As a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, the IES aims to provide research, education and academic services that are focused on the European Union in an international setting and recognised for their quality, multidisciplinarity and policy relevance.

CONTENTS

Introduction
- A message from the president
Executive Summary
Research Portfolio
- Research
- Strategic Goals
- List of our Own Funded Projects
- List of Externally Funded Projects
- Environment and Sustainable Development
- Migration, Diversity and Justice
- European Foreign and Security Policy
- European Economic Governance
- Educational Development Unit
Teaching Portfolio
- Education
- Strategic Goals
- LL.M. International and European Law
- MSc. European Integration
- Postgraduate Certificate in EU Policy Making
- Summer School European Policy Making
- Brussels Programme on European Foreign Policy
- Brussels Study Abroad

Programme
- PhDs
- Publications
- Policy Briefs
IES in the Media
- Media Appearances in 2016
Academic Services
- IES Public Events in 2016
- IES Research Colloquia 2016
- IES Webinars & External Conferences
Management
- Structure and Management
Gender and Diversity
Outreach
Academic Collaboration
- Collaboration based on MOU
- Collaboration based on long-standing relationship
- Project-based collaboration
Personnel
- Personnel Management
Quality Assurance
Financial Report
Annex: List of publications
Europe is facing enormous challenges. On the eve of its 60th anniversary, the EU’s structures are being thoroughly tested, both from within and from outside. Fear, combined with a renewed nationalism is shaping politics in the nation states, causing cracks in the cement of European unity and solidarity. The first official intention to leave the European Union, Brexit, is but a symptom of problems underlying our contemporary society – symptoms which history has taught us are indicators of very dangerous situations.

It is in this context that the role of education cannot be overestimated. Instructing people – especially the younger generation – and giving them the tools to critically analyse the world in which we live, is a vital medicine against growing populism and ‘alternative truths’ that risk to become mainstream.

This is why the Institute for European Studies is increasingly relevant – not only to the academic environment in which it operates, but also at the policy level and to the public at large. With the Institute, we indicated the risks of Brexit and calculated its impact on various levels of policy. We scrutinized transatlantic relations after the US elections, evaluated European migration policy in the light of the Syrian refugee crisis, and played a leading role in the policy shaping and policy analysis of climate change – to name but a few of the important research initiatives that were taken in 2016.

From the 60+ conferences and colloquia that we organised in 2016, the EU in International Affairs Conference is by far the most renowned. This Jean Monnet-funded IES initiative successfully ran for the fifth time and again attracted over 300 scholars from five continents – testimony to the Institute’s international recognition.

I am therefore very proud of the outcome of the efforts of our staff last year. Their policy output and teaching efforts, based on thorough academic research, have strengthened the Institute’s leading position in Brussels and Flanders – proof of which is given by the national and international recognition that was bestowed on us in obtaining the prestigious Korea Chair, several EU grants including a Jean Monnet Chair and an Horizon 2020 project and a total of 31 externally funded projects by various governments and NGOs. The IES was also instrumental in preparing, defending and obtaining the government initiated bid to incorporate the United Nations University in Bruges (UNU-CRIS) in the VUB-Ugent Alliance.

It is therefore with great enthusiasm that we look towards the future. On the basis of past achievements, and strengthened by the support of the Flemish government, we anticipate further growth that will allow us to provide even more and better policy relevant output for Flanders and for the world. In these darker times, our research can make a difference, or to put it in the slogan of our university: scientia vincere tenebras.
2016 was an exceptionally good year for the Institute. Not only did our new Academic Director take office, ensuring guidance and continuity of the Institute’s academic legacy, the IES also excelled in acquiring externally funded projects. IES Staff members engaged in no less than 44 research projects, including several prestigious European FP7 and H2020 projects. For the first time in its history the Institute also took on the role as coordinator of a European research project, involving several partners in different countries. It therefore accommodated one of the appeals of the most recent government audit committee, who already predicted that the IES was ready to take up this role. Two other major projects came to fruition by the end of 2016: the close collaboration with the United Nations University (UNU-CRIS) and the obtaining of the first Korea Chair in Europe. The Institute was also successful in organising the 5th edition of the EU in International Affairs conference. This international conference has become a biennial milestone for researchers worldwide who devote their scholarly work to European issues. With more than 300 paper presenters, and with a large policy and stakeholder interest, this conference was a major success. Needless to say that all these initiatives and projects resulted in a lot of output (64 high level publications, 21 policy briefs, more than 75 media appearances).

