



## “How Far Have We Moved Forward on Debt Sustainability? A Stocktaking One Year On”

April 17, 2019, 8:15 – 9:45 am

The Office of Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in New York  
747 Third Avenue (46<sup>th</sup> St and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue), 34<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10017

The 2019 Financing for Sustainable Development Report notes a trend we cannot ignore: debt will continue to rise, bringing with it, the risk of greater debt distress in a greater number of countries and an even greater challenge to finance the SDGs. As the Report emphasizes, the continued tightening of monetary policy and rising global risk aversion increases the burden of debt service, which in turn poses a risk to debt sustainability. In this context, innovative mechanisms, especially state-contingent debt instruments that allow a country’s debt service obligations to be linked to ability to pay, are a critical part of the necessary response. After the devastating hurricane season of 2017, there has been particular interest in developing climate resilient mechanisms for Small Island Developing States, in particular Caribbean countries susceptible to natural disasters.

This discussion, with UN Member States, participants from the UN Secretariat, and members of civil society attending the FfD Forum, kicks off with a briefing on the present debt challenges in the Caribbean, the response of the Jubilee debt network, which now has a Coordinator for the Caribbean, and how these plans engage with the goals set forward in the Financing for Sustainable Development Report.

Moderator:

**Sara Burke**, Senior Policy Analyst, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung New York

Briefings:

**Jürgen Kaiser**, Program Coordinator, [erlassjahr.de](http://erlassjahr.de) (Jubilee Germany)  
“Debt and Natural Disasters in the Caribbean”

**Heron Belfon**, Program Coordinator, Jubilee Caribbean  
“Inaugural Briefing to Financing for Development from Jubilee Caribbean”

Followed by roundtable discussion. All participants are encouraged to share their views.