or not. A great teacher should guide his or her students to explore and discover new things; and teachers have something to learn from their students as well.

After understanding the curriculum, and mastering the teaching method, the teacher should also apply both in different contextual condition. Teachers should take note of the culture and the character of different students while delivering the lesson.



Photo by: Ivan Semyonov


At the end of her lecture, Dr. Cabezudo shared with us a story that happened 25 years ago. She was a very young teacher back then, teaching a class of -13year-olds in a city in Argentina. It was a usual morning, until she received an order from the headmaster to keep the students safe in the classroom. The army had intruded the school! She swiftly hid her students under their desks, and asked them not to come out, no matter what was going on outside. Meanwhile, a group of soldiers was walking towards the library, which was opposite her classroom. Suddenly, she saw the army burning all the books in the library; quickly, she asked her students to come out from the desk.

The students were in tears when they saw that scene, even the little boy who seldom went to the library cried when he saw his favourite game board being burnt by the army. "Remember my children, the fire in the library today, keep this scene in your mind, always!"

Many years later, Dr. Cabezudo met one of those students in a supermarket, now a representative of that supermarket in a trade union. What he said to her touched her deeply: "The fire, the fire, teacher!"

The right for education should be preserved, be it the right to learn one's mother tongue or simply to be literate. We, as world citizens, have the responsibility to stand up for education.

5 KEYNOTE: BERNARD LIETAER



The speaker for the second keynote was Prof. Dr. Bernard Lietaer, an innovative economist who has gained global recognition for his evaluation of the global financial system. "Economic Justice – Theory to Practice" is the theme for the keynote.

He disagreed the common definition of money in economics; which defines money as an asset that is widely accepted as the means of payment. He argued that this is the function of money, not the nature of money; they are two different things.

In his speech, he explained to us the nature of the monetary system in the current world, and how we can improve the system by implementing the Yin and Yang concept from Taoism. The Yang Coherence or patriarchal concept in the west is about competition efficiency. The peak of technology dominates the system; which works best with central authority. A hierarchical structure is established in the system, where all the information is delivered top-down. The Yang currencies are issued by the central authority, and the authority may monopolise the currency, as there is a scarcity of the money resource. This promotes competition in the market to gain more money, with interest providing an incentive to amass as much money as possible. On the other hand, The Yin coherence (matrifocal concept) emphasizes sustainability. A flat organisational structure that encourages mutual trust and egalitarianism is the main idea of the concept. Yin currencies are issued by the users themselves.

The currency is controlled openly and democratically. Instead of competition, it promotes cooperation among the users. They would rather circulate the money than accumulate it.

According to Dr. Lietaer, complementary currencies are currencies operating on a smaller scale than the national level, and can solve social, environmental and education problems. Blockchain technology is one tool that can be used to create such currencies. Block chain technology allows transaction data to be distributed, openly, through the Internet. It is commonly used for digital currency, such as Bitcoin. Blockchain will be a future trend as it could offer a higher degree of accountability than regular currencies as it cannot be controlled by any single entity and has no single point of failure.

Dr. Lietaer ended his speech with a quote that made us rethink our current patriarchal monetary system, "We are psychologically trapped in the idea that there can be just one monetary system, providing a single currency for all purposes, pretending that the power of allocative distribution through a monoculture is most efficient"



Photo by: Felix Dürrwald

5 PANEL DISCUSSION: WWWWEB OF JUSTICE?

The discussion revolved around the influence of social media on our society, its relevance to politics and activism, and its pitfalls. The panel engaged in evaluating the different aspects as per their backgrounds and viewpoints. Keywords such as 'fake news', 'echo chamber', and social bots were spoken about.

Antje Allroggen, journalist on Deutschlandfunk, shared her argument by first explaining how traditional media



Photo by: Muhammad Irfan

organisations are operated and the importance of ethics in all forms of journalism. She gave examples on the evolution of reporting since the advent of the internet and how



Photo by: Ivan Semyonov

organisations like hers coped with it.

Salah Zater, posed his doubts on traditional media and described how he gathers information through multiple sources and independent journalists. As an activist and blogger in Libya during the civil war, he

described how social media helped him organise actions and share information with his network of collaborators. He stressed on the importance of scrutinising online information sources.

Prof. Dr. Martin Emmer put forth his views as an academic researcher. His take was on the benign impact of social media, as means for self-determination in this information age and as a proponent of democracy. In the global context, he underlined the disparity in the evolution of cyberspace with the example of blogging sphere developing differently in different countries.

Dr. Sebastian Stier, as a political scientist, argued that the influence of social media is often overblown. According to him, the empirical evidence to support theories of social media playing a critical role in phenomena such as 'Brexit' is insufficient. On scrutinising online media sources, he added that we always had varying views and propaganda circulated through traditional media and that the impact of journalism is strongly determined by the consumers themselves.

Randall Newton, a tech-journalist and early adopter of social media fulfilled his responsibilities as a moderator well and structured a worthwhile interaction between the panellists and the audience.

5 KEYNOTE: WOLFGANG LUCHT

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Lucht, a theoretical physicist and climate scientist, spoke about Earth's Future - From Planetary Boundaries to Social Transformation. He presented vividly the role of humans as a driver of global climate change starting with carvings on a mammoth bone, which proved for the first time that humans and mammoths lived at the same time, during an ice age. It is hard to imagine what it was like to live in those conditions.

He showed alarming statistics of the current state of CO2 emission and global warming. These should be seen as a call for action! But it will not be easy. Human society right now is based on growth, and a 'great transition' will be necessary. He noted, however, that history shows that such a transition is truly possible. What is necessary is a change in perspective. While providing someone with a new understanding of human life and their place in the world does not have the direct impact of hard scientific facts, it will be more effective in the long run.



Photo by: Felix Dürwald

6 GROUPWORK

EIKE HACHMANN, SHEENA MOIN

PURPOSE AND NEED OF JUSTICE

ISWI is a platform where people from different parts of the world come under a common roof. Also our group had participants from various parts of the world (Russia, Palestine, Jordan, Malaysia). As all the participants were new to Ilmenau and to each other, it was important to first get



comfortable with each other's presence and get to know each other to have a group discussion.

So, we played get to know games as a startup. Consequently, after having some fun, we slowly started moving to our

group discussion topic. We organised an activity and gave the participants the task to write down "why do we need justice in life?".

Participants came up with a lot of great things. Also, we asked them to present each of their perspectives on the questions "why do they think so?" and "what injustice are they causing in the world?". The participants gave examples from their countries and then we discussed what can be done to remove these injustices caused in this world. After the lunch break we continued our discussion and then we had a lecture by Julian Culp (Philosopher and a political theorist and research associate within the Leibnitz Research Translational justice at the University of Frankfurt).

The lecture gave us a deep insight of his work and gave us knowledge about transitional justice, deliberative democracy, human development and democratic education.

Moreover, from his work and views it is interpreted that Justice cannot be obtained just by imposing strict rules but should be built in each citizen from very beginning so that people don't cause any injustice towards anyone or exploit the resources of other fellow beings. On the second day, we continued our discussion from the previous day where we categorized justice in various sectors such as social Justice, Global Justice, Economic Justice and Human Rights Justice. We concluded the day by discussing about the presentation that our group will present on Friday. We had lot of different opinions about it and participants came up with lots of creative and different ideas but after a long discussion we finally settled to one of the ideas to which all the group members agreed to. Further, we will go deeper into our topic and try to discuss the main ideas with more research oriented theme and focus more on examples. Thanks a lot to the group for such work.

6 GROUPWORK

REBECCA BOHN, INGA GROENITZ

PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

During the four days, we spent together as a group, we not only got to know the other participants better but also ourselves. Coming from different countries, we discovered astounding similarities in problems and possible ways for solving them.

In the workshop given to us by Sanja Angelovska we heard about Psychology of Conflicts, Stereotypes and Prejudices. Besides getting to hear what she, as an expert, had to say we also had the possibility to engage in a role play about conflicts with stereotypes.

Other than that, we discussed topics that were important to us and also got together and presented an awesome film and 360° photograph at the Closing Ceremony.

Best Group ever!

xoxo



6 GROUPWORK

CINDY ZHENG, LARISSA KUTZER

PHILOSOPHY

The Philosophy group had eight members in total. That may seem like a small number, but actually, our intellectual minds are so grand, one more brain would have thrown our little circle off balance.