In the field of education, the IES was able to provide a total of 47 diplomas to its Advanced Master students. Having had to face a sharp decline in its student population in 2015 due to increased competition but also due to technical problems with the registration system, student numbers were insufficient to obtain the average of 50 as required in the Government Agreement. The Institute took the necessary precautions and measurements at the end of 2015 and during 2016 to attract more students. Amongst other things, it changed the curriculum of the programme, invested in publicity and changed its admission procedures. It also took back the registration of students from the university at large in order to ensure a swift and personalised follow-up. Through these measures, and despite the terrorist attacks of November 2015 in Paris and March 2016 in Brussels (that had a major impact on attracting foreign students), the Institute was able to slightly increase student numbers, so that the average of 50 diplomas as requested in the Government Agreement is more likely to be obtained next year.

Anthony Antoine, Executive Director
Through the respective faculties the IES also awarded three PhDs: Lisanne Groen successfully defended her PhD in Political Science on the impact the EU has had in multilateral climate and biodiversity negotiations. Esther Marijnen also obtained a PhD in Political Science with her thesis on multi-scalar politics of conservation and conflict in the Virunga National Park, DR Congo. Irene Wieczorek was awarded a PhD in Law for her work on legitimacy of EU criminal law (What Role for Normative and Instrumental Justifications?). The three left the IES by the end of 2016 to take up professorship functions at the United Nations University in Tokyo, the University of Sheffield and the University of Cambridge respectively.

In the research field, the Institute boomed with 9 self-funded, 4 VUB funded and 31 externally funded projects. Next to the already-existing FP7 projects in which the IES was already involved over the past years (SOURCE, BIOFUELS), the Institute obtained a large H2020 project on Science and Cultural Diplomacy (EL CSID), an INNOVIRIS project on the European integration of smart (electricity) meters and a Jean Monnet Chair. Next to numerous smaller projects for NGOs, governments and agencies it is also involved in another H2020 project on Climate Change that is to start at the beginning of 2017. In addition, it also got involved in the embedding of the United Nations University following a call launched by the Flemish Government in 2015. The IES took the lead to write a project for the VUB/Ugent Alliance and to spearhead the research agenda for UNU-CRIS. By the end of 2016, the Government signed the MOU between UNU, VUB and UGent so that UNU-CRIS will henceforth be supported by and embedded in the alliance.

As mentioned, the IES was similarly successful in obtaining the Korea Chair, a prestigious project funded by the Korea Foundation, based in Seoul. It will look into EU-Korea issues, most notably in the security and diplomatic field and is the first of its kind in Europe. Three other Korea Chair centres exist in the US (i.e. at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies CSIS, the Brookings Institution and Bloomington, Indiana University).

Next to the EUIA conference, the Institute also organised a number of other activities: two topical conferences, a mini lecture series, several policy forums and biweekly research colloquia resulted in a total of 39 successful activities that were open to scholars and to the public at large.

In 2016, the Institute employed 87 people (45 men and 42 women), amounting to a total of 38.5 full time equivalents. With an additional 34 people associated with the IES (26 associate researchers, six visiting fellows and two resident advisors), the number of people directly linked to the IES in 2016 amounts to 121.

Financially, the Institute is doing well. With a turnover of approximately EUR 3,850,000, it generated a surplus of approx. EUR 70,000 in 2016. This is largely due to the successful attaining of internally funded projects, but also due to various teaching initiatives and the outsourcing of staff and premises.
Our aim in 2016 has been, as always, to continue our relentless work on becoming the leading hub for European Studies research in Brussels. IES research focuses on Europe in an international context, exploring geopolitical and European actors, states and EU institutions, policies and law within the context of globalisation and international law and politics. All senior faculty members have been engaged in world-leading peer reviewed scholarship of the highest academic rigour. This includes notably (1) outstanding peer-reviewed scholarship; (2) significant research funding generation; (3) very notable supervision of a significant number of PhD students; and (4) external recognition and awards (see the list of our achievements in this report). Our team in 2016 has been particularly successful in all four dimensions of excellence! Through study clusters with ample critical mass, the IES produces avant garde policy-oriented research that is recognised internationally, notably within:

1. Migration, Diversity and Justice
2. Environment and Sustainable Development
3. International Security
4. European Economic Governance
5. Educational Development

However, 2016 has been a special year for Europe (and the Western World more generally). As European Studies scholars of repute we have aimed at explaining the progress of EU integration by focusing primarily on key (internal) EU factors, such as supranational actors, national leaders, national interests, and institutional structures. This focus is called increasingly into question by the EU crisis, including: the Euro crisis (and the ensuing debt crisis); the 2015/16 refugee and migration crisis in the European Union, and the Brexit crisis following the decision by the UK in June 2016 to leave the EU. These crises have led to a sense of profound crisis of meaning, direction and orientation within the EU. As a result, we also need to question our own analytical prowess and tools. Notably, the current situation in our view calls for a more systematic consideration of the EU’s external environment, as well as political rationality as opposed to ‘rational utility maximisation’.

