



INTERNATIONAL FORUM OSLO

NEWSLETTER

September 2022
Issue No. 478

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INTERNATIONAL FORUM

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If you wish to become a member of International Forum, please contact us by email.



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DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES

For the **October Newsletter** is **September 15**. Please send your contribution to Elizabeth S. Rasmussen and to int.forum@online.no. The Editor and the Editorial Team reserve the right to edit *all* material.



From the President

It was life as it once was. This year's Arendalsuka was the best ever... bold, bright and busy. Unbelievably, a record 150,000 people attended a record 1,723 arrangements.

High electricity prices and inflation topped the agenda, especially when political leaders clashed in the traditional Arendalsuka debate. But there was a bubbling sense of joy and freedom as people mingled, ate, drank and laughed merrily.

Covid snatched life from us and now people snatched their lives back. The time had come to meet friends, hear debates and listen to experts on issues that really affect us.

The halls were packed as people listened spellbound to specialists who presented their assessments of unfolding events. The current state of the world is more complex, interconnected, multidimensional and contradictory than the media narratives. China scholar and former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd followed Foreign Minister Anniken Huitfeldt with a powerful speech at the Global Outlook conference. Focusing on worsening relations between the USA and China, he chillingly described the dangers facing our world. Telling truth to power is important. Telling truth to the public is equally important.

In this *Newsletter*, we honour two Forum members: Gerd Berger, a former President who passed away recently; and one of our founding icons, Inger Malterud, who celebrated her 103rd birthday in August. We often hear about the *science* of ageing. But Gerd and Inger demonstrate the *art* of ageing. Asked what her secret recipe for long life is, Inger Malterud replies 'lots of self-caught fish and French red wine!' Humour, hard work and a hearty outlook is the essence of a life well lived. Getting old is a privilege. Ageing well is a gift.

Now it is 'Come September' and our autumn season begins.

See you at our events!

Regards,

Anita Pratap

President

F R O M T H E B O A R D

♥E-faktura for Membership Fee♥

The time has come to remind our members of the annual membership fee, which remains the same. As informed earlier by email, International Forum has entered into an agreement with DNB to issue an e-invoice (e-faktura), which is sent directly to your bank account for you to activate. Most of our members already use e-faktura. You will have received an e-faktura in your email and your bank account from International Forum for membership of fee NOK 500 for 2022-2023. Overseas and associate members pay NOK 250.

In your bank account, if you click on the e-invoice from International Forum, all the information, including your KID number, is automatically entered in the payment. Even though the last date for payment is September 30, you can pay any time before that.

If you have not activated an electronic invoice system for your bank account, please pay as you normally do, but please make sure to enter the KID number – given in the attached faktura – when you make the payment.

The KID number helps to register your payment in our system.

C O M I N G E V E N T S

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

September 5

Pathologist Eystein Hoddevik



The Monthly Meeting Committee is proud to announce the speaker for September, Dr Eystein Hoddevik, a pathologist working at the University Hospital of Oslo. He holds a PhD in molecular biology and neuroscience.

Dr Hoddevik has lived in France, Scotland, Germany and Sweden and has experience from the Navy, numerous emergency and internal medicine wards. He will speak on viruses and pandemics.

DATE/TIME: Monday, **September 5** at 18:45 for (19:00)

SIGN UP: To Signe Howell **as soon as possible**.

The event is open only to members.

Members: Please sign up as indicated in the Newsletter

Non Members: if you would like to become a member, please email int.forum@online.no for an application form.

Please note membership is not automatic. Applications are processed and decided by the Board

PRICE: NOK 105.- **Please sign up before you pay**. Please make your payment **preferably** by **bank transfer** to the Forum account: 1600 40 36631 or by VIPPS 591747. No cash will be handled at the venue. Please **state the event and your name** in the transaction (in the KID-number box for bank payments and in the dialogue box for VIPPS).

TRANSPORT: T-Bane 1 to Vinderen. Pay parking in the adjoining area until 20:00.

GUESTS: Guests are welcome if there is room. No-shows will be charged.

For last minute cancellations, please call Signe Howell on mob.: 415 04 678

SPECIAL EVENTS

Visit to the Farm at the Royal Estate at Bygdøy

September 13



Since medieval times, the estate has mainly been a royal residence, but it was also a monastic estate owned by the Cistercians at Hovedøya. In modern times, the farm has been both a public park and a test farm specialising in organic husbandry and milk production. It also provides information about modern agricultural techniques and cultural and natural history.

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, **September 13**, at 10:45 (for 11:00)

SIGN UP: By email to Mona Reinboth as soon as possible and no later than Tuesday, **September 6**.

The event is open only to members.

Members: Please sign up as indicated in the Newsletter

Non Members: if you would like to become a member, please email int.forum@online.no for an application form.

Please note membership is not automatic. Applications are processed and decided by the Board

For more information, please see the August *Newsletter*.