Monday, 9 p.m. One person showed up on time, but that's okay. Smart people are messy; geniuses are chaotic and often not punctual.



Finally, about half of the group was there. We started by discussing the term 'Global Justice'. We wrote down what we relate to this term, e.g. equality. After that, we kept discussing various topics and took a break after having lunch, playing some energizing games.

Since everyone was still a bit lazy, we led the second segment with a case study, quoted from the book 'Justice – what's the right thing to do?'. We discussed a court case where an excellent, but disabled golf player pleased to use a golf cart during professional golf tournaments – should it be allowed?

A load of different opinions scattered round the room – some understood that walking is a key point in golf and part of what makes it a credited sport. Others were sympathizing with the player, mentioning how we had to make exceptions for cases like him.

We did not come to a united conclusion – Agree to disagree is our motto!

Following, we mentioned the presentation we had to hold at the end of the week and collected ideas. With that, we dissembled the group and head towards dinner. The next day, we started a bit later, because most of us stayed up longer the night before.

Setting off the day with a light-hearted discussion about marriage, we continued with more topic-related arguments about if we can achieve Global Justice. Is it possible or is it impossible? If yes/no, why? Nearing the end, we planned our presentation further.

During the day, we played some games in the sun, had ice cream and listened to music. Although we may seem different from the outside, we enjoyed many of the same things. The next days will be similar. We will evaluate more cases, investigate philosophical questions and theories, and finally have the best presentation at the end of ISWI.

6 GROUPWORK

SYED MUHAMMED ALI AZHER, ALI BUTT, NILS CHRISTIAN DEPPE

LESSONS FROM THE PAST



How can we take lessons from the past?
How can we fight injustice through these lessons?

To get a grasp of this goal, we first looked for different faces of justice. Firstly, the systematic aspect which contains the rights of the people, the freedom and equality given by the system. Secondly, the human aspect of justice relies on the trust and respect of the people and towards one another, their sense of responsibility and their ability to recognise mistakes. But justice and injustice are not generalisable. They often develop out of money or power, are challenged by understanding and very widely regarding regions or cultures. We used mind mapping to extract the themes for

our main topic.

Through our workshop with Oran, we developed a better grasp of what learning from the past can mean.

It is about understanding and changing the future, it is about giving a meaning to something.

We, therefore, gathered examples of justice-related problems in the past and extracted their essential facts. Fortunately, there were two students who represented the countries with the conflict.

This provides the opportunity to reflect upon the issues between the countries and learned about the different views about the same event in a friendly environment. Games were played to freshen up the mood and energise the participants. Main questions regarding the extracted topics were: What causes the event? What changed afterwards? Next step was to analyse our topics, identify similarities and abstract the finding to general lessons.

Then how to link those topics to Global Justice?

6 GROUPWORK

TOMAS HANZELY, CAROLIN KOHLER, CHARLOTTE SCHULZ

JUSTICE THROUGH HUMAN RIGHTS



We have started our journey of exploring human rights and analyzing issues related to them from the very first day of the conference as Kumi Naidoo delivered such an inspirational speech. Kumi (human rights activist and environmentalist) shared with us his own story and experience, talking about human rights globally with a focus on Africa. His speech motivated us to dig out our rights and help in the implementation process locally and worldwide. Since

then, everyday has taught us a new lesson and provided us with new knowledge.

Entering ISWI and the workshop we had our expectations due to the experience most of us had. However, reflecting upon our personality, made each of us a new person.

Thus, in the second day we started our group work by sharing our expectations and background of human rights and motivations for applying to ISWI. Plus, we unveiled the universal declaration of human rights and decided to split the work on it into two days.

Our group decision and debates about these rights led us to new ideas that would help implementing these rights. During our session, everybody shared his/her own story or experience from the country he/she comes from. We had a chance of facing diverse social, economic and cultural backgrounds that help putting an end to stereotyping and discrimination.

We heard an inspiring lecture from an activist of Amnesty International concerning human rights worldwide. As we wanted to create something lasting that we could also all share in our home countries, we created a video for our final presentation where we want to show the equality among all our differences.

6 GROUPWORK

BEATRIX BAU, JESSICA WEBER

EVERYDAY ACTIONS

We, the everyday actions group, started our workshop almost every day with a lot of actions. While drinking tea, eating cookies and making origami birds, we discussed about general issues in different countries like discrimination, sustainability, war, crises and actions to rise more attention to certain issues.

Additionally, we had a discussion about how to react in a discriminative situation. We decided on kindness and emotion control, as first steps to not get overwhelmed when faced with challenging situations.



Everybody in the group agreed that acting with fear or anger in a hateful situation only promotes the hate instead of helping to solve problems.

With a lot of input from Salah Zater and his many experiences, we collected many ideas and decided on three actions we would perform in Ilmenau city to pay more attention to global justice. In the next step, we had some thoughts about how to spread and integrate local actions via social media to reach an even bigger audience and to create bigger awareness of general issues all over the world.

All in all, it was an amazing group with awesome people from all over the world having a great time together.

6 GROUPWORK

LAN DUNG VU, JULIA HEDEMANN

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

Our group talked about the legal system in different countries: the similarities and differences. Also, we have discussed the different ways of punishing criminal activity, purposes of punishment, necessity and effectiveness of punishing people that commit a crime.

We took some real-life cases, analyzed and discussed them.



We agreed that it is difficult to find a punishment that is not only effective but also helps victims to deal with the crime.

Furthermore, we have discussed the possibility of getting justice all over the world and a legislation in all countries.

Also, corruption was a topic we talked about. Our group found some ideas to find the solution for some of the situations that we have discussed.

Dynamic outdoor activities made us feel fresh, active and interested in topics that we discussed and worked with. How to apply the right punishment? Why do we punish people for their crimes?

6 GROUPWORK

CHRISTIAN WEBER, EVA SCHIRMANN

SHARING IS CARING

In terms of the team size, “Sharing is Caring” was not the biggest group, but full of cultural power. From the first second on, everyone got the idea to start the day with a shared smile. Nevertheless, Sharing is Caring is not just connected to emotions or to create a friendly atmosphere, it is also related to human respect as an important aspect of Global Justice.

Therefore, our group developed a mind-map to summarise main thoughts and experiences each participant made in their home countries.

We also were lucky to get some creative input by our guest speaker Scott Bolden, founder of the co-working space “Baumhaus Berlin”. The goals of the workshop were the theory of balance, how to build up open greeting zones and an amazing human DJ method as a social ice breaker.

In our history lesson, the participants learned from national heroes and important events in the past, how the kind of Sharing is Caring thinking has risen up in different countries. To collect experiences from the Ilmenau hosts, the group decided to visit several friends flats in the city. There we interviewed the hosts about the motivation to share their living space.

Till the end of the week, we will start a baking-action-event, where we want to share cakes and muffins with

all international students on the campus. Finally we are planning to do our so called “Circle of Love” as a good bye event at the closing ceremony of the ISWI.



6 GROUPWORK

SIMON BRUHN, LUKAS HERRMAN

ORGANISATION OF SOCIETY

In our group, we had the chance to critically examine various models of economic, political, legal and social systems, purely theoretical or already used in certain countries. Are they compatible with the idea of global justice? In what ways can they be improved? Within only a short period of thinking about this topic, its enormous scale became apparent.

That is why the first task for our group had to be to find some kind of structure for working on such a big and far reaching topic. With our group consisting of eight nationalities (Algeria, Germany, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Philippines, Syria, Ukraine, Vietnam) we came up with so many different ideas and questions which we considered worth discussing that finding a clear structure was anything but an easy task.

But after several interesting and open-minded discussions we managed to give ourselves a roadmap for our working sessions during ISWI 2017.

Beside the hours of hard work there was always enough space for playing games in front of the Oeconomicum at the TU Ilmenau which allowed us to get to know each other in a very personal way. Even though we look differently and stem from different cultural backgrounds, we realized during these times, how similar we all actually are.

We want to finish this article with a sentence which best describes all the fun we had together: “What the heck? I am a queen without a castle!”.



6 GROUPWORK

MATTI NOACK, ANDRE CORDES

ECONOMIC SYSTEMS

In order to achieve a more just world, the global economic interconnections play an important role. The current system is causing an unfair distribution of wealth, but it also holds the opportunity to overcome the resulting inequality.