We welcome 2017 to sharpen our analytical tools and achieve an even greater understanding of European integration in its many forms, positive as well as negative!
The IES Strategic Plan 2016-2020 describes the following research objectives:

• Successful completion of at least 15 PhDs projects (i.e. an average of three per year) and launching of at least 25 PhD projects (of which ten funded on own resources)

In 2016, the IES initiated several new PhD projects (of which two are funded on own resources), and was able to deliver three doctoral diplomas.

• Strengthening IES involvement in national and international research networks

The IES continued to build on its existing networks through the organisation of joint events (Summer School, EUIA conference, ...) and was involved in numerous EU projects. See the Academic Collaboration section for an overview of the IES’s global reach in terms of collaboration based on MoUs, on long-standing relationships, and on project consortia.

• Consolidation and strengthening of academic focus areas with thorough review of existing cluster structure

Already in 2012, the IES restructured into four clusters and one Educational Development Unit. It continued to strengthen these clusters throughout 2016 (e.g. by appointing at least one postdoctoral researcher per cluster, while adding PhD researchers in other clusters on a rotational basis).

• Implementation and further development of Guidelines for IES Academic Staff (including guidelines for PhD projects, cluster arrangements at the IES, benchmarking approach for postdoctoral staff)

The guidelines were finalised in 2012. Benchmark talks with research staff are done on an annual basis.

• Consolidation/ increase of external project funding (for research projects and scientific services)

The Institute was able to attract over 1.1 million EUR external funding, an increase of 5% over last year.

• Fostering cross-cluster collaboration and integration (e.g. by prioritisation of cross-cluster projects)

The Institute fostered cross-cluster publishing and has several of its researchers involved in cross-cluster projects. Prominent examples are is the Policy Brief series on Brexit that the IES produced, and the PARENT project.

• Enhance PhD guidance through the creation of the position of a Director of PhD studies

The Institute created this new post and appointed Prof. Dr. Sebastian Oberthür as the first post holder.

• Publication of 40-50 articles in recognised international journals or their equivalent in major book publications per year, on average (with the share of peer-review level publications reaching at least 50%); Publication of 1-2 books per year (on average); Publication of up to 15 Policy Briefs per year (on average).

The Institute’s members published six books and 21 Policy Briefs in 2016. They authored 13 book chapters, 32 peer-reviewed articles, two articles in scientific journals without international peer review, nine other publications aimed at the scientific community, 33 papers presented at conferences, 12 commissioned research and policy work and 19 newspaper op-eds and online commentary.

Next to the individual research projects of our senior academic staff described in the cluster reports (see infra), the IES funds several PhD projects on its own resources. Stemming from the obligations in the government agreement, the Institute launches a minimum of two calls for projects every year. In 2016, the Institute funded the following projects:

• EUROPE’S DEFENCE INDUSTRY AND THE POLITICS OF EUROPEAN DEFENCE-INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION
  Daniel Fort, October 2014 with planned defence for May 2017

• THE LEGITIMACY OF GLOBAL CLIMATE/ENERGY PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS IN DELIVERING SD OUTCOMES
  Laura Iozelli, October 2015 - September 2019

• UNDERSTANDING CHANGE AND CONTINUITY IN THE EU’S PERFORMANCE AS AN INTERNATIONAL ACTOR
  Stephan Klose, October 2014 - September 2018

• THE LEGAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EU COMPETITION LAW, DATA PROTECTION LAW AND PRIVACY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE EU DIGITAL MARKET
  Klaudia Majcher, October 2014 - September 2018

• ‘EXPLAINING THE RESPONSE OF THE EU AND OF NATO TO THE UKRAINE CRISIS’
  Eli Perot, October 2016-September 2020

• ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION OF MARINE RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE EU’S MARITIME SPACES
  Carlos Soria Rodriguez, October 2013 - September 2017

• THE EUROPEAN UNION AT THE INTERSECTION OF STATE AID RULES AND TAX REGIMES FOR MULTINATIONALS
  Fausta Todhe, October 2016-September 2020
LIST OF OUR OWN FUNDED PROJECTS

• GOVERNING DIVERSITY IN EUROPE: COLOUR-BLIND VS. COLOUR-CONSCIOUS POLICYMAKING IN BELGIUM, GERMANY AND THE NETHERLANDS
  Laura Westerveen, October 2015 - September 2019