ART COMMITTEE

Autumn Exhibition at Kunstnernes Hus

September 20



For over 130 years, this yearly exhibition has been a showroom for contemporary artists and art trends. It has been a source of extensive artistic discussion and has often displayed experimental, provocative and controversial works that more traditional galleries and museums might have rejected.

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, **September 20**, 13:45 (for 14:00)

SIGN UP: To Trudy Brand-Jacobsen as soon as possible and no later than Monday, **September 12**.

For more information, please see the August *Newsletter*.

The event is open only to members.

Members: Please sign up as indicated in the Newsletter

Non Members: if you would like to become a member, please email int.forum@online.no for an application form.

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OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING

October 3

Dr Anja Lillegraven



Nuclear Weapons and their Humanitarian Consequences

Since 2019, Dr Anja Lillegraven has been the managing director of Norske leger mot atomvåpen (Norwegian Physicians Against Atomic Weapons), the Norwegian branch of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. Dr Lillegraven holds an MA in Social Anthropology from the University of Oslo. Before engaging in the field of nuclear disarmament, she worked for 12 years at the Rainforest Foundation, including four years as head of the South-East Asia Department.

Dr Lillegraven will talk about the humanitarian consequences of nuclear warfare.

DATE/TIME: Monday, **October 3** at 18:45 for (19:00)

SIGN UP: To Anita Solheim as soon as possible and no later than Wednesday, **September 28**.

The event is open only to members.

Members: Please sign up as indicated in the Newsletter

Non Members: if you would like to become a member, please email int.forum@online.no for an application form.

Please note membership is not automatic. Applications are processed and decided by the Board

PRICE: NOK 105.- **Please sign up before you pay.** Please make your payment preferably by **bank transfer** to the Forum account: 1600 40 36631 or by VIPPS 591747. No cash will be handled at the venue. Please **state the event and your name** in the transaction (in the KID-number box for bank payments and in the dialogue box for VIPPS).

TRANSPORT: T-Bane 1 to Vinderen. Pay parking in the area until 20:00.

GUESTS: Guests are welcome if there is room. No-shows will be charged.

For last minute cancellations, please call Anita Solheim
mob.: 404 80 944.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Visit to the Norwegian Meteorological Institute

October 11



We are all interested in the weather! It is very often a topic of conversation, something we all talk about. The Special Events Committee invites you to join us on a visit to the Meteorological Institute at the University of Oslo in order to learn a bit more about ‘weather’.

Meteorologists from the institute will be our guides. We will see the forecast room, have a look at the observation instruments in the park outside, and visit the ‘Tall Hall’, also known as the ‘Data Hall’. This very special building opened in 2011, and was the first building in Norway made of low-carbon concrete. It was designed by Pir II Architects, with a focus on climate efficiency.

After the tour, those who wish may join us in Frederikke, the main student canteen. The lunch will be ordered in advance and will consist of two half-rolls, one with brie and bacon, and the other with egg and tomato, and coffee/tea. Cakes may be bought separately.

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, **October 11** at **10:15** (for 10:45)

SIGN UP: To Rosemary Hauge no later than **October 3**.

The event is open only to members.

Members: Please sign up as indicated in the Newsletter

Non Members: if you would like to become a member, please email int.forum@online.no for an application form.

Please note membership is not automatic. Applications are processed and decided by the Board

PLACE: Meteorologisk Institutt, Henrik Mohns plass 1, 0313 Oslo.

MEET UP: We meet up in the reception area in the main building which is just a few minutes' walk from Forskningsparken T-bane station or the tram station (same junction).

PRICE: NOK 35,- for gifts for the guides. The lunch is NOK 108,-
If you want both, please pay NOK 143,- in advance, preferably to the Forum bank account: 1600 40 36631 or by VIPPS 591747. Please **state the event and your name (and lunch if applicable)** on your payment. No cash will be handled at the venue.

TRANSPORT: Public transport is strongly recommended. T-bane lines to Forskningsparken station: line **4** to **Vestli**, line 5 to **Sognsvann**, or line **5 Ringen via Majorstuen/Storo** all stop at Forskningsparken. **Trams 17** and **18** stop at Forskningsparken (underneath the T-bane station).
Car: Not recommended. The guest parking at the Institute is very limited. If you need to park you must get a permission ticket in the reception.
Maximum number of participants is 30.
Guests are welcome if space available.
For questions or last-minute cancellations please contact Rosemary Hauge.
Cancellations after the deadline and no-shows will be charged.

THE ART COMMITTEE

Guided Visit of the New National Museum

October 20



The New National Museum is finally open, and you are invited for a guided tour of this enormous space. It houses over 6000 permanent works, and has regular separate exhibitions.

Not only is a visit a must to see the permanent home for all the art we have missed for years, the building is also well worth seeing. We have to select what to see in the time we have, but without a doubt it'll tempt you back for more.

DATE/TIME: Thursday, **October 20**, at 11:45 for 12:00.

SIGN UP: By email to Bente Brandt as soon as possible and no later than October 13.

