



From: Forum for
European Journalism
Students



TOP SECRET

To: The future
journalists of Europe

Confidential files:

Invitation letter "Beyond the Headlines: The power of investigative and slow journalism"

INVITATION TO FEJS GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2024

classified

Subject: FEJS General Assembly
Location: Dortmund
Date: I7/I0/24-2I/I0/24
Topic: Investigative and Slow Journalism

CONFIDENTIAL

Topic: "The power of investigative and slow journalism"

At the beginning of this year, a team of investigative journalists in Germany uncovered a secret plan to which high-ranking politicians from the German far-right party "Alternative für Deutschland" (AfD) have contributed. It includes the expulsions of millions of people from Germany because of their migration history - even if they have a German passport. The research results and media coverage triggered week-long mass protests in support of German democracy and against right-wing extremism, with hundreds of thousands of participants across the whole country. These protests had consequences for the AfD in domestic and foreign policy.

This is one recent example of how journalism can shake up society when it takes time to investigate long-term and thoroughly - a huge inspiration for the topic of the FEJS General Assembly 2024. We specifically want to go with you beyond the headlines and take a deep dive into the **Power of Investigative and Slow Journalism**. Marcus Bensmann, one of the coordinators of the AfD research, will join us as one of the speakers for hands-on insights on investigative journalism at the GA. Further sessions and speakers will be announced closer to the event.

Programme

The programme primarily includes workshops and seminars as well as visits to editorial offices, for example, the German public broadcaster Westdeutscher Rundfunk (WDR) in Dortmund. Of course, there will also be networking and free time activities with all participants, such as a city tour through Dortmund and a karaoke evening.

Additionally, we will devote time to discussing organisational matters and deciding future plans for FEJS International. This includes the election of a new Executive Board and Secretariat as well as the location of the next General Assembly in autumn 2025 and Annual Congress in spring 2026. If you are thinking about running for a position or organising a future FEJS event, don't hesitate to contact the current FEJS Executive Board for more information.

Location: Dortmund, Germany

After a 10-year break, we warmly invite you back to Germany for the FEJS General Assembly 2024. More specifically to Dortmund, a city known for football, steel, coal and beer! On match days, Dortmund breathes black and yellow in the colours of Borussia Dortmund (has been second in this year's UEFA Champions League) and Dortmund has also been one of the host cities of this year's UEFA European Championships. Our landmark, the Dortmund U-Tower, was built by a brewery and reminds everyone of the receding local brewing tradition. Old steel giants like Phoenix West tell stories about the industrial heritage of the city.

But Dortmund has much more to offer: It's a young, diverse and creative city. Roughly 10 percent of Dortmund's 600.000 inhabitants are students. Next to engineering, IT and economics, Dortmund is known as one of the most important cities to study journalism in Germany. For almost 50 years, the Institute of Journalism has been training young journalists who want to specialise in areas such as politics, economics, science, music or foreign reporting.



Dortmund is well-connected by train to bigger cities in Germany, such as Cologne, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt and Berlin, as well as to international cities like Amsterdam or Brussels. Additionally, travel between cities in the Ruhr area, including Essen, Bochum or Duisburg, is very easy. Dortmund also has its own airport, which offers affordable flights to different destinations all across Europe. Further airports are very close by, for instance Dusseldorf and Cologne.



Participation

The General Assembly will take place from I7th - 2Ist October 2024 at the Institute of Journalism / Erich Brost Institute for International Journalism at TU Dortmund University. [Please apply via this link](#). The application deadline is 25th August 2024. At the GA in Dortmund, we aim for the representation of as many countries as possible. Thus, please take into consideration that your acceptance to the GA might depend on the number of other applicants from your country. Due to the limited space for participants, the current application form contains a section in which you have to declare your motivation to attend this year's GA in Dortmund. This will enable the persons in charge to decide profoundly, whom to finally accept to attend the GA. You will be notified of your acceptance latest by 3rd September 2024.