• BEYOND REBELS AND GORILLAS: THE MULTI-SCALAR POLITICS OF CONSERVATION AND CONFLICT IN THE VIRUNGA NATIONAL PARK, DR CONGO
  Esther Mühlemann, October 2013 - September 2017

Next to these own funded projects, the IES also hosted and contributed to projects from other faculties:

• A POLICY TO COMMIT ATROCITY. UNDERSTANDING THE ‘POLICY ELEMENT’ FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFINING CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY
  Matthias Holvoet, September 2012 - June 2017

• THE LEGITIMACY OF EU CRIMINAL LAW: WHAT ROLE FOR NORMATIVE AND INSTRUMENTAL JUSTIFICATIONS?
  Irene Wieczorek, October 2012 - November 2016

• BELONGING TO THE WEST: GEOPOLITICAL DISCOURSE AND FOREIGN POLICY IN MODERN GREECE, FROM THE GREEK ENLIGHTENMENT TO THE EURO-CRISIS
  Antonios Nestoras, April 2014 - November 2017

• MUTUAL TRUST AS A CORE PRINCIPLE OF EU CRIMINAL LAW. CONCEPTUALISING THE PRINCIPLE WITH A VIEW TO FACILITATE MUTUAL RECOGNITION IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE MATTERS
  Auke Willems, January 2013 – April 2017

LIST OF EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

RESEARCH NETWORK ON REGIME COMPLEXES AND FRAGMENTATION (REFRACT)
January 2015 - December 2019

The ‘Research network on Fragmentation and Complexity in Global Governance’ is a five-year project sponsored by the Research Foundation - Flanders (FWO). The aim of the research network is to foster international scientific exchanges and dialogues and to sustain and expand inter-disciplinary research into regime complexes and institutional fragmentation.

DE STAAT, DE FIRMA EN EUROPA: DE GORDIAANSE KNOOP VAN DE EUROPESE INDUSTRIËLE EN TECHNOLOGISCHE BASIS VOOR DEFENSIE? (FWO)
January 2014 - December 2016

With the support of the Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (FWO), doctoral researcher Daniel Fiott continued his work on the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base. Daniel was awarded a prestigious FWO PhD fellowship in 2014 for his innovative research.

DE VERANDERENDE PRESTATIE VAN DE EU IN HET INTERNATIONALE MILIEU- EN KLIMAATBELEID (FWO2)
2012-2016 ext.

‘Understanding the Changing Performance of the European Union in International Environmental and Climate Governance’ is a 4-year research project funded by the Research Foundation-Flanders and conducted by PhD Researcher Lisanne Groen.

EUROPEAN LEADERSHIP IN CULTURAL, SCIENCE, AND INNOVATION DIPLOMACY (EL-CSID)
March 2016 - February 2019

The ‘European Leadership in Cultural, Science and Innovation Diplomacy’ project (EL-CSID) has the ambition to articulate the relevance of cultural, science and innovation diplomacy for EU external relations as part of a systematic and strategic approach. The project aims to identify how the Union and its member states can collectively and individually develop...
a successful institutional and strategic policy environment for extra-regional science, cultural and innovation diplomacy.

PARTICIPATORY PLATFORM FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY MANAGEMENT (PARENT)
March 2016 - February 2019

The Participatory platform for sustainable energy management (PARENT) project aims to increase engagement of individuals in the responsible management of their own electricity usage. PARENT is executed in constant and close dialogue with stakeholders and develops an innovative and marketable platform for participatory energy management, fuelled by novel analytics, visualisation and gamification techniques. The project intends to understand how we can stimulate behavioural change in the area of energy consumption in households and to offer guidelines for reducing household energy consumption at multiple levels in Europe.

VIRTUAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR RESEARCH SUPPORT AND COORDINATION ON SOCIETAL SECURITY (SOURCE)
January 2014 - December 2018

The aim of the Virtual Centre of Excellence for Research Support and Coordination on Societal Security (SOURCE) is to create a robust and sustainable virtual centre of excellence capable of exploring and advancing societal issues in security research and development. The SOURCE project is executed in constant and close dialogue with stakeholders and develops an innovative and marketable platform for participatory energy management, fuelled by novel analytics, visualisation and gamification techniques. The project intends to understand how we can stimulate behavioural change in the area of energy consumption in households and to offer guidelines for reducing household energy consumption at multiple levels in Europe.