We started our group work towards economic systems with characterizing and analyzing the common modern concepts for organizing an economy, capitalism and socialism. Based on the advantages and weaknesses of these systems, we discussed on alternative concepts to realize justice within the society by structuring the economy. We focused on certain aspects like the current resurgence of protectionism, the injustice in trade agreements between developed and developing countries and how corruption is harming the economic development.

The group work was focused on four different content areas which combined several problematic challenges. We were dealing with the inequality due to the pressure caused by global structures, fair and unfair trade, the economic influences on the environment and green economy, as well as the financial and monetary system. Our objective was to work on constructive approaches and to present solutions for forming a fairer world. The modification of the current economic system seems to be one of the most promising starting-points to do so.

During his lecture with the title “Economic Justice – Theory to Practice”, Bernard Lietaer talked about his idea of



Ecological Economics. Lietaer says to overcome the structural instability of our global financial system and to reach economic sustainability it is required to add complementary currencies and apply a multi-currency system. His projects on changing the currency system and a just monetary structure, formed excellent motivation examples for us to work out ideas that could change our understanding of economics fundamentally.

The group work has been interesting and inspiring, having so many professionals on the broad field of economics together, focusing on the transformation towards a fair global economy. There were numerous examples of the challenging circumstances in our home countries that caused a lively debate and illustrated well, why we are in a desperate need of accomplishing a more just way of trading with each other and reach global justice.

6 GROUPWORK

JULIUS LATUS, MIR RAKIB-UN-NABY, HANS GUNSTHEIMER

TECHNOLOGY

During 'Groupleader meets Participant', we realised that our relation to technology is quite diverse. This proved to be the ideal starting point for interesting discussions about various topics like the motivation behind space travel, artificial intelligence and the access to and affordability of technology in different parts of the world.

At the first day, we had a workshop with NatWiss, an NGO which encourages students to raise awareness of military research being conducted at universities. In the morning, we had a short introduction to this topic and we prepared some questions. They presented some facts about the situation in Europe and the USA. There is a lot of money spent on armament research and development, a vast amount being distributed by pentagon. Most of the time, this research projects are being kept under the radar. It is pretty difficult for people without the background knowledge to label such projects related to military. An aspect regarding this matter is the so-called „third party funding“ by arms companies in Germany.

The main point of the organization is that with the possibility of war, there can be no global justice. But technology itself is ambivalent. In order to cope with this issue, we need a community and time for ethical discussions, reflecting about what we are doing every day. To get a different point of view, it is necessary for students to get in touch with other

studies not related to theirs. In order to get the time needed, universities should receive more money being spent on research by the public, to be free from economical influence. After their talk, we discussed possible solutions and the situations in countries all over the world.

During the next days, we presented the projects we are working on and talked about our studying conditions.



6 GROUPWORK

DANAE CRASCOVSCAIA, MARIA
CAMILA ARIZA, MARIA ACENA

ENVIRONMENT



Once upon an ISWI, students from various parts of the planet gathered in Ilmenau for a common goal:

Achieving global justice through Environmental Sustainability.

Their one and only concern is the tragic state that planet earth has come to. Those young promising students dared to picture the future they imagine through a video. With the scenes, they represented the two possibilities, a very nice future, surrounded by nature, friends, and beautiful animals. And the “bad future” that will occur if we don’t start changing our everyday actions. The main purpose of the project is to raise environmental awareness and motivate students to take actions and act locally while thinking globally.

What has started with an online application, ended up with an unforgettable week full of fruitful discussions, future action plans and everlasting memories.

Let’s be the change makers. Let’s be eco-friendly!

6 GROUPWORK

GEORGES MONFOUO, SHERIEF
EMAM

HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE

First day: 15 May 2017

1st group. Topic: Should people who suffers from different illnesses be discriminated or not?

We discussed such diseases as STD (sexual transmitted diseases), HIV, Hepatitis B, C and TB (tuberculosis).

We said what can be the reasons to discriminate such people and by that we mean: isolate them from healthy people, built for them special schools, and places.

The reasons to do that are: when we constantly see people with cancer, and how they suffer every day it affects us, whether we want it or not. We get depressed, stressed because we think about these diseases, and we know that stress is a major trigger to almost all illnesses. So isn’t it right to protect healthy people?

Or if we are talking about TB, we know that it’s a disease that can be transmitted by air, by shaking hands and that should be a major fact to protect healthy people, especially when we know how much time it takes to be cured. It was a good experiment just to see this problem from this point of view. The bottom line is of course we don’t support discrimination but it was good for us because it completely changed our way of thinking.

Second day: 16 May 2017

A discussion was done on one of the selected topics of the previous day which was, why some countries are sceptical about accepting their citizens to be vaccinated. Some reason were enumerated which included:

- Religious beliefs
- Could create allergies
- General suspicious.

On the other hand, vaccination is good because it prevents diseases and creates more health.



6 GROUPWORK

SASA STEFANESCOVA, JOHANN
RIEDLBERGER

JUST DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES

In our group, we discussed the unequal distribution of resources in the world. It is one of the major problems faced by our society; and it appears both within and between countries.



We have different types of resources (e.g. human resources, water, sand, crops and agricultural products, rare earth elements etc.) and in our discussion, we focused mostly on income inequality, which is the most striking form of inequality in our current society.

We conducted some overviews of the situation on income inequality in some countries and we argued that something needs to be done urgently to address this issue, because the growing inequality can be source of conflict and more instability in our world.

Some of the solutions that we suggested are:

- Reformation of Capitalism, to put it in different words: we need to humanize capitalism
- Bottom up approach towards all the people in the society

6 GROUPWORK

FRANZISKA CHULECK, FATIH
KESIKLI, MARRIAM NAZIR

GENDER MOVEMENT

The workshop «Gender Movement» has united participants from all over the world, creating a perfect environment for the diversity of thoughts and exchange of international experience.



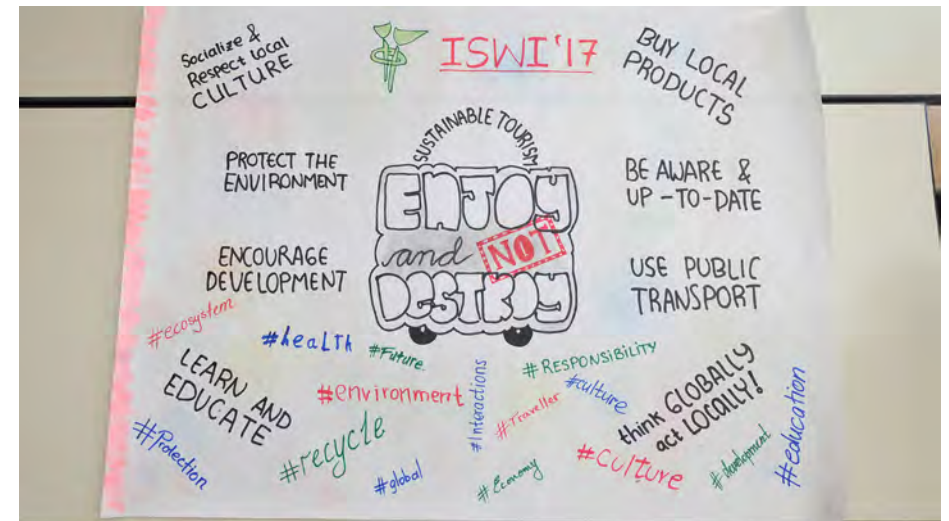
On the first day, the participants introduced themselves and got to know each other better through numerous interactive activities and games. After expressing expectations toward the content of the workshop and identifying the working schedule, the participants and groupleaders had an outstanding opportunity to welcome the representatives of the peace-building organization Young WILPF and take part in an interactive lecture on non-criticism, peace resolutions, human rights and intersectionality.

On the second day, the participants shared their personal experiences and views on the gender issues and policies in their native countries and attempted to investigate the reasons and causes of the existed inequality and discrimination. Overall, the first two days were full of intensive cooperation, abundance of fresh ideas and friendly communication.

