

Lecture Series from April 2014 - February 2015

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Schumannstraße 8, 10117 Berlin

Language: English only

Public Transport

Bus 147, exit at Deutsches Theater (🚏), distance from stop: 150 m)
S-Bahn lines S1, 2, 25, 5, 7, 75, 9, exit at Friedrichstraße (note: the Albrechtstr. station exit is not barrier-free; distance: 250 m, or: 🚏 = Friedrichstr. exit, distance: 750m or use bus 147)
U-Bahn line U6, exit at Oranienburger Tor (🚏), distance: 500m)
Tram lines M1, M6, 12, exit Oranienburger Tor (🚏), distance: 550m). Take Bus 147 from Berlin Central Station towards station Märkisches Museum, exit at Deutsches Theater.

Registration not necessary

Participation fee for free

Information

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Webdossier

boell.de/indien-im-wahljahr

boell.de/indias-election-year



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Lecture series

Understanding India



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Understanding India

Lecture Series

India is characterized by a high degree of political complexity and social discrepancies that is often difficult for outsiders to comprehend. It is an ambitious, newly industrialized country with a claim to global political power that has managed to democratically unify 1.2 billion people; however, its international significance seems to be drawn more from its demographic size and less from its weight in foreign policy and the global economy. The cultural picture that dominates Western media is one of prevailing patriarchal and elitist structures that prevent social inclusion of all levels of the population, even after 65 years of independence, and that appears to treat women as second-class citizens. But what actually defines Indian society, and which actors determine its policies?

When 800 million eligible voters elect a new parliament this year, all eyes will be on the 120 million first-time voters who will be helping to determine the politics of their country. But how does India's democracy function, and what is the role of the media in this system? Which economic opportunities can develop this land, and which dangers are posed by focusing on nuclear power? How does India justify a social policy in which women continue to be discriminated against and in which the caste system has been officially abolished but still plays a dominant role in so many aspects of daily economic and political life?

With the lecture series «Understanding India», the Heinrich Böll Stiftung offers insights into select areas of society in order to contribute to a better understanding of the subcontinent. We have invited renowned experts, largely from the region, to explain India's complexities and to promote an understanding of this key regional, but also global player.

Lectures

Tuesday, April 1st, 2014 — 6.00 pm-7.30 pm

Election in India – Dynamics of political change in India

Vidya Subrahmaniam, Journalist, The Hindu, India

Tuesday, May 13th, 2014 — (6.00 pm-7.30 pm)

India and its Democracy

Rajeev Bhargava, Director, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), New Delhi

Tuesday, June 3rd, 2014 — 6.00 pm-7.30 pm

Consumerism, Censorship and Media Globalization in India

Nadja-Christina Schneider, Humboldt University, Berlin

Monday, October 6th, 2014 — 6.00 pm-7.30 pm

Women in India – The Role and Status of a marginalized sex

Urvashi Butalia, Journalist and Editor, India

Monday, November 3rd, 2014 — 6.00 pm-7.30 pm

Caste: The New and the Old in 21st Century India

Janaki Abraham, University of Delhi, India

Monday, December 1st, 2014 — 6.00 pm-7.30 pm

Nuclear India: Prospects for Military and Civil use

Praful Bidwai, Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace, India

Monday, January 19th, 2015 — 6.00 pm-7.30 pm

Radical Ecological Democracy: Towards Human Well-being with Sustainability and Equity

Ashish Kothari, Kalpavriksh & Greenpeace, India

Monday, February 9th, 2015 — 6.00 pm-7.30 pm

India as a global player: Chances and Constraints

Sumit Ganguly, Indiana University, USA