COP21: RESULTS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR PATHWAYS AND POLICIES FOR LOW EMISSIONS EUROPEAN SOCIETIES (COP21 - RIPPLES)
December 2016 - November 2019

This project provides interdisciplinary analysis of the conditions of EU climate policy in the new strategic context of the Paris climate change agreement concluded in 2015. The IES shares coordination of the project's Work Package 4 that assesses the adequacy of the Paris outcomes for effective international climate governance and the EU's role therein. COP21-RIPPLES has four objectives: 1) Assess the adequacy of national climate action plans submitted under the Paris Agreement, 2) Assess the implications of national climate action plans and their strengthening on other European socio-economic objectives, 3) Assess the adequacy of the outcomes of Paris, and the implications and opportunities emerging from ongoing UN climate negotiations, and 4) Provide recommendations for EU climate policy and climate diplomacy.

PRODUCTION OF FULLY SYNTHETIC PARAFFINIC JET FUEL FROM WOOD AND OTHER BIOMASS (BSFJ)
January 2015 - December 2019

The BFSJ project aims at advancing technical and legal research in order to enable extensive use of biofuels in the aviation sector. Bio-jet fuel currently constitutes the most viable solution for drastically reducing GHG emissions from the aviation sector in the medium to long term, as it constitutes a drop-in replacement to fossil-based kerosene and does not require any major infrastructural modifications to current jet engines or fuel supply to airport systems.

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INNOVATING TEACHING AND LEARNING OF EUROPEAN STUDIES (TEMPUS INOTLES)
January 2014 - December 2016

The INOTLES project contributes to curricular reform and modernisation of higher education in Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, by implementing innovative pedagogies in European Studies courses at MA level. Building on a systematic review of pedagogies in European Studies, INOTLES will bring together Eastern partners with EU university centres of excellence in assorted approaches (including e-learning, problem-based learning, and simulations) to create flexible resources for use in the full range of European Studies provision.

PROJECT FOR ADVANCING CLIMATE TRANSPARENCY (PACT)
October 2016 - December 2018

The objective of this project is to support the implementation of the transparency and accountability regime under the Paris Agreement, through a) the elaboration of details for a regime that is robust, effective and applicable to all Parties; and b) the enhancement of capacity within those developing countries that need it. Through the project, the consortium facilitates the development of options and approaches, delivers relevant and timely inputs to the UNFCCC negotiations, and provides space to build consensus among the Parties.

BLENDED LEARNING AND SEMINAL DEBATES AT THE IES (ONLINE MOD- ULES, AUTUMN LECTURE SERIES, POSTGRADUATE SUMMER SCHOOL)
Jean Monnet Chair: Embracing Excellence, September 2013 - August 2016

The IES has since 2004 operated as a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence that focuses on the role of the European Union in international affairs. In terms of contributing to research, the Institute advances academic education, cutting-edge, policy-driven research drawn from a variety of political, economic, legal, social, and cultural dimensions.

RECONCILE - RETHINKING THE EUROPEAN ECONOMY, ECOLOGY, AND THEIR INTERACTIONS
Jean Monnet Chair: Rethinking the European Economy, September 2016 - August 2018

The REConcile Jean Monnet Chair contributes to EU Studies in two intertwined policy areas that remain fundamental to the success of the Union: the internal market and the environment. The reconciliation of Economic and Ecological values is of vital importance.

The IES will bring together Eastern partners with EU university centres of excellence in assorted approaches (including e-learning, problem-based learning, and simulations) to create flexible resources for use in the full range of European Studies provision.
given the strategic initiatives that have been re-launched in both fields by the Juncker Commission and the important interlinkages between these areas. The project involves an international cross-section of doctoral, post-graduate and graduate students, and aims at advancing cutting-edge blended learning formats, strong inter-disciplinarity, inter-generationality and policy relevance.

EUROPE EXPLAINED – INTER-UNIVERSITY SUMMER SCHOOL ON EU POLICY-MAKING Jean Monnet Module, September 2016 - August 2019
For more details, we refer to the Teaching Portfolio section.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE ONLINE PLATFORM FOR THE GLOBAL INTERNAL POLICY OBSERVATORY (GIPO)
January 2015 - January 2018
The Global Internet Policy Observatory (GIPO) monitors Internet-related policy, regulatory, and technological developments across the world. A dedicated GIPO tool gathers all relevant information to improve and share knowledge among all interested parties across the world.

DESIGNING THE 2015 GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE AGREEMENT (WRI ACT 2015)
August 2013 - March 2016
The Agreement on Climate Transformation 2015 (ACT 2015) consortium is a group of the world’s top climate experts from developing and developed countries that came together to catalyse discussion and build momentum toward reaching a global climate agreement at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) summit in 2015. To this end, the consortium developed three potential agreement propositions that were presented at a series of workshops around the world.