6 GROUPWORK

ANNA BEHR, JULIANE FUNK

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM



6 GROUPWORK

FELIX HUTTNER, JOACHIM KAISER

MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION

Have you ever experienced living in another country or being an immigrant? Do you know that it is developing countries that are actually providing shelter for the majority of refugees? Migration happens everywhere and affects the life of many people. Gathering from various countries and cultures, we have tried to enrich our knowledge and share our personal experiences on what we understand about migration and integration, its causes and consequences. During a few days of discussion, there were many times we had a lot of contrasting ideas but that is the most amazing part of being in ISWI – surround yourselves with new and different perspectives.

Thousands of refugees or immigrants leave their home countries every year to seek for better living conditions and there are many reasons behind these movements. The major pull factors include better economic conditions, social life, healthcare, education, political stability and democracy. Whereas, push factors consist of war, persecution, political instability, economic conditions, natural disasters, education and social exclusion.

We had a chance to listen and talk to Caroline from ISWI e.V. and Refugees Welcome, who is volunteering to help refugees, and some Syrian refugees in Ilmenau. Not only did we learn about personal stories of people who fled their countries

but could also understand more about the present political and legal situations in Germany related to immigrant and refugee issues.

Knowing this, we could draw a connection between migration and integration, as well as proceeded to the costs of migration for both the countries of origin and the host countries. This can be considered from 3 aspects, i.e. social, economic and culture costs, in which social cost is the frequently-ignored one, but at the same time most crucial. Many true stories about family separation were shared by our own group members, which results in long-term emotional consequences.

Being in ISWI and this discussion is a precious chance for all of us, as we could freely discuss a topic that is ongoing and relevant to many people around the world. We came to the understanding that integration should be a twin-direction process, from both the host countries and the immigrants themselves. As an individual we can all start with small actions to improve the situations or accelerate the integration process.



6 GROUPWORK

BRUNO RAMIREZ, RICK PANDEY

EDUCATION 1

In the topic of global fairness this group of students were interested in discussing the different aspects of education. First, they shared their different cultural backgrounds and problems in their own educational systems.

This group came up with a list of the principal purposes of education around the world as raising awareness since the childhood and its relation with the concepts of peace and justice. Some of the main topics were the role of formal and informal education, as also planning ways to achieve a global learning program which could be adapt to the different countries.

The group also talked about finding the bridge between theoretical idea and the practical implementation of this new program and how to promote socially oriented activities.

One of the most important aspects is that all nations should work together to end educational problems, as it is a topic that affects everyone.



6 GROUPWORK

JOHANNA NIKOLAY, ALISA
HINDERBERGER, BENEDICT COENEN

EDUCATION 2

We are Education two, a group with people from many different countries: Sudan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Syria, Armenia, Morocco, Algeria, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine and Libanon. All our lovely group members came to Ilmenau with different contextual conditions and social backgrounds. During our first group session, we started to discuss the wide field of education from different perspectives and realized soon, that there are many similarities in our attitude towards education.

While looking closer at the term “education” we found out, that it is a multidimensional term which should be viewed from different perspectives. During our group work and discussions, we came to the first conclusions that education surrounds us wherever we are. From the moment of our birth until our death we go through a process of learning and getting educated by our environment. Education is one of the main requirements for global justice.

During our input workshop from Alicia Cabezudo we talked about conflicts and that they are not equal to violence. Violence is just one of two solutions to a conflict, with peace being the other solution. We started with the process of learning about different types of violence (direct, structural and cultural) as it is important to understand the current state of conflict resolution first before looking for alternative

solutions.

This classification of violence is an ongoing process which started in the 70's. Next, we looked at definitions of peace. There are two types: "negative peace" and "positive peace". After this we had a long discussion about the question: "Why do humans choose violence over peace?". Prof Dr. Alicia Cabezudo finished the discussion by telling us about the "Statement of Seville". The conclusion of this statement was that there are NO genetic reasons for the choice of violence, but it is something humans learn. And if humans can learn violence they can also learn peace.

We really enjoy ISWI 2017 and discussing in an international and peaceful atmosphere of mutual appreciation.



6 GROUPWORK

LISA LEHMANN, AHMED SUHAIL

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

We as humans are born with the innate quest to seek new information and knowledge, and with the emergence of new and rapidly evolving media. This need of information never seems to end. Popular media outlets and their conglomerates such as Newspapers, TV, Radio and social networks are confronted with different kind of situations every day and they are responsible for formulating and spreading of messages to all who seek.



This shows quite plainly that the media are an important part of our communication. Based on their reporting we

form an opinion on politics, society and people's lifestyle etc. and again share this opinion via Social Media with people all around the world. Therefore, media is also an important instrument regarding global justice.

Before we started with our discussion on global justice/injustice in media, we participated in various games throughout the event at different times. The games were not only meant for fun but to get to know each other better. We learned a lot about one another and this facilitated the start of our groupwork enormously. Our work on the first day comprised of a discussion on what global justice is for an individual and also what it entails.

We quickly found out that it is hard to find one definition for this term, but on the other hand we discovered that global justice becomes a relevant topic by talking about it. Therefore participants were asked to share an incident of significant importance towards global justice with the group and describe how it was portrayed in their local media vs. in the international media. We came to know that there are a lot of things happening in the world and even though they are important and have the right to be heard we barely know something about them in detail.

The work throughout the event laid focus on the different aspects of media and how it affects the global justice phenomenon. We as users of social media need to treat all information equally and spread it with the people around us without any biasness to make sure that we play out role as an individual to contribute towards global justice. Media and Communication used in the right way have the potential to make everyone's voices heard and make them feel that they are not alone in this.

6 GROUPWORK

SARAH SCHERER, JANINA UNSELT,
ROBERT REICHERT

RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Session I - 15 May 2017

Defining the rights of indigenous people is the basic thing to understand what actually the rights of indigenous people are and how to achieve them. This kind of question comes out in the panel discussion when some participants talk about who is indigenous and who not in recent time. In this discussion, participants arrange the topics related to the indigenous people to be discussed, such as land, culture protection, protection mechanism, government and politics, language, effects of colonialism, religion, climate changes, and education.



Take a sample on the topic language for cases in Amazigh, Indonesia, and Philippines, people start to forget their identity because a new language eliminated their former language or their own local language.

Every country has its own official language, which is beneficial and also damages the local language when the government does not put the local language in the curriculum or education. In some cases, indigenous peoples are losing their own language and their connection to the ancestor because of colonialism. Language is used to control people, regarding Morocco nowadays when mostly indigenous people speak Arabic as the official language. This happens since the government does not put attention to indigenous people rights. The government involvement itself depends on the form of its state and ideology.

Session II

Industrialization brought effects to the living of indigenous people in some areas through the climate changes, for example in Morocco and North Dakota. The rights to use land or areas are often ignored by capitalist activities. Capitalist activities lead to use of the land and resources of locals without thinking about the consequences and responsibility.

Session III – 16 May 2017

In this session, each participant presented on living conditions and about problems of indigenous people in their home countries, like Badui and Samin from Indonesia, Sami from Norway, Amazigh from Morocco, Cakma from Bangladesh, and many more.

6 GROUPWORK

LAURA ACHTERLING, LINDA FROMMEL

FINE ARTS

When planning the workshop for the Fine Arts group, we were offered a great opportunity by the university to place an everlasting monument on the campus. Right in the middle of every student's daily walk from the Mensa to the bc-Studentencafé is a bike shed that we were allowed to spray on.



When ISWI finally came, we were very happy to find six amazing girls joining the Fine Arts group that were highly motivated to embrace this task. The challenge now was to find a common interpretation of global justice that everybody in

everybody in the group approved. To get there, we started by collecting and clustering everybody's personal associations with the topic. It became clear that the role of media in giving people the right information for reflecting on an issue properly was the biggest common denominator in the group. We therefore concluded that we would like to use the graffiti to place a constant reminder for the people on campus to stay observant and challenge the information they are exposed to every day, even if it is usually not the easiest option. It is only by always questioning what is happening around us that we can realise where we face injustice in our everyday lives and find ways to overcome it.

What followed were a lot of scribbles and a two-day session of priming the wall wearing very fashionable protective suits. We were very lucky to get a graffiti artist coming to our workshop and explaining to us how to spray paint, as nobody in our group had any previous experience in it. Over the course of the week, we worked with him to create our artwork.

We hope you have either already spotted it, or that you will enjoy it when you get back for ISWI 2019. We certainly had a lot of fun creating it and hope that what we did make an impact.