Costs

The participation fee for the event is I50 euros, which covers food, accommodation and all the activities in the programme. Your travel expenses will not be covered by this fee - you have to take care of transportation to and from Dortmund yourself. More information on payment requirements and bank account details will follow once you have been accepted to the event.

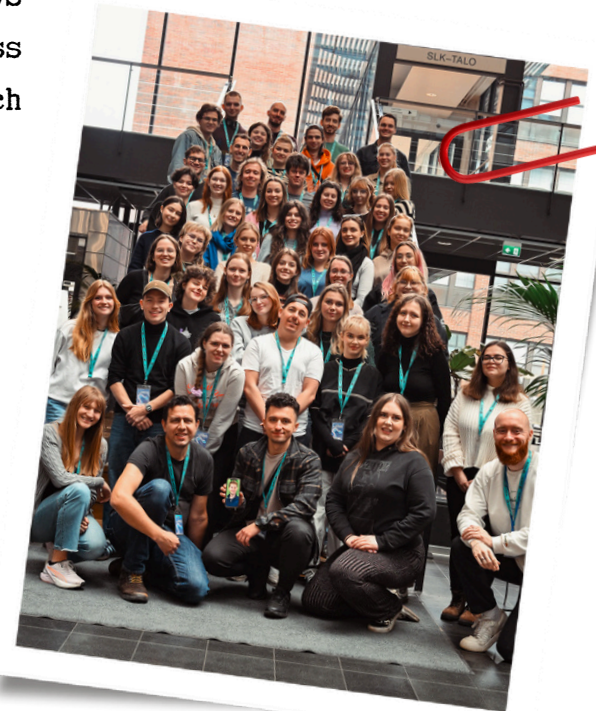
You can also apply for the Solidarity Fund [via this link](#), which can cover part of

your travel expenses. Please do so by the application deadline of 25th August 2024 at the latest. Any applications submitted later must be ignored. In return for receiving money from the Solidarity Fund, we will ask you to support us in conducting the General Assembly 2024, may it be as social media support, photographer during the event, producing a blog/vlog, leading video interviews, etc. The application form for the Solidarity Fund contains a section that asks you to submit an idea how you could help the Organizing Committee (OC), for instance suggesting a social media format you would like to realise during the GA.

The Solidarity Fund regularly gathers money at our events through the auction of country delegation's presents. We will do the auction again at the GA 2024 in Dortmund, so don't forget to bring your presents.

About us: What is FEJS?

The Forum for European Journalism Students (FEJS) is an international organisation dedicated to the exchange of information between European journalism students and young journalists. The Forum attempts to bring such individuals together and promote interaction and networking while providing them with educational tools and frameworks to improve their knowledge and professional skills. FEJS prepares two main events every year - an Annual Congress (AC), held in spring, and a General Assembly (GA), which takes place in autumn. Nowadays, FEJS has regular participation from schools all over Europe. With its activities, FEJS wishes to promote any means of discussion or exchange of ideas concerning journalism between organisations and individuals from Europe. But for most of its members, FEJS is much more - it is an organization where you can find new friends from all over Europe, gain new connections for your journalistic work, talk with people who have similar interests, get further knowledge and experience, speak freely of your points of view and travel because each event takes place in a different country.



Contact

If you have any questions regarding the event, location or travel, please contact the FEJS Organising Committee of the GA Dortmund 2024.

If you have any questions regarding the payment, solidarity fund or your application, please reach out to the FEJS Secretariat.

If you have any general questions about FEJS or questions/remarks regarding the elections, which will be held at the GA, don't hesitate to contact the FEJS Executive Board.

After 10 whole years, we are very happy to finally invite FEJS back to Germany. We hope to see you all there!

Kind regards,

Organising Committee GA Dortmund 2024

*Beyond the Headlines: The power of
investigative and slow journalism*

*Dortmund, 17th-21th October
Impactful seminars, long
lasting friendships, vibrant
and vivid city worth exploring*

Apply now!