REVISING THE NATIONAL RENEWABLES POLICY MIX: THE ROLE OF STATE AID AND OTHER KEY EU POLICIES (REMIX)
May 2015 - July 2018
The REMIX project focuses on a select group of EU and European Economic Agreement (EEA) countries, asking: to what extent and how have national renewables policy portfolios been shaping the EU policy mix, and what are the main prospects ahead? By improving policy-mix foresight, the REMIX project helps Nordic energy actors make wise strategic decisions and profitable investment decisions.

FRAMEWORK CONTRACTS (ECF)
June 2016 - August 2016
October 2016 - December 2016
Extended in 2017
The IES continued its collaboration with the European Climate Foundation through several framework contracts in 2016. For the first follow-up contract, the IES supports the ECF in writing an ‘executable regulatory plan’ aiming at the decarbonisation of the cement sector as part of the development of an industrial carbon performance strategy. The second follow-up contract aims at designing EU and national public procurement rules and providing support on the assessment of techniques and technologies to produce concrete with low CO2/clinker content.

CONSULTANCY CONTRACTS (UCAM)
February 2016 - December 2016
In 2016, the IES extended its consultancy contracts with the Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership (CISL). For this particular project, the IES helped the Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership (CISL) to continue to build on the Green Growth Platform Advisory Council II discussions, namely by helping set up an energy intensive sector strategy, providing inputs on specific energy intensive-related issues, and supporting outreach activities vis-à-vis other energy intensive groups and stakeholders.

RECHTLICHE UND INSTITUTIONELLE ASPEKTE EINES ZUKÜNFTIGEN INTERNATIONALEN KLIMAREGIMES (FWC ECOLOGIC)
October 2015 - March 2019
This project aims at providing regular advice to the German Federal Ministry for the Environment on legal and institutional aspects of the Paris Agreement adopted in December 2015. The provision of advice is dependent on the international agenda.

OPTIONS FOR TACKLING KEY CHALLENGES IN THE 2030 EU FRAMEWORK FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES (AGORA)
November 2015 - June 2016
Expert advisor for a project by Agora Energiewende on the legal re-design of EU renewable energy legislation. This involves the publication of two papers and review of papers by other experts.

BLUEPRINT FOR POST 2020 EU CLIMATE/ENERGY POLICY (DIW)
October 2015 - February 2016
The main goal of this project was to publish a paper and policy briefs that outline a blue-print of post 2020 EU energy and climate law with the emphasis on streamlining, REFIT and effectiveness.

DECARBONISATION OF ENERGY INTENSIVE SECTORS IN EUROPE AND THE DESIGN OF THE EU ETS ‘INNOVATION FUND’ (CMW CONTRACT)
February 2016 - May 2016
The research aims to establish the options and opportunities for Europe’s energy intensive industries to decarbonise by 2050 through process, product and business model changes and innovations, while at the same time maintaining or enhancing (international) competitiveness. Specific attention is devoted to the design options of the forthcoming EU ETS innovation fund.
EU CRISIS AND EU CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICIES - BREXIT, REFUGEES, FINANCIAL CRISIS, POPULISM ON THE RISE (ECOLOGIC)
July 2016 - December 2016
This project aims to address the various crises the EU is faced with today, including the refugee crisis, the Euro crisis, the Brexit and – above all – the rise of EU-sceptical parties and nationalist sentiment across Europe. Specific objectives of this project are: 1) to understand better how the different concurrent crises affect the EU’s capacity for climate and energy leadership; 2) to bring together views from committed climate and energy experts from different Member States; 3) to strengthen the case for a strong EU, as a driver for ambitious climate and energy policies at a defining moment in international climate policy; and 4) to start developing ideas on how to address the crisis and its implications for climate and energy policy.

CAHIER DES CHARGES POUR LA RÉALISATION D’UNE ÉTUDE SUR LES COMMUNAUTÉS BELGO-CONGOLOISES, BELGO-BURUNDAISES ET BELGO-RWANDAISES (POMBE)
February 2016 - March 2017
POMBE is a follow-up project to the former research project on the integration of Turkish and Moroccan migrants in Belgium. IES advisory tasks consist in providing guidance on the qualitative analytical framework of the research, interview guide and final report. Partners in this endeavour are the Université Catholique de Louvain, Université de Liège and Université Libre de Bruxelles.

PLATFORM FOR BEST PRACTICES (EWOB)
January 2013 - December 2017
This project aims at developing a European Women on Boards Platform for Best Practices. It includes setting up and launching the platform as well as developing and maintaining it.