6 GROUPWORK

FELIX WIEMUTH, SONAKSHI GUPTA

MUSIC

"Music is a cure for our souls and hearts that will help us to get through some good some bad situations and, then move on." Music is such a powerful tool to send relevant messages



Photo by: Felix Dürwald

across the masses. Music made us work together even if we grew up from different countries and we speak different languages, we discuss and share our own music experiences. Being in the Music workshop gives us an opportunity to do that. It has been fun being surrounded with talented,

amazing people. The idea of working first hand and not just talking is a very pleasant thing. The music group was very inspiring especially the work ethic and the level of profession of its members. We were composing music and we enjoyed doing that. It was fun and productive. We met very nice people.

ISWI really gives you an experience in being a world citizen. There are people from all over the world and in the music group we could give each other knowledge and skills from where we are from but at the same time, we spoke in one language that we all understood and that was the language of music. We are all actually the same, no matter where we are from. The world in ISWI is like one.

This is an experience of lifetime for everyone to be able to grow and bond with people from all around the world. And in addition, the environment and scenarios Ilmenau has to offer, it's easy to find inspirations wherever you look. It is an unforgettable experience that affected us in different ways and sites of our life.

6 GROUPWORK

JULIA RESS, DHRUV GOEL

LITERATURE



Group Members: Julia, Dhruv, Andrii, Zeinab, Arjun, Alune, Aidana, Sher, Elina, Yaseer

The Literature group at ISWI hosted participants from 9 countries as we came together to discuss the role of literature in realizing the fairy tale of global justice. Presenting the works that drew them to the world of words, we spoke about our favorite books and literary works that depict our culture and traditions.

Respecting each other's background is imperative to establishing a more peaceful and justice society. In that spirit, we took the opportunity to bridge the gap in our knowledge and understanding about each other by discussing the facts and myths surrounding the stereotypes about our country, religion, and geographical region. The discussion also illuminated the origins of stereotypes, the reasons behind their proliferation and the ways they can be dealt with.

It's an old saying and observation that literature is the true reflection of society. However, a story gets a new life every time it is read. The participants analyzed passages from literary works, while discussing how their varying interpretation was influenced not only by their individual mindset but also by their cultural background. A few poems and short stories related to the theme of global justice were also published in the form a booklet and presented in the final group presentations. Additionally, the writers from the group collectively wrote a poem and presented it in the form of a poetry slam at the closing ceremony. We all believe that "The Purpose of Literature is to turn Blood into Ink" and through the magic of words we all seek to inspire people and transform the world into a better place.

6 GROUPWORK

AMIT MANE, KILIAN VOSSE, RENA
DEPPE

THEATRE

How should I start? The group? The workshop? The project? A simple response would just not be sufficient. It is more than that...

In this workshop, we can let our creative side run wild without knowing where it will take us. It is a place where you can feel safe being yourself and, if you want to try, even being somebody else. Our aim is to create a modern fairytale which addresses global issues and injustice in the world. We started with stereotypical fairytale characters and positioned them in a rather modernized setting.



Photo by: Felix Dürrwald

The audience will observe our protagonist's growth from a self-centered and rich bitch towards a more altruistic and caring part of society when faced with the consequences of her lack of interest in other people and their problems.

During our sessions, we enjoy witnessing how the first ideas develop into the script and the characters are being born out of them. By Tuesday, we already outlined our plot, practiced numerous scenes, and decided on most of the roles. While funny and challenging exercises help us to leave our comfort zones, improve our acting skills, become more open and get closer to our fellow group members.

The groupleaders are gently guiding us; they help us to put our ideas into words and into actions; they are the gateway of our imagination. Our colleagues already seem to be like parts of a family. We laugh together, we cry together, and in the breaks, we murder each other.

"Hey baby, I love you so much. Will you give me the sweetest smile?" – everyone.

6 GROUPWORK

ALEKSANDR BARONOV, YURII
BIRONT, ANDREA SPORER

DANCE

The dance group – a bunch of crazy and funny people – have chosen to show a few different dance styles. Every person in the group is very talented and has dancing experience – in ballroom dances, ballet, latin dances like Salsa or Bachata, Hip Hop, dancehall, reggaeton and different local traditional dances.



Photo by: Felix Dürrwald

In the final performance, the audience will follow the path of life of the protagonist with all the good and bad times. We used different dances for different moods, for example having fun with a carefree Salsa Rueda and being tempted

by the dark side in a seductive Tango.

Even though we used very well-known and popular dance styles, all of us had the chance to learn something new.

All the participants came from different countries, including Belarus, Uganda, Russia, Romania, Bulgaria, Uzbekistan and Serbia with German-Russian-Ukrainian groupleaders.

At the beginning we had some quarrels, but then we became a very friendly and awesome group. It was a very nice experience to everyone. We shared a lot of experience and were dancing together for long hours having fun. In the future, everyone will remember these moments with a warm heart.

We really hope that you will improve in your lovely types of dances from day to day and wish you lots of success in the future and that you can participate in more awesome festivals like ISWI.



Photo by: Felix Dürwald

6 GROUPWORK

HAY LI TRAN, JOANA DE ALMEIDA,
LORENZ WALTER

PHOTOGRAPHY

Living in the 21st century where the media plays an important role in shaping people's minds and society, global justice seems to be unattainable. Especially, when all the images and photos we see on TV, Internet or newspapers are what globalists, politicians and the mass media want us to see.

In this context, photography plays a vital role. It has the potential to persuade people, change perceptions, create stereotypes, bring out emotions as hatred, wars and love.



Photo by: Lorenz Walter

Like the saying „A picture is worth a thousand words“, we believe that photography is a great way to express thoughts and ideas about global (in)justice in the world. Pictures capture moments of not only the injustice and inequality, but can also show that individuals can live together, independent of their origins, beliefs, religions and cultures. ISWI offered us exactly this experience. Our group is formed by 18 photolovers from 10 different countries. More important than taking photos is sharing knowledge, embracing and interacting with people from a different background who have a lot to teach to one another.

We thought of developing concepts related to global justice and try to portrait them. Starting with a relaxing first day, we suffered the next day just to hike the Kickelhahn and made it down the sledging track for an adrenalin kick.

We came up with concepts such as togetherness, conflicts, human interaction combined with nature and sports photography because we believe that in ISWI we can temporarily achieve the everlasting dream of Global Justice.

ISWI gathers many countries that have conflicts politically speaking and shows that when one actually gives himself/herself a chance to get to know each other, love is created and hearts are gathered. We think that pictures we took can perfectly represent the power ISWI brings to us.

6 GROUPWORK

YUEN-TENG FOO, INES DIRSCH, ANNE HUTTENRAUCH, YE YUN KHOR, KSENIIA LIKHINIA

DOCUMENTATION

They said documentation team has the hardest work and we were like „I’m in“ without even doubting. Because we are not afraid of facing challenges and we like doing responsible and important jobs.

That’s how 9 people from all over the world: Germany, Russia, Malaysia, Georgia, Poland, Sudan und Kazakhstan, which have different backgrounds, views, cultures, met to do a great work you’re holding in your hands.



Photo by: Max Richter

We've had not the easiest job but we've managed to cope with it all together. We've discussed, debated, changed each other's ideas but we never quarreled or shouted because we understood each other perfectly. We didn't even stick to the timetable and that was great.

We were by all the events representing our team, university, helping by the organization of the events, having fun all together, enjoying our meals and of course the weather as it was really nice. We were not only playing games to get to know each other and discussing important topics of Global Justice, but also taking interviews from students, ISWI participants, groupleaders, orgateam and student organizations. Everyone had pleasant impressions of ISWI and we are happy to write about it.

Despite all the time we've spent on this book, we didn't forget to get to know other participants personally and on partys.

We would like to thank every single person who took part in the ISWI and brought that special atmosphere. Especially those ones, who actually prepared this week for us and planned it for two years. And, of course, we would like to thank you, dear reader, for reading this book and noticing our effort!

7 EVENTS: FAIR PLAY



Under the scorching sun, ISWI 2017 was kicked-off with the Sports Event “Fair Play”, where the participants got to make new friends through this opportunity in the meantime of showing off their sporty side. In conjunction with this year's theme, the participants followed the trail of Fairy Tales through Ilmenau and showed their skills in various games (such as parkour, football, volleyball, basketball, tug-of-war etc.) that were associated with different fairy tales.



