



Dear colleagues,

it has been a while since you received our latest newsletter. Now, we kick off 2021 with this new edition in which we take a “look back ahead”. The 2020 pandemic has challenged every one of us. You and us had to further digitize our everyday work, change project plans and daily routines, and unfortunately, we had to strongly reduce many personal contacts and skip conferences.

Nevertheless, sfs has managed to launch a whole series of new projects, hold digital conferences and published exciting research results. We are particularly pleased about being one of the founding members of TU Dortmund University’s new [Faculty of Social Sciences](#). We will celebrate the virtual founding ceremony on 15 January 2021 from 4.30-6 p.m (CET) with a panel discussion on the "Significance of the Social Sciences in and for the Ruhr Area", where sfs-director Prof. Jürgen Howaldt will join the panel. The University Choir will provide the cultural highlight of the event. If you would like to join the celebrations, you are cordially invited: <https://sowi.tu-dortmund.de/meldung/gruendungsfeier-der-fakultaet-sozialwissenschaft-6091>

**We now want to confidently start 2021 with you – and in this spirit we wish everyone a Happy New Year!**

**Prof. Jürgen Howaldt (Director)**  
**Dr. Ralf Kopp (Public Relations)**



### **sfs is now a part of the new Faculty of Social Sciences**

Since April 2020 the sfs belongs to the new Faculty of Social Sciences. We look forward to the work and cooperation with all our new colleagues!

[Click here to visit the homepage of the new Faculty of Social Sciences](#)



### **Pilot projects and international meeting with safety distance**

Rules of hygiene practices, physical distancing and wearing face masks: International meeting and theater premieres within the Erasmus+ project ArtE - The Art of Employability took place in Florence under special conditions.

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### **The power of 'Meanwhile': T-Factor project kicks off to unleash urban regeneration through heritage, culture, and creativity**

Cultural and creative hubs are redefining the process of place-making. The T-Factor consortium has made it its mission to harness their potential and spark urban regeneration in a variety of historic urban areas across Europe. SFS joins the team to provide expertise on Social Innovation and Social Inclusion, and share how, through culture and creativity, Dortmund U became one of Dortmund's most iconic places.

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### **beyondwork 2020: BMBF organizes European labour research conference**

What does the change in work mean for people? How can companies prepare their employees for this change in the best way? And how do the European countries react to the change process? On 21 and 22 October 2020, representatives of European politics, research, business and social partners will meet at the World Conference Center in Bonn and online to discuss current results, exchange ideas, to network and to learn from each other. The Social Research Centre will be represented with three new projects.

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### **Bundestag decides to promote social innovation**

On Friday, May 29th, the German Bundestag has decided to increase the support for social innovation. The motion titled „Stronger support and more efficient use of social innovation“, proposed by CDU/CSU and SPD, the two currently ruling coalition fractions, emphasizes social innovation’s increasing importance within a comprehensive innovation concept. The motion explicitly refers to the „Atlas of Social Innovation - New Practices for a Better Future“ edited by TU Dortmund.

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### **Contributions on social innovation in a series of digital workshops and at the “Gründungscafé” of the Centre of Entrepreneurship & Transfer (CET)**

On May 7th, Sabrina Janz from TU Dortmund University gave the participants an insight into the topic of social innovation and the contribution it can make to social progress.

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### **An innovative and healthy way (back) into working life: project "GUIDE - promoting health for permanent employment" is launched**

GUIDE supports people with health restrictions who are threatened by permanent exclusion from working life. With the scientific monitoring of the Technical University of Dortmund/ Sozialforschungsstelle (sfs), long-term unemployed people will be fostered to maintain or restore their ability to work through a mixture of intensive coaching and meaningful work experiences.

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### **Online Meetup funding opportunities of social ideas**

On March 25th, Sabrina Janz and Adrian Götting organized an online workshop on financing and funding opportunities for founders and interested parties in the context of the project SIKE in cooperation with the project Beyond Divides of Impact Hub Ruhr.

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### **Social art as an educational principle: Intensive training for the development of strategic project goals and exchange of methods**

After the kick-off of the new project ArtE - The Art of Employability as the successor project of JobAct Europe had already taken place in Witten in November 2019, the international project team met again for an initial training.

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### **Successful kick-off workshop of the project "ProPolis" in Dortmund**

On January 28, 2020, the kick-off workshop in the ProPolis project took place in Dortmund. ProPolis is implemented in the BMBF funding measure Urban Climate under Change [UC]<sup>2</sup>. Organised by the Social Research Centre (sfs), Central Scientific Institute of the TU Dortmund University, the first work results were achieved in a workshop with participants from all 13 partner municipalities, project partners and representatives from the joint projects MOSAIK-2 and 3DO + M.

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#### **Imprint**

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