EU NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY (INSTITUTE FOR STATECRAFT)
March 2016 - February 2017
The EU Neighbourhood Policy project focuses on the relations between the EU and its eastern partners, i.e. countries of the former Soviet Union.

EVALUATING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE IN EUROPE (SRP EDGE)
January 2013 - December 2017
EDGE is a joint IES-Political Science department (VUB) strategic research programme. The main research themes of the programme cover political representation; political parties, elections and electoral behaviour; EU policy and decision-making; multi-level governance; and theoretical and normative reflections. The programme aims to analyse the major changes and challenges to democratic governance in Europe.

CUI BONO
January 2016 - December 2016
The aim of this project is to be able to provide a meta-analysis of interviews by VUB students with migrants that have followed mandatory integration courses in Antwerp. This analysis will be compared with the analysis, already conducted at ULB, which organised a similar student exercise through interviews at the Flemish integration office in Brussels.
The cluster analyses relevant developments in EU and international environmental, energy, and climate law and policy, compares domestic law and policy, and explores governance arrangements and institutions.

PERSONNEL

In 2016, Senior Research Fellows Sebastian Oberthür and Harri Kalimo, post-doctoral researcher Claire Dupont, project researchers Ólöf Söebech, Arianna Khatchadourian and Matilda Axelson, and eight pre-doctoral IES researchers contributed to the cluster. One of the latter successfully concluded her PhD: In October 2016, Lisanne Groen defended her PhD on ‘The Importance of Fitting Activities to Context: The EU in Multilateral Climate and Biodiversity Negotiations’. Thuy Van Tran submitted his PhD thesis on EU policies in marine environmental protection. Ernesto Roessing Neto continued to analyse the legal aspects of reducing deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. Max Salomon Jansson, who is also a part of the European Economic Governance cluster, analyses the reconciliation of economic and environmental values in law. Carlos Soria Rodríguez continued his project on the interface of EU and international (environmental) law in the use of renewable energy in European marine spaces. Filip Sedefov continued his work on renewable energy policies and international economic law. Project and doctoral researcher Tomas Wynja focuses on European and international climate and energy policy, including industrial and innovation policy. Laura lozzelli investigates the legitimacy and effectiveness of PPPs in international climate and energy governance.

Associates who contributed to the cluster in 2016 include: Dr. Katja Biedenkopf, Dr. Justyna Pożarowska, Dr. Armelle Gouritin, Dr. Lisanne Groen, Dr. Radostina Primova, Dr. Tony Zamparutti and Dr. Koen Van Den Bossche.

PUBLICATIONS

Books: 1
- Articles in scientific journal with international peer review: 7
- Book chapters: 2
- All other publications aimed at the scientific community: 5
- Papers presented at conferences: 5
- Commissioned research and policy work: 2

EVENTS

The IES hosted three lunchtime Environmental Policy Forums on topical issues of European environmental policies and law in 2016. It also organised two lecture evenings.

VISIBILITY

Cluster members made many public appearances as keynote speakers, panelists and conference participants and appeared in Flemish, national and international media. Keynote speeches were, among others, given in the European and Flemish Parliaments.

PROJECTS

- VUB Strategic Research Programme ‘Evaluating Democratic Governance in Europe’ (EDGE)
- Research project ‘Understanding the Changing Performance of the European Union in International Environmental and Climate Governance’ funded by the FWO (2012-2016)
- Research project ‘COP21: Results, Implications, Pathways and Policies for Low-Emissions European Societies’ (COP21–RIPPLES ) with funding by the European Commission (Horizon 2020).
- Research projects ‘Agreement for Climate Transformation 2015’ (ACT 2015) and ‘Project for Advancing Climate Transparency’ (PACT), both with funding from the European Commission.
- Research project ‘Revising the National Renewables Policy Mix: The role of state aid and other key EU policies (REMIX)’ coordinated by CICERO and funded by the European Commission.
- Research Network on Regime Complexes and Fragmentation (REFRACT) funded by the (FWO) and coordinated by UGent.
- Research on European energy governance funded by Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (DIW), Climate Strategies, and Agora Energiewende.
- The Cost Action 'Innovations in Climate Governance' (INOGOV)
- Research on industrial decarbonisation in the EU
- Research Project ‘Production of fully synthetic paraffinic jet fuel from wood and other biomass’ (Aviation Biofuels)’ with European Commission FP7 funding
- Research project ‘eCoherence’ with the University of Turku on the balancing of non-economic (i.e. environmental) values in EU economic law funded by the Academy of Finland.
The Migration, Diversity and Justice cluster focuses on migration, immigrant integration, justice and home affairs as well as diversity policies (from the local level to the EU and UN). We concentrate in particular on the following sub-themes:

- The contestation of the free movement regime in Europe.
- The politics of refugee protection and migration control
- Justice and equality policies in an increasingly diverse Europe

Several members of the cluster are dynamic members of RHEA, the VUB expert centre on Gender, Diversity and Intersectionality.