Photo by: Felix Dürrwald

There is always a saying in this peaceful village - “Ilmenau, himmelblau”, which describes that Ilmenau always has good weather and is always covered by blue skies. “Run! Guys, run quickly! Let's go under the shelter!” Oh wait! So why was

everyone running away if the weather was good? Eventually, there was a small interlude between this event where hailstorm was being poured from the sky all of a sudden. But that did not stop us from having fun, some of the outdoor stations were moved to indoor and the games resumed! Despite of the sudden hailstorm, many of the participants had a big smile on the face and they were enjoying themselves very much in this event!



Photo by: Zhi Xi Koay

In conclusion, this morning served as an outset to foster the integration within participants from all over the world. As we believe that young people are the future pillars of the world, we can definitely make the world a better place as we promote the union of nations with no borders.

7 EVENTS: DAILY KICKOFF

Some people start off their day with a good breakfast; some prefer to hit the gym early in the morning to shed pound of fats. Meanwhile, the citizen of the fairy tale ISWI made up their mind to do a daily kickoff every morning to keep themselves motivated before getting to work. They would gather around the landmark of ISWI – the Dome to play a few games, a little warm up and sometimes they even sing and dance! Before everyone dismiss, the chief of the village would announce detailed information of the particular day as well. Despite the low turnout at the early time, the participants were able to have a lot of fun and break down cultural barriers as they participated in the activities.



Photo by: Zhi Xi Koay

7 EVENTS: GROUPEADER MEETS PARTICIPANT

Not so long ago in a small town named Ilmenau there was a large group of participants starting to prepare for meeting their groupleaders.

«Will they like me? Oh God, I'll be late! Am I overdressed? I won't remember names, so how can I talk to other participants?» Those are just some of the scary thoughts I had before the first meeting. It turned out, that everyone had mixed feelings: excitement of meeting new people, but at the same time being afraid that personalities will differ too much and will not collaborate with each other. Culture differences could create communication problems, which would make working together difficult or even impossible.



Photo by: Felix Dürrwald

The mensa was arranged and group tables were build which were decorated in a very creative way. The sun was shining inside and the atmosphere was great, a really warm welcome so to say. The dinner was tasty, first ice was broken. The groupleaders made a great first impression. Curious about each other, questions were just coming up naturally. People were recognizing participants of other students festival. Friendship and joy lay in the air.

7 EVENTS: OPENING CEREMONY

The Opening Ceremony placed in the Ilmenau City Park was welcoming all participants, groupleaders and guests of honour. The natural concert hall was lightend up in different colors and offered a great atmosphere to let all guests come together to celebrate the start of ISWI 2017.



Photo by: Felix Dürrwald

The multicultural programme included enlightening speeches of Prof. Peter Scharff (the rector of TU Ilmenau), Babette Winter (the Thuringian State Secretary for Europe and Culture), Petra Enders (the Ilm-Kreis district administrative head) and the lovely ISWI Board Katharina, Andreas and Benno. Very fascinating was the interactive speech of Kumi Naidoo (ISWI's patron) which ended with an African song. The ceremony was accompanied by various dance and music acts.

7 EVENTS: BARRIER:ZONES

When I heard the topic of ISWI 2017, many things came to my mind. There is only one thing that did not come up to my mind: The daily struggle of people with disabilities. For me people with disabilities are part of our society and from the point of view of someone who does not know the daily restrictions, there is no obvious injustice. But I was not aware of the perspective of people with disabilities. The exhibition «Barrier:zones» opened my eyes for this exact problem. I was touched, when I read the stories of people, who were harmed by other's greed and the desire for power. They are victims of bombs, bullets and mines that were left after war activities. The exhibition portrayed only one person who was born with a disability because his mother was affected by a gas attack.



Photo by: Felix Dürwald

In that case, it was more about the family struggling with not being able to help the child, not about the disabled child itself. It is so sad that now, after all these wars, people still suffer from past conflicts. It is awful that people still cringe when they see a disabled person. We still do not know how to treat people who experienced unfortunate events. But humans are working on it, we keep trying and hopefully one day we will succeed. Meanwhile, this exhibition should be an eye opener for many and should have influence on every one of us. Change starts with us.



Photo by: Felix Dürwald

The photographer Till Mayer portrays single persons, children and families and how they and the society cope with their disabilities. He captures thrilling moments also feelings, thoughts and actions in their everyday life fighting for a dignified life. Some stories are encouraging and brave, others saddening; but all of them command our respect.

Written by: Leyla Buyukbayrak

7 EVENTS: WORLD FOOD FESTIVAL

The World Food Festival was a real highlight in ISWI 2017, and it was set to be big this year. It was open to the public and was held on 14 May 2017 at Wetzlarer Platz.

Unfortunately, the heavens opened on the food festival, and the people who turned out for the event were unprepared for the situation as it should be a good weather according to the weather forecast. (Well, weather forecasts are so often wrong!). However, the downpour did not dampen the spirit of the food lovers. People still flocked in to the event to enjoy the the delicacies from all over the world.

The selection of fine local food from over 20 countries was excellent. Over 20 food stands and trucks gave out food from their own countries. Most of the food had been cleared up in just half an hour.



Photo by: Linya R.



Photo by: Nawres Al-Janabi



Photo by: Berk Bayraktar



Photo by: Max Richter



Photo by: Max Richter



Photo by: Max Richter



Photo by: Max Richter

Besides that, there was also a stage which is temporary built up for the participants to perform their traditional dances and music.

One of the most popular stalls would be the Taiwanese beef noodle. This popular dish features tender beef slices alongside thick and chewy noodles. My verdict was it tasted good and decent for food that was free of charge!

Not to mention the Ilmenau popular street food, Bratwurst! It is always a must try for everyone visiting the town! There was a long queue in front of the truck even before the event started!

Although we were unlucky with the weather, there was still a silver lining in the cloud in Wetzlarer Platz. Good food, great conversation, great company, and the new faces and old friends sharing experiences in ISWI made it an unforgettable evening!

7 EVENTS: FAIR FAIR

This event was dedicated to encouraging social participation. With contribution of representatives of around 40 local, regional, national, and international NGOs, organisations and initiatives, attendees got a chance to learn about them and their work. Workshops on key skills required for



Photo by: Muhammad Irfan

founding, managing and participating in an impactful NGO were also delivered.

The event began with a panel discussion with each panellist sharing their views on the importance of being active and an aware citizen. The panellists were Reiner Braun, Co-President of the International Peace Bureau, Franziska Chulek, member of the local student representation StuRa, Fabian de Planque, member of amnesty international, and Caroline Lehmann, member of ISWI e.V. and the refugees network in Ilmenau. After the opening session,

representatives of organisations from a wide range of socio-political domains held information stands providing details on their campaigns and projects, and ways to engage with them. Flyers, brochures, contact cards were exchanged through these stands creating many networking opportunities.

Skills development workshops delivered by subject matter experts were held in two sessions. These workshops were based on the topics: founding an organisation, fund raising, structuring an organisation, team-building, public relations and project management, moderation, and ideation. Taking forward the learnings from these introductory workshops, participants could begin further developing their skills in their desired direction.

Parallel to the workshops, several presentations were held by NGOs. According to the focus area of a particular NGO, attendees could learn about the ideology, manner of work, structure, projects and so on during these short presentation. Finally, in a cosy environment called the 'Feedback Lounge', feedback for the entire event was collected.



Photo by: Chiung Wu

Being active is surely the way forward to an introspective and well-functioning society. The Fair Fair provided a platform to social engagement and activism.

"Always work with people to develop your ideas and organise your actions as only collective action can bring about effective social change." – Reiner Braun

7 EVENTS: OPEN AIR CONCERT

When the sun started hiding behind the beautiful panorama of the Thuringia mountain chain we all met on Ehrenberg for a special event where music connects people from all around the world! The two German bands, Departed by Rest and Naked SuperHero, started heating up the crowd with their songs.

And as the vibe became more frolicsome the night's headliner Doctor Krápula came on stage. In South America, they are one of the most important and most influential rock bands.



Photo by: Nicolas Pachatz



Photo by: Leo Warnow

Their music is a powerful combination of punk, cumbia, ska, hip-hop and reggae. By putting a lot of effort into the lyrics, the Colombian band is well known for raising their voice with ambitious texts about social issues and environmental protection. Their members have collaborated with artists like Manu Chao, Sseed, Juanes and Café Tacuba in various musical and social projects. Despite a few rain drops the crowd was dancing wildly, enjoying some drinks, chatting with friends or just watching the show. In between the show acts a barrel organ entertaining the crowd. The atmosphere was loaded with joy!

