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- Andrés Delgado Casteleiro
(Durham University)



Human Rights and EU Crisis Management Operations: A Duty to Respect and to Protect?

A multi-panel workshop organized by CLEER in cooperation with the Universities of Exeter and Twente discussed issues of human rights law in EU military and civilian crisis management missions on 25 May 2012 at the T.M.C. Asser Instituut.

Academics, practitioners from the Dutch Ministry of De-

fence, EU institutions, the EU-LEX mission in Kosovo, and international criminal tribunals shared views on the legal framework governing the protection and promotion of and the duty to respect human rights in EU missions. The keynote address on the main challenges of human rights protection was delivered by Dr.

Hadewych Hazelzet, Head of Section, Division of CSDP Policy, Partnership and Agreements/Crisis Management and Planning Directorate, EEAS. The conference was sponsored by the Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen (KNAW). The presentations of the workshop will be published in the Centre's Working Papers series.

Trade liberalisation and standardisation—new directions in the 'low politics' of EU foreign policy

This seminar co-organized by the European University Institute (EUI) and CLEER brought together leading academics and practitioners to explore whether and to what extent trade liberalisation and harmonisation can be regarded as successful 'low-politics' areas in EU foreign policy and what the challenges are that the

EU is and will be facing in these areas. The discussion focused on (i) the legal and policy objectives that the EU applies in its preferential trade arrangements; (ii) the role of and applied practices in the Union's efforts to promote standardisation within the WTO and with regard some particularly important trade partners, such as the US and China; and (iii)

challenges and EU strategies for reconciliatory efforts in investment.

The keynote address was delivered by Mr Robert Sturdy MEP member of the INTA Committee.

The papers of the conference will be published in an edited volume both in EUI's and CLEER's working papers series.





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CLEER News

- Steven Blockmans became senior research fellow and head of the EU foreign policy unit at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in Brussels
- Andrés Delgado Casteleiro (Durham University) joined the Representatives of CLEER Partner Institutions.

CLEER Researchers at the T.M.C. Asser Instituut

- Dr. Karolien Pieters
- Claudio Matera
- Steffen van der Velde



One year after the Arab Spring: The European Union's relations with the Southern-Mediterranean region

Universidad Pablo de Olavide and CLEER organized a two-day conference in Seville, on 10-11 May to evaluate the EU's response to the events of the Arab Spring. At the conference views were exchanged with regard to the European Union's reframed policy toward the southern

Mediterranean region to support for transition to democracy. The speakers offered an insight into the 2011 review of the European Neighbourhood, the EU's ties with the region in bilateral and multilateral formats, and selected issues of EU's Mediterranean strategy:

political dialogue, democracy building and migration. The collection of the presentations will be published in the CLEER Working Papers series.



Experiences from the Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU in the field of external relations

On 19 April 2012, the T.M.C. Asser Instituut hosted an event co-organised by CLEER and the Embassy of Poland in the Hague to discuss the experiences of the Polish government in the conduct of their Presidency given to external relations and

actions of the EU. The presentation was given by Mr. Jarosław Bratkiewicz, Political Director at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (see picture above). Dr. Aaron Matta (PhD EUI) acted as respondent and offered an overview of the Polish Presidency's legal challenges in its

six-month term. Overall, the Presidency was evaluated positively in the realm of EU external relations.



Ambasada Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej w Hadze

CLEER Fellow lecture

Luca Pantaleo, PhD candidate at the University of Macerata and Assistant Lecturer at the University of Rome 'LUISS Guido Carli' was a CLEER fellow

from January until April 2012. His presentation on 13 March marked the start of the CLEER Fellow Lecture series and addressed issues pertaining to

international agreements of EU Member States not binding the Union, in particular the case of the UN Charter.

CLEER in Rotterdam and Ghent

In February the Erasmus School of Law and Rotterdam Institute for Shipping and Transport Law (RISTL) in cooperation with CLEER and other partners organized a two-day conference on existing tension between uniform EU law and

conventions of uniform private law to which EU member states are party.

On 19 June Ghent University, Faculty of Law, held a workshop in cooperation with CLEER on the legal approximation and application of EU law in the

Eastern Neighbourhood of the EU. The speakers included academics from both leading Eastern and Western European universities, including members of CLEER's Governing Board.



CLEER project awarded Jean Monnet grant by the European Commission

In July 2012 CLEER was awarded a grant under the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme to organize two workshops under the project title: *'Commercial power Europe - advancing societal and environmental goals through trade relations'*.

The first workshop on *'Linking trade and non-commercial interests: the EU as a global role model?'* will take place on 9 November 2012. The second workshop on *'Promoting EU environmental standards in third countries'* will be organized in the Spring of 2013.

Please visit the CLEER website for more information on both events.

CLEER's Governing Board hopes to welcome many members of the CLEER Community at both events.

New member of CLEER Advisory Board

In July 2012 Prof Eleftheria Neframi joined CLEER's Advisory Board. Prof Neframi is Professor of European Law at the University of Luxemburg. She has published extensively on EU External Relations law, and her book on Mixity is a reference to many in the field.

Upcoming events: 'Linking trade and non-commercial interests: the EU as a global role model?' workshop on 9 November 2012

The workshop will bring together leading academics, policy-makers and stakeholders to discuss the modalities of the EU employing trade instruments so as to promote the respect for human rights, internationally recognized labour standards and economic development. Particular attention will be given to emerging issues such as the quest for consistency in the conduct of EU external policy and institutional coordination within the EU and with international organisations, as well as the ongoing drafting of the EU investment policy and the review of unilateral trade preferences.

Organizers: CLEER and T.M.C. Asser Instituut, in cooperation with Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (Centre for European Legal Studies)

New CLEER Publications

CLEER Working Papers 2012/1: 'Setting up the European External Action Service: An institutional act of balance' by Leendert Erkelens & Steven Blockmans

CLEER Working Papers 2012/2: 'The European External Action Service on year on: First signs of strength and weaknesses' by Steven Blockmans

CLEER Working Papers 2012/3: 'Rule of law as a guiding principle of the European Union's external action' by Laurent Pech

CLEER Working Papers 2012/4: 'Participation of the European Union in the work of the United Nations: General Assembly Resolution 65/276' by Pedro Serrano de Haro

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. 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.

