

Inter-university Research Activities

Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER)

[CLEER's](#) ambition is to stimulate excellence in research, reflection and teaching in EU external relations studies in higher education institutions within and outside the Union and to promote innovative solutions to practical challenges to the external dimension of the EU's legal order.

In 2013 CLEER was awarded a Jean Monnet grant for the proposal entitled 'Human security as a new operational framework for enhancing human rights protection in the EU's Security and Migration policies'. In the face of high competition for EU funding (595 applications), CLEER was selected for EU co-financing, with a top score of 85%.

This grant will enable CLEER to implement its research project aimed at facilitating academic interaction in closely interrelated areas of EU external conduct, creating synergies between and raising awareness of global security concerns. The project will also serve to gather the now distinct and separate research areas under one heading and facilitate the establishment of a comprehensive and operational framework contributing to the overall assessment of the EU's role in tackling challenges stemming from emerging crises.

CLEER organised several conferences, workshops, lectures and a Summer School, and published 7 new issues of its CLEER working paper series:

CLEER WP 2014/1 "EEAS 2.0: Recommendations for the amendment of Council Decision 2010/427/EU establishing the organisation and functioning of the European External Action Service" by S. Blockmans and C. Hillion (eds.).

CLEER WP 2014/2 "External Dimension of the EU Counter-Terrorism Policy" by E. Herlin-Karnell & C. Matera (eds.).

CLEER WP 2014/3 "The European Union and the Kimberley Process" by G. Fernandez Arribas.

CLEER WP 2014/4 "Institutional and legal aspects of EU's judicial policy to fighting piracy off the coast of Somalia" by L. Erkelens.

CLEER WP 2014/5 "Human security as a tool for comprehensive approach for human rights and security linkages in EU foreign policy" by A. Matta and T. Takács (eds.).

CLEER WP 2014/6 "Between autonomy and cooperation: shaping the institutional profile of the European External Action Service" by L. N. González Alonso (ed.).

CLEER WP 2014/7 "The Common European Asylum System and human rights: enhancing protection in times of emergencies" by C. Matera and A. Taylor (eds.).

The International Humanitarian and Criminal Law (IHCL) Platform

The [International Humanitarian and Criminal Law \(IHCL\) Platform](#) was established in 2010 and it currently consists of representatives from the T.M.C. Asser Instituut (which coordinates the Platform), the University of Amsterdam (in particular the Amsterdam Center for International Law), the VU University Amsterdam, Leiden University (in particular the Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies), Groningen University and the Netherlands Defence Academy. The latter two joined the Platform on 15 May 2014.

The objective of the IHCL Platform is “to establish an academic network fostering research in the area of international criminal law and humanitarian law, providing an academic platform for discussion of relevant contemporary issues and legal questions for which there is, as yet, no fixed jurisprudential position”.

This important goal is realised through the Platform’s activities. In 2014, the IHCL Platform (co-) organised four events, namely:

-15 May 2014: Third IHCL Platform PhD Day

-25 November 2014: Book launch *Applying International Humanitarian Law in Judicial and Quasi-Judicial Bodies: International and Domestic Aspects*

-3 December 2014: Conference ‘The Cyber Warfare Manual: A Detailed Assessment’

-17 December 2014: Book Launch *Nuclear Weapons Under International Law*