



### CLEER NEWSLETTER December 2013

## The experiences of the Irish Presidency of the EU Council in the field of external relations

6 November, The Hague



On November 6th T.M.C. Asser Instituut and the Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER) organised in cooperation with the Irish Embassy in The Hague a special lecture event devoted to reviewing the experiences of the Irish Presidency of the EU in the field of external relations.



The lecture, chaired by Dr. Aaron Matta, Senior Researcher in EU Law and Academic Programme Coordinator of CLEER, took place in the context of the CLEER special lecture series that look at the Presidencies retrospectively focusing on the role of the incumbent presidency in coordination and leadership in regional and global issues.



Her Excellency, Mrs. H.E. Mary Whelan, Ambassador of Ireland in the Netherlands gave an insightful presentation on the major challenges and achievements in representation, negotiation and coordination at the helm of the EU Council. The Ambassador particularly referred to the Irish Presidency's efforts to promote trade and its achievement to secure a mandate within Council to start official negotiations on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) between the EU and the US. Regarding the role of the Irish Embassy in projecting the priorities of the Presidency, she presented her reflections on the cooperation with international institutions based in The Hague, especially with the ICC and OPCW which acquired particular attention during the Irish Presidency.

Dr. Elaine Fahey, Senior Research Fellow and Lecturer at the Amsterdam Centre for European Law and Governance (ACELG), complemented the presentation as a discussant providing a

## Human security as a tool for a comprehensive approach to human rights and security linkages in EU Foreign policy

6 December, The Hague



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The T.M.C. Asser Instituut hosted this conference organised by CLEER, which brought together academics, legal and policy experts, policy-makers and stakeholders to discuss the operational framework for a distinct EU approach to security policy so as to provide effective protection and due respect to individuals' human rights in conflict and post-conflict context. The conference focused on the need for enhancing coordination and synergies of the EU's so far fragmented toolbox addressing peace, security, stability and development issues, for the overall goal of heightened human rights protection.

The following issues were in particular addressed: the EEAS crisis response system (Stavros Petropoulos); an assessment of recent EU crisis management missions (Catherine Woollard); whether human security is at the core of the promotion of democratic structures (Cees Wittebrood); shaping a Human Security concept for the EU, and the EU-UN nexus (Mary Martin); human security framework as a long-term vision for EU foreign policy and its implication for the European Security Strategy (Stephan Keukeleire); the role of the Commission and EEAS in post-conflict reconstruction environments (Petr Pribyla); the coordination of EU institutions for an integrated approach in CFSP/CSDP in development cooperation and in post-conflict reconstruction environments (Marcus Houben); the institutional tensions surrounding the realisation of a human security concept risking fragmentation and duplication as a result (Hans Merket) and the effective application of development-security nexus from the member states perspective (Corina van der Laan).

This conference was the first event of CLEER's project 'Human Security: a new framework for enhanced human rights in the EU's foreign security and migration policies', implemented with the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) of the European Union.

## Upcoming event: The experiences of the Lithuanian Presidency of the Council of the EU in the field of external relations

February 2014, The Hague



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Since 2011, a special lecture series complements the events organised by Asser/CLEER, which provides focus on a specific segment of EU external actions: the role of the incumbent

presidencies in coordination and leadership in regional and global issues.

The lecture series has been particularly successful in engaging the diplomatic contingent of incumbent Presidencies posted in The Hague, giving them the opportunity to share their experiences with the broad networks of the T.M.C. Asser Instituut and CLEER.

More information regarding the forthcoming lecture dedicated to the experiences of the Lithuanian Presidency of the EU Council will be published shortly on the CLEER and Asser websites [www.cleer.eu](http://www.cleer.eu), [www.asser.nl](http://www.asser.nl)

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## Upcoming event: Responding to new threats with a human security approach and the EU's asylum and international protection policy

Spring 2014

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The conference is structured so as to follow up and expand on the focus of the previous event and to address a specific ambit in which human rights, EU security and foreign policy meet: EU asylum and migration policy. The workshop wishes to address the impact that human security can play in relation to the tools and methods with which the EU responds to humanitarian crises such as conflicts and natural disasters and to analyse the extent to which human security discourses can impact EU legislation on asylum and temporary protection. To do so the workshop is divided in three general parts so as to explore: (i) the extent to which human security should or could be integrated into the interpretation of existing normative standards in relation to the definition status of refugee and in relation to the attribution of temporary protection to individuals; (ii) the effectiveness of coordination methods between the relevant EU institutions and agencies on the one hand, and the Member States, on the other; (iii) the sensitive balancing exercise of national security interest with the rights of individuals seeking protection; and finally will look into (iv) a case analysis on the migration-security nexus related to the recent political unrests affecting the EU's Southern- Mediterranean neighbours.

The conference is the second event of CLEER's project 'Human Security: a new framework for enhanced human rights in the EU's foreign security and migration policies', implemented with the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) of the European Union.

Organisers: Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER), the European Environmental Law (EEL) Network and the T.M.C. Asser Instituut. Location: T.M.C. Asser Instituut, R.J. Schimmelpennincklaan 20-22, The Hague, The Netherlands. The event is free of charge. For registration and more information please visit: [www.cleer.eu](http://www.cleer.eu)

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## New CLEER Publications

### CLEER Working Papers 2013/4

'Linking trade and non-commercial interests: the EU as a global role model?' by Tamara Takács, Andrea Ott and Angelos Dimopoulos (eds.)



### CLEER Working Papers 2013/5

'EU Environmental norms and third countries: The EU as a global role model?' by Wylbe Th. Douma and Steffen van der Velde (eds.)

### CLEER Working Papers 2013/6

'Trade liberalisation and standardisation – new directions in the 'low politics' of EU foreign policy' by Marise Cremona and Tamara Takács (eds.)

### CLEER Working Papers 2013/7

'EU agencies and their international mandate: A new category of global actors?' by Andrea Ott, Ellen Vos and Florin Coman-Kund (eds.)

The governing board of CLEER, in its capacity as board of editors, welcomes the submission of working papers and legal commentaries (max. 40,000 resp. 4,000 words, including footnotes, accompanied by keywords and short abstracts) at [info@cleer.eu](mailto:info@cleer.eu). CLEER applies a double-blind peer review system. When accepted, papers are published on the website of CLEER and in 700 hard copies with full colour cover.

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