7 EVENTS: OPEN SPACE

The Open Space Event was moderated by the Youth Future Project. They have brought young people and laureates of the Right Livelihood Award together since 2009, facilitate intergenerational exchange and encourage standing up for peace, justice, environmental protection, and sustainable development. This ISWI, they offered everyone an open atmosphere to share their ideas, thoughts and skills in workshops, practical activities or panel discussions. The event was separated into two sessions. Each session started by gathering information about possible activities. Everyone who was keen and passionate about conducting an activity got a place and timeslot.

The Open Space Principles:

- Whatever happens, it is the only thing that could have happened. Expect the unexpected.
- Whoever turns up, they are exactly the right people.
- If you are alone, it is exactly the right thing for this moment.
- Wherever it happens, it is exactly the right location.
- It begins when the time is right and ends when it is over.



Photo by: Max Richter



Photo by: Max Richter

Furthermore, the Open Space incorporated the ‘Two Feet Rule’, meaning anyone could come and go as they please without explaining themselves. If a topic develops in such a way that people lose interest, they were explicitly encouraged to move on.

This Open Space, workshops such as “Start-up ecosystem”, “Low-budget and mindful travelling”, “Translation”, and “Relaxation techniques and Yoga” were offered. Also, thoughts about Grimm’s fairy tales were shared.

“It was really interesting to learn the different techniques and it was a really beautiful day for sitting outside. The environment really helped us to feel calm. We learnt a lot and it was especially good for stressed students!”

- Yauanah, one of the Yoga workshop participants

Groups gathered on the lawn in the sun and shared thoughts and experiences about religion, sexuality, democracy or whatever they felt like.

It was a beautiful day of cultural exchange and inspiring discussions among young people who are keen to make a change in the world!

7 EVENTS: INTERGALACTIC NIGHT

Another event – Intergalactic Night took place on May 17th in a fairy place named Ehrenberg. This was one of the most intensive thematic evenings of the ISWI 2017 full of presentations, interactive workshops, exhibitions and much much more that lasted for almost 6 hours and an afterparty!

Rector of TU Ilmenau, Prof. Dr. Peter Scharff gave a fitting opening to the event as he performed chemistry experiments.



Photo by: Felix Dürwald

The exciting opening was followed by ESA Astronaut Gerhard Thiele sharing the story of his journey to outer space as part of the STS 99 mission and his views on global justice.

Dr. Thiele exclaimed that travelling to space was one of the most precious experiences of his life, however his perspective to life on Earth did not change, he recognised that our existence on planet Earth is already a rare cosmic coincidence.



Photo by: Leo Warnow

To be active and to contribute to bettering the condition of our planet, one does not need to wait to view the blue marble from a distance.

Dr. Carsten Wiedemann, an expert on space debris mitigation from TU Braunschweig gave an informative talk highlighting the dangers of accumulation of 'space junk' and ways to deal with decommissioned satellites.

Science communicator Michael Büker shared the inspiring stories of women in astronomy and astrophysics, from the tale of path-breaking band of women known as the 'Harvard Computers' to that of the denial of Nobel prize to physicist Jocelyn Bell Burnell who discovered the first radio pulsar.



Photo by: Max Richter



Photo by: Berk Bayraktar

Yes, there was a space-ship, and it was fuelled by the techno music by the DJ duo, Blade & Beard.

Also, the local theatre group, 'TheaterLeiterTheater' performed impro theatre with the galactic theme on a lunar surface.

One could make a journey through the cosmos in search for habitable places in the planetarium.

Other on-going activities included a livestream from the ISS, a library and reading room dedicated to sci-fi, screening of short-films, virtual reality experience of travelling in a spaceship, array of telescopes, astronaut's (ISWIInaut's) license contest, and the interviews by 'Martians' of Mars TV enquiring people about life on Earth.

Besides, workshops on crafting, slacklining, and painting also took place. Other performances included, fire and LED juggling.

The magical evening climaxed through a laser-harp show by Prof. Manske and an open science slam.

A memorable experience of the wonderment of the stars for everyone.

7 EVENTS: MOVIE NIGHT & DISCUSSION

After decades of silence and fear, finally people speak up. "The Act of Killing", directed by Joshua Oppenheimer is a documentary about the 1965 mass murders in Indonesia. Though instead of interviewing survivors of the killings, he portrayed the life of the perpetrators, that still run free without guilt, are even celebrated and do to that very open about their involvement.

The mass murders started in 1965 resulting out of a military coup against the communist regime. Targeted was anyone considered to have anything to do with being communist and the whole Chinese ethnic in Indonesia.

Because there was no change in government after and no replacement in the military leaders, today the gangsters and paramilitaries that did the killing live decent lives, while the victims and survivors are still in fear and do not speak up. The international success of Oppenheimer's movie brought some change.

The portrayal of the perpetrator's characters in the movie



Photo by: Chiung Wu

with them proudly recreating their personal acts of killing creates a very irritating and troubling atmosphere and brought up a lot of questions:

How can a person, who might have killed people by the thousands, have no sense of guilt, and be proud of the actions? How did the Indonesian government react to the movie? How did other countries react? What are the next steps to help the victims in their struggle to live with the past?

To get some clarity, after the movie a discussion was held by a panel consisting of Sri Tunruang, Indonesian activist from International People's Tribunal (IPT) 1965, Sanja Angelovska, psychologist and peace activist, Mira Rochyadi-Reetz, a researcher at ifMK, and Rüdiger Bender, head of Förderkreis Topf and Soehne. Adam Kerpel-Fronius, representative of the "Stiftung Denkmal für die ermordeten Juden Europas". Sri provided information about the political and social background of the mass murder in Indonesia. She spoke about the work of the IPT in remembering and honour the victims of the killings with proper rituals to prevent anything like that from happening ever again. Mira described the current situation in Indonesia with the government still not caring and children being taught that the victims were deserved to be killed, legitimatising violence against a whole part of society.

Sanja analysed the psychology of Anwar Congo, the main perpetrator portrayed in the documentary and his way to handling the past. Another topic she discussed was the process of healing that the people of a country must go through after a mass murder, with forgiveness being the final stage of this process. Rüdiger compared the killings in Indonesia to the holocaust in Germany during second world war and the importance of remembrance.

Let us not forget the events of our collective past and as we learn from history let us embrace the journey towards forgiveness.

7 EVENTS: CLOSING CEREMONY

In order to conclude this awesome week, we gathered all in Audimax for the closing ceremony.

Many groups created videos or other content, which was presented during the event. Especially the art groups prepared an outstanding programme.

We saw dance performances, a dramatic and funny theatre play and listened at the end to the music group playing the (inofficial) ISWI anthem «Imagine» and other songs where everyone sang along.

Thanks for the amazing night!

All photos by: Max Richter



7 EVENTS: EXCURSION DAY

On the 20th of May we had the excursion day and had several options travelling Thuringia.

Either we went hiking to the Kickelhahn, the most famous place in Ilmenau. Why? Because all the students go there at least once per term as superstitious people claim that if you don't, you'll fail all the exams. And even if you are not an Ilmenau student, there is no reason to skip it.

There was a bike tour as well. It required experience but was really enjoyable due to the amazing views of Thuringia's impressive nature.

Furthermore, there was an excursion which took place in Weimar, where Johann Wolfgang von Goethe once used to live.

Several excursions took place in Erfurt, the state capital of Thuringia. One of them was to the small synagogue, where we found out what "kosher" means and heard a lot about the history of jewish community in Erfurt in this synagogue. Another one was called "alternative" city tour, where alternative and sustainable hotspots were shown and afterwards discussed.

The last but not the least in this list is the exhibition "Topf und Soehne" which illustrated the history of the furnace makers of the former concentration camp in Auschwitz and was the most serious one.

7 EVENTS: PARTY ALL DAY ALL NIGHT

So here we are, just starting a week-long fairy tale called ISWI, where you most likely will be hitting the club at least one night and putting on your professional I've-partied-all-night- but-am-still-responsible façade for the next morning.

