

# PRESS RELEASE



## Goethe-Institut Indonesien Resumes Courses Through Long-Distance Learning Amid the Coronavirus Outbreak

Goethe-Institut Indonesien resumes its German courses remotely starting Monday, 23 March-13 April 2020 or until further notice. The classes are conducted in a digital teaching and learning format, thus enabling course participants to study from home in order to practice social distancing and stay safe amid the coronavirus outbreak.

Goethe-Institut Indonesien had previously announced that it was temporarily closing its facilities in Jakarta and Bandung from 15 March 2020, resulting into a short-term cancellation of all its courses and programs. The decision was made after Jakarta Governor Anies Baswedan announced on 14 March 2020 the closure of all schools in Jakarta and suggested non-formal educational institutions to shift to long-distance learning to prevent the spread of coronavirus in the city.

Using a web-based video conferencing platform, the course participants will still be able to interact with their teachers and fellow classmates and work on group assignments. “Transitioning to learning remotely in this pandemic situation is a big challenge for both our teachers and course participants. We know it’s a different experience from learning in the classroom, but we strive to find solutions to offer learning opportunities that resemble the classroom experience in order to ensure course participants’ continued progression in learning German,” says Goethe-Institut Indonesien Language Director Sonja Stoll.

### Culture: New public formats with a digital outreach

The cultural events that were planned to be held this month in the Goethe-Institut had to be postponed until further notice. “We will explore new ways to present our audiences with inspiring cultural and other programs in a digital format. We aim to come up with new formats so that staying at home to protect oneself and society does not necessarily also mean being cut off from cultural exchange and interaction,” explains Dr. Stefan Dreyer, Goethe-Institut Director in Indonesia and Regional Director for Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

As an example, the international conference [Digital Discourses](#), which was scheduled to be held 20–21 March with a focus on data privacy in the age of capitalism, is now re-designed to be held as an interactive online conference.

### Onleihe: Digital library of the Goethe-Institut

Like other departments, Goethe-Institut’s libraries in Jakarta and Bandung will remain closed until 13 April 2020 or until further notice. However, the public at home can access Goethe-Institut’s extensive and free [digital library Onleihe](#) to help polish up their German skills in times of isolation. The service offers more than 35,000 modern German language e-books, audio books, movies, materials for language learners, magazines and newspapers that can be opened anywhere and anytime all across Indonesia. Goethe-Institut library membership is not required to benefit from this digital service. For more information: [www.goethe.de/perpusdigital](http://www.goethe.de/perpusdigital)

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