The event is open only to members.

Members: Please sign up as indicated in the Newsletter

Non Members: if you would like to become a member, please

email int.forum@online.no for an application form.

Please note membership is not automatic. Applications are processed and decided by the Board

PLACE: Brynjulf Bulls plass 3, 0250 Oslo

PRICE: NOK 265.- (including entrance fee), preferably to the Forum bank account: 1600 40 36631 or by VIPPS 591747. Please **state the event and your name** on your payment. No cash will be handled at the venue.

TRANSPORT: Buses 54 and 30 stop at Nationaltheateret. Tram 12 stops right outside the new National Museum. Trams 13 and 11 and all T-bane lines stop at Nationaltheatret, just a few minutes away from the museum.

There are numerous restaurants in the area for those who wish to have lunch.

Maximum 20 participants. Guests are welcome if space is available.

Cancellations after the deadline and no-shows will be charged.

For last-minute cancellations, please call Bente Brandt on mob.: 994 62 761.

R E P O R T S

ARENDALSUKA 2022 IN PICTURES

Bold, Bright and Busy

INTERNATIONAL FORUM'S AMBASSADORS ROUND TABLE

At Arendal's historic Gamle Rådhus



Ambassadors: [Egypt](#), Amr Ramadan; [Canada](#), Deirdre Kent; [Korea](#), Kim Pil-Woo; [Australia](#), Kerin Ayyalaraju and [European Union](#), Nicolas de-la-Grandville offer fascinating, differing and thought-provoking perspectives on deglobalisation.



The audience in Gamle Rådhus



Mayor of Arendal, Robert Nordli, welcomes the gathering at the session on deglobalisation.



Journalist Hege Ulstein speaks on the impact of deglobalisation on Norway.



Mayor Nordli with Ambassadors from Mexico, Kosovo and Britain at his Minglefest

GLOBAL OUTLOOK



Anita Pratap at Global Outlook



Anita Pratap with the Ambassadors



Foreign Minister Anniken Huitfeldt at Global Outlook



Crowded meetings in public squares – Mona Hauglid

🍾 **CONGRATULATIONS!** 🍾



Inger Malterud 103 Years

International Forum's second president, Inger Malterud, celebrated 103 years in August. Inger is an honorary member of Forum and was for many years an untiring and efficient Office Coordinator. Inger Malterud is one of the most important members of the history of the Forum.

For many, many years, all the Board meetings and Executive meetings took place in her flat on the first Monday of the month at 19:00, when we enjoyed her home-made 'horns' (crescent rolls). Many members remember her at the entrance of Majorstuen Christiania Bank og Kreditkasse with her lists of names, checking us into the bank for the Monthly Meetings, held at the bank's auditorium! She was so proud of our organisation!

Inger has a Master's Degree in physics from the University of Oslo, as one of very few women. She was the oldest of four siblings, used to taking care of people. She was not afraid of hard work. Inger enjoyed all that the University could offer.

She combined her many talents and skills with her duties as a diplomat's wife when her husband, Ambassador Otto Malterud, was stationed abroad. Their last assignment was in The Hague. She was an efficient hostess, updated on the history, culture, geography and political system of the countries in which they worked. Her vast culture and social skills were a great asset. If a Norwegian Christmas market lacked mittens, she would knit. She would always find ways to be useful.

She received the Saint Olav's Medal for her substantial contribution in the service for Norway.

Inger Malterud now lives at Vinderen bo- og behandlingssenter (Vinderen Nursing Home).

Sources: Sidsel Melander in *Newsletter* (September 2019) and *Aftenposten*, August 6, 2022.

IN MEMORIAM

Gerd Berger



It was with great sadness that the Forum received the news that long standing member, Gerd Berger, had passed away. Gerd Berger was a very active member of the Forum, served as a member of the Board for altogether four years. She also served as president for one year, 2003-2004.

Gerd was a FO member, and as such she followed her husband Knut on several postings abroad, both in Europe and as far away as Jakarta. I had the privilege of working with her in the spouse's organisation of the Foreign Ministry. The FO spouses were then in the difficult position of having to choose between following their partners abroad, losing pension points and leaving their jobs, or staying at home alone. The partners organisation started to work on the authorities to let us have the chance to keep our pension points while working, free of charge, for the Foreign Office.

Needless to say, this was an uphill task!

Gerd Berger took it upon herself to approach the Secretary General, Bjarne Lindstrøm. She sat down in his office and said: "I am not leaving until you say yes, Mr. Lindstrøm". He looked at her and said that he would try, but that it would be a long and difficult process! It came through in the end, and we are quite a few that are benefiting from this.

She was, indeed, a small woman with an iron will!

In grateful memory, for the International Forum,

Berit Lindstrøm



INTERNATIONAL FORUM

Org.no: 994 566 806

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Anita Pratap

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Blackwell

The Editor and the Editorial Team reserve the right to edit **all** material.

Date: September 1, 2022



Autumn in Maridalen, Oslo