As my eyelids droop from tiredness and I feel I've reached my partying limits, it's already 4 a.m. I passed a bonfire and I'm on my way back to my host's home. Hadn't realized until now how much I could dance



Photo by: Felix Dürrwald

during a night and I'm actually getting sober while the fresh air hits my face. In that moment, I felt the endorphin rush and knew I was HIGH ON LIFE.

I knew that clubbing without missing a day during the week would become my next challenge. It's hard to resist. You are on the list and have access to each of the 4 clubs. The only disappointment that you might experience is that they shut at 3 a.m. But as midnight arrives, the countdown begins. Moving around from one to another club is also part of the partying routine.

The game of finding suitable beats is on. Night is about escaping into the thought-dissolving world of dance. After so many discussions during the day, we hit the dancefloor to express ourselves in dance moves and let the music freeze time, take us to a place outside ourselves and throw us into the fairytale.

MISCELLANEOUS ISWI FACTS



MISCELLANEOUS STARTER PACK

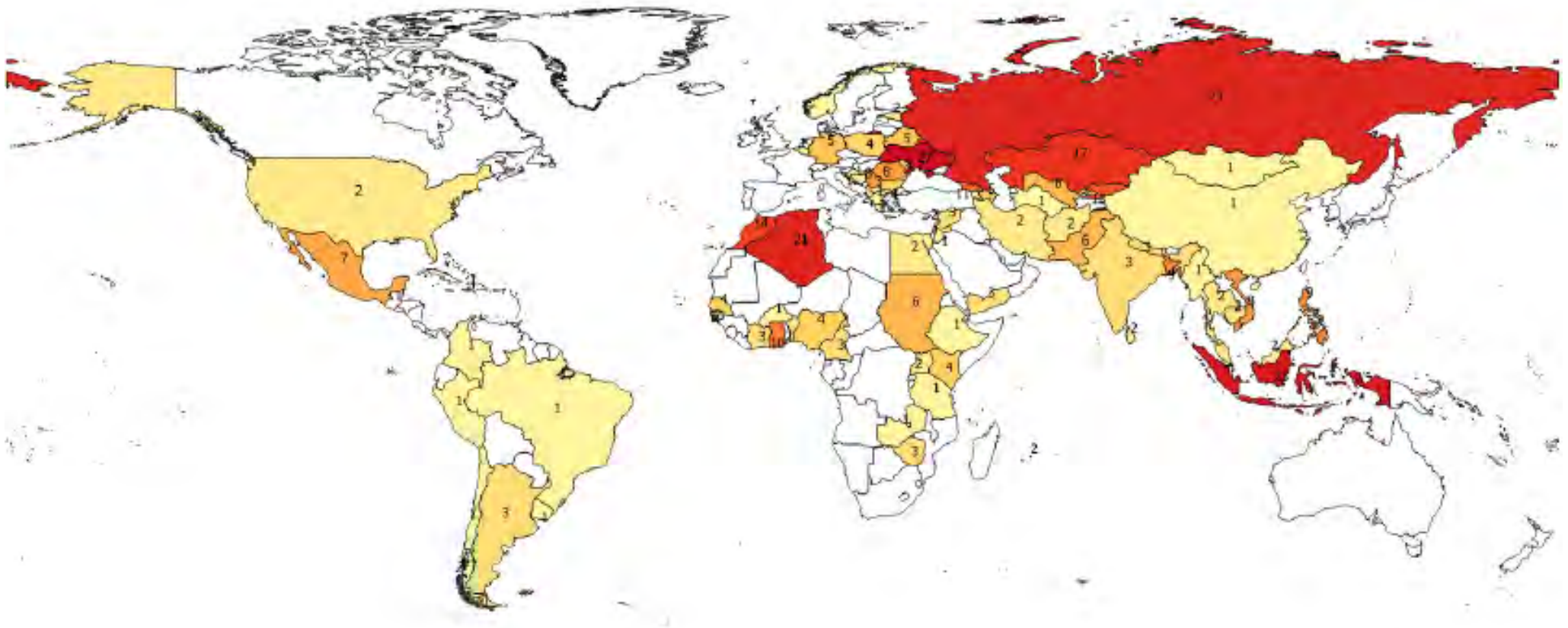


I recommend the next generation who will come to ISWI Festival to bring some camera to captivate the moment. Be open-minded, be yourself and enjoy the festival! - Alune

The most important thing is that you have prepared well and slept many hours before. ISWI is an event there is always something going on. There is no time for sleep! - André

9 LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Names were removed and not published online



10 FUNDERS

SPONSORED BY THE



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research



ilmenau
himmelblau

studierendenwerk
thüringen

Freistaat Thüringen
Ministerium für Wirtschaft, Wissenschaft
und Digitale Gesellschaft

LAP
Lokale Partnerschaft für Demokratie
ILM-KREIS

Sparkassen-Kulturstiftung
Hessen-Thüringen

th.
TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT
ILMENAU

StuRa

ILM-KREIS
in Thüringen
DAAD

Freistaat Thüringen
Ministerium für Migration, Justiz
und Verbraucherschutz

Freistaat Thüringen
Staatskanzlei

Heinrich-Böll-
Stiftung
Thüringen e.V.

proWiWi

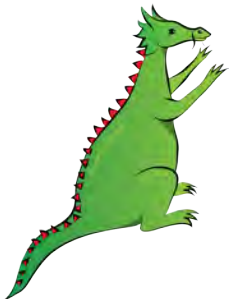
10 THANK YOU...

The Organising Committee would like to thank everyone who has been involved in preparing and realising ISWI 2017. Special thanks go to our Group leaders, the hosts, the helpers, the speakers, the artists, and of course to all the participants of ISWI 2017, as well as to the funders, sponsors, and supporters. In particular, we would like to thank the following institutions:

- AG Nachhaltigkeit Erfurt e.V.
- Alternative 54 Erfurt e.V.
- Auswärtiges Amt und Deutsche Auslandsvertretungen
- Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung
- Deutscher Akademischer Auslandsdienst e.V.
- Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund
- Erinnerungsort Topf & Söhne
- Evang.-Luth. Kirchengemeinde St. Jakobus Ilmenau
- Fraunhofer IDMT
- Handicap International
- Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung
- Helmut Krause
- Hospizverein Ilmenau e.V.
- IIm-Kreis
- Ilmenau-Kolleg
- IMMS
- Kath. Kirche St. Josef Ilmenau
- Kultur- und Begegnungszentrum Ilmenau e.V.
- Kreisjugendring IIm-Kreis e.V.
- Küchenkollektiv Leipzig
- Lad:n24
- Landesvereinigung Kulturelle Jugendbildung Thüringen e.V.
- Lokale Partnerschaft für Demokratie IIm-Kreis
- Marek Schramm
- MitOst e.V. und Theodor-Heuss-Kolleg

- PATON - Landespatentzentrum Thüringen
- proWiWi e.V.
- Rad-Art
- salesforce.com Germany GmbH
- Sonett
- Shirtschleuder Textil- & Werbedruck
- Sparkassen-Kulturstiftung Hessen-Thüringen
- Staatskanzlei Thüringen
- Stadt Ilmenau
- Sternwarte Suhl
- Studierendenwerk Thüringen
- Studierendenrat der TU Ilmenau
- student consulting ilmenau e.V.
- SWING an der TU Ilmenau e.V.
- Technische Universität Ilmenau
- Thüringer Ministerium für Migration, Justiz und Verbraucherschutz
- Thüringer Ministerium für Wirtschaft, Wissenschaft und Digitale Gesellschaft
- UniCopy - Büro- und Kopiertechnik Service
- Universe Dimensions - SpaceScience Edutainment
- Vivani
- Vodzup Games

Moreover, we would like to thank the Amnesty International Group of Ilmenau, Baracke 5 e.V., Forschungsgemeinschaft elektronische Medien e.V., hsf studentenradio e.V., Hochschulfilmclub e.V., Ilmenauer Studentenfernsehfunk, Ilmenauer Studentenclub e.V., the Ilmenau regional group of Engineers Without Borders, Kulturelle Koordinierung e.V., LAG Soziokultur Thüringen e.V., the SOrCE network of international student conferences, and Youth Future Project e.V. for their constant support! Without all their voluntary commitment the ISWI would not be possible.



11

AND THEY LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER...

*We hope you had a great
ISWI 2017 and have new
ideas to share! – Your
Documentation team*





International Student Week in Ilmenau