



CLEER NEWSLETTER

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 EU Funded Project

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CLEER's website is used as a platform for the publication of the CLEER Working Papers and as a registration tool to build a network of experts from academia and practice across and beyond Europe. Once registered, CLEER members will receive this quarterly electronic newsletter.

About CLEER

The Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER) is the first authoritative research interface between academia and practice in the field of the Union's external relations. Hosted by the TMC Asser Instituut, CLEER serves as a forum for debate on the role of the EU in the world, but its most distinguishing feature lies in its in-house research capacity, complemented by a growing network of partner institutes throughout the Netherlands and Europe. CLEER's ambition is to stimulate excellence in research, reflection and teaching in EU external relations studies in higher education institutions in and outside the Union and to promote innovative solutions to practical challenges to the external dimension of the EU's legal order, especially with the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty.

CLEER's research programme centres on the analysis of (i) the reception of international law in the EU's legal order, (ii) the projection of EU law on the international plane and (iii) issues of coherence and consistency in EU external policy-making and implementation.

Funding

CLEER's funding is obtained from a variety of sources, including the TMC Asser Instituut, foundation grants, conferences fees and publication sales.

The European Commission (DG Education and Culture), under its Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning programme, has awarded a grant to CLEER for the organization of expert seminars and conferences (see Upcoming events).

Launch of CLEER

On Friday 2 October 2009, CLEER was officially launched with a colloquium held at the premises of the TMC Asser Instituut. The topic of the conference, **'The EU in the world: external relations law for the 21st century'**, fell squarely within CLEER's research programme. A heterogeneous audience of 80 experts from practice (incl. EP, ECJ, Member States' institutions) and academia (from Amsterdam to Zagreb Universities) listened how Mr. Jean-Claude Piris (DG Legal Service, Council) and Prof. Bernd Martenczuk (Legal Service, Commission), and their respondents Prof. Deirdre Curtin (UvA) and Dr. Andrea Ott, evaluated the most important institutional changes to be introduced by the Lisbon Treaty in the field of external relations. A lively discussion ensued on the (political and legal) accountability of the Union's external actions. In the afternoon, Dr. Adam Łazowski (University of Westminster) and Dr. Geert de Baere (Leuven University) turned the debate to legal mechanisms ensuring the unity in (external) diversity of the EU. Prof. Ramses Wessel and Prof. Pieter Jan Kuijper (UvA) wrapped up with the changing relationship between the EU and the international legal orders. Pending the positive outcome of the crucial Irish referendum on the Lisbon Treaty, the mood among the conference participants was optimistic.

Friends of CLEER

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- Prof. Marise Cremona
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CLEER Working Papers

- CLEER Working Papers 2009/1: 'The European Union and crisis management: Will the Lisbon Treaty make the EU more effective?' by Steven Blockmans & Ramses A. Wessel
- CLEER Working Papers 2009/2: 'Mixity and coherence in EU external relations: The significance of the duty of cooperation' by Christophe Hillion
- CLEER Working Papers 2009/3: 'The European Union and peacebuilding: concepts, players and instruments' by Simon Duke & Aurélie Courtier (forthcoming)
- CLEER Working Papers 2009/4: 'Interaction between EU law and international law in the light of *Intertanko* and *Kadi*: the dilemma of norms binding the Member States but not the Community' by Jan Willem van Rossem (forthcoming)

CLEER Working Papers No. 2009/2 was referred to in A-G Poaires Maduro's Opinion in Case C-246/07, *Commission v. Sweden*, rendered on 1 October 2009 (note 15)

The board of CLEER, in its capacity as editorial board of the CLEER Working Papers series, welcomes the submission of papers for on-line publication (max. 20,000 words, incl. footnotes)

Ph.D research

- Dr. Karolien Pieters (TMC Asser Institute) has successfully defended her Ph.D entitled 'The Integration of the Mediterranean Countries into the EU Internal Market' at the University of Twente on 1 October 2009. Prof. R. Wessel supervised the research
- Claudio Matera (TMC Asser Institute) has submitted an application with the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) for funding of his Ph.D research entitled 'The European Union as an international actor in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice. A legal constitutional analysis'. Research supervisors are Prof. R. Wessel and Dr. S. Blockmans

Upcoming events

- 4-5 February 2010: closed expert workshop (The Hague)
- 28 May 2010: international conference (Brussels)

Inter-institutional research cooperation

In October, CLEER joined ranks with the Universities of Bristol, Leuven and Lund in a consortium led by the University of Ghent to obtain a grant from the Flemish Organization for Scientific Research (FWO).

CLEER reaches out to other academic institutions to cooperate in national and European tenders for research funding and welcomes any initiatives in this respect.