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**Linking trade and non-commercial interests: the EU as a global role model? 9 November, The Hague**

The T.M.C. Asser Instituut hosted this workshop organised by CLEER in cooperation with Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, which brought together academics, legal and policy experts, policy-makers and stakeholders to discuss the modalities of the EU employing trade instruments so as to promote the respect for human rights, internationally recognised labour standards and economic development. All interventions affirmed the theme of the keynote speech (by Mr. Francisco Perez-Canado) about the important role that trade and commercial relations can play as tool to promote societal interest in the

EU's external relations with third countries. The following issues were addressed in particular: integrating human rights into EU trade policies (Prof. Ernst-Ulrich Petersmann); the EU's enforcing mechanisms to secure compliance with human rights in trade agreements (Fabienne Zwagemakers); social norms in the EU bilateral agreements (Dr. Fabienne Bossuyt); the EU's arrangements for the participation of civil society in its trade agenda (Yorgos Altintzis); the EU's 'new' investment policy and its role in promoting development (Dr. Aurora Voiculescu); options for the EU

to integrate non-trade objectives in the EU investment policy (Dr. Anna de Luca); third countries goods in the EU internal market (Prof. Laurence Gormley) and whether EU trade policy can be considered as the real continuation of internal market policy (Dr Ferdi De Ville).

The workshop was the first event of CLEER's 'Commercial power Europe: advancing societal and environmental goals through trade relations' project, implemented with the support of the LLP programme of the European Union.

**The Experiences from the Danish Presidency of the Council of the EU**

On 29 November 2012, the T.M.C. Asser Instituut hosted an event co-organised by CLEER and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss the experiences of the Danish government during their Presidency given to external relations and

actions of the EU. The presentation about the Danish experiences was given by Ambassador Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Representative of Denmark to the Political and Security Committee (PSC) at the Danish Permanent Representation to the EU, Brussels. Dr. Tamara Takács

(CLEER/T.M.C Asser Instituut) acted as respondent and assessed the major achievements of the Presidency at the helm of the Council, in the conduct of the EU's external relations. Dr Wybe Douma (CLEER/ T.M.C. Asser Instituut) chaired the event.





## Upcoming event: 'The External Dimension of EU Counter-terrorism Policy' conference on 22 February 2013, Brussels

The Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER) and the ICCT-The Hague invite academics, legal and policy experts, policy makers, and stakeholders to discuss some ten years of EU external action in countering terrorism. The conference will address various aspects of the EU counter-terrorism policy that still pose unanswered questions. At the institutional level these questions relate to the horizontal division of competences and the choice of the appropriate legal basis. From a substantive perspective, these questions pertain to geographical differentiation of EU initiatives and the need of coordination with Member States in the execution of the different actions. Thirdly, transversal issues such as the respect for the rule of law and human rights still appear to be unresolved and will also be discussed.

Organisers: The Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER) and the International Centre for Counter Terrorism (ICCT)-The Hague in cooperation with the T.M.C. Asser Instituut.

Location: Fondation Universitaire, Rue d'Egmont 11, Brussels, Belgium. The event is free of charge. For registration and further information please visit: [www.cleer.eu](http://www.cleer.eu)

## Upcoming event: 'EU environmental norms and third countries: the EU as a global role model?' workshop on 19 April 2013, The Hague

The organisers invite academics, legal and policy experts, policy-makers, stakeholders and practitioners to discuss the modalities of the EU employing trade and other instruments so as to promote sustainable development including protection of the environment. Particular attention will be given to issues such as the quest for consistency in the conduct of EU external policy and institutional coordination within the EU, the ongoing drafting of the EU investment policy and the WTO compatibility of the instruments employed by the European Union. The workshop is the second event of CLEER's 'Commercial power Europe: advancing societal and environmental goals through trade relations' project, implemented with the support of the LLP programme 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)

## Upcoming event: 'How to legally accommodate variable geometry in EU external action?' 6 May 2013, Brussels

The dual objective of this event is to map out the various ways and means by which differentiation is given form in the realm of EU external action and to discuss the future constitutional, institutional and instrumental challenges of a multi-speed European Union in the field of EU foreign policy.

Call for papers: Abstracts (of max. 300 words) touching upon these challenges, both of an empirical as well as a legal analytical nature should be sent to the workshop's co-directors [steven.blockmans@ceps.eu](mailto:steven.blockmans@ceps.eu) and [bart.van.vooren@jur.ku.dk](mailto:bart.van.vooren@jur.ku.dk) by 1 February 2013. The seminar papers will be published as CEPS paperback in June 2013.

Organisers: Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), the Centre for European Constitutionalization and Security (CECS) at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen, the Amsterdam Centre for European Law and Governance (ACELG) and the Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER). Location: CEPS, Brussels. Participants to the seminar are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs but may be refunded depending on the grants awarded to the co-organising institutions of the workshop.





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## New CLEER Publications

**CLEER Working Papers 2012/5:** 'Principles and practices of EU external representation' by Steven Blockmans & Ramses A. Wessel (eds.)

**CLEER Working Papers 2012/6:** 'Human Rights and EU Crisis Management Operations: A Duty to Respect and to Protect?' by Aurel Sari & Ramses A. Wessel (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 100 hard copies with full colour cover.*



**CLEER would like to thank all of you for being with us at the events, and for your support and encouragement in the Centre's activities.**

**Wishing you a joyful holiday season, happiness and success for the New Year!**