PERSONNEL

Prof. Dr. Ilke Adam, Prof. Dr. Christof Roos and Prof. Dr. Florian Trauner jointly lead the cluster. Richard Lewis who was the originator of the cluster, continues on a non-contractual basis to act as adviser and a contact point with the European institutions. The cluster included six doctoral candidates: Neepa Acharya, Mathias Holvoet, Irene Wieczorek, Auke Willems, Serena D’Agostino and Laura Westerveen as well as associate researchers. Prof. Dr. Alison Woodward (emeritus at the VUB political science department, and IES senior associate researcher) is closely linked to the cluster in terms of PhD supervision and general advice. In 2016, the cluster also benefited greatly from the presence of three visiting researchers and four job students.

PUBLICATIONS

In 2016, one book, eight peer-reviewed articles, four book chapters, ten policy briefs and four other types of publications were published. Furthermore, several articles and book chapters were submitted or reviewed for publication. Special issue projects and a handbook are also in the making.

EVENTS

In 2016, the cluster organised three policy fora: One on the role of the EU’s home affairs agencies in the context of the EU’s ‘migration crisis’, on EU identity in crisis: what role for the EU, and an ‘author meets critics’ event on EU Enlargement and Gay Politics in Central and Eastern Europe. All three policy fora were organised as panel discussions with speakers from the European institutions, academia and civil society. The cluster also co-organised a very successful session on Migration and Diversity in the 2016 ‘European Union in International Affairs’ (EUIA) Conference.

TEACHING

For the second year, Prof. Dr. Ilke Adam and Prof. Dr. Christof Roos taught the course ‘Diversity Politics in the European Union’ in the IES’s MSc in European Integration (Euromaster). In the Spring of 2016 Professor Woodward offered the course ‘Civil Society Representation and Diversity in the European Union’ in the context of the Euromaster programme. Members of the cluster also taught in the IES’s LL.M programme, the IES’s Summer Schools and the IES’s Study Abroad programme, the Interdisciplinary Master on Gender and Diversity, and supervised master theses of several VUB programmes. The cluster’s senior academic personnel is member of several PhD committees beyond the VUB.

VISIBILITY

The cluster’s research themes ‘Migration and Diversity’ are more in the news than ever. Cluster members are invited to lecture, speak at policy events, advise policy makers and provide commentary for the media (See IES in the Media section for further details). The members of the cluster have been involved in conference presentations and/or guest lectures in many international and national venues.

PROJECTS

- EU FP 7 Project SOURCE on the creation of a virtual centre of excellence for societal security.
- SRP EDGE - Evaluating Democratic Governance in Europe.
- In 2016, the cluster was part of a successful application for Connect-Innoviris funding and became a beneficiary and the Work Package Leader of the EU H2020-project ‘MINDb4ACT’ on radicalisation.
- It was also awarded a new project by the King Boudewijn Foundation on the Integration, Citizenship and Belonging of Post-Colonial Migrants in Belgium (with the Universities of Liège and Louvain-la-Neuve).

(see Externally Funded Projects section for more information on these projects)
This cluster operates on the crossroads of geopolitical analysis, strategic studies and European Studies. In keeping with an increasingly turbulent international landscape, cluster researchers analyse the on-going re-ordering of the European political architecture and how it relates to the wider world. In doing so, they pay particular attention to geopolitical competition between Russia and the West, instability in the broader Middle East, the rise of Asia and its implications for Europe and the transatlantic relationship, the changing face of international diplomacy and the exigencies of modern warfare.

PERSONNEL

In 2016 the EFSP team consisted of two assistant professors (Alexander Mattelaer and Luis Simon), one senior researcher (Luk Van Langenhove), and five doctoral researchers (Daniel Fiott, Stephan Klose, Esther Marijnen, Antonios Nestoras, and Elie Letts) as well as War on the Rocks, deredactie.be and the EU Institute of International relations. After defending her PhD at the IES in December, Esther Marijnen joined the University of Sheffield as a Max Batley Postdoctoral Fellow. In addition, several cluster members are regular speakers at the European Security and Defence College, the NATO Defense College and various national defence colleges. Within the context of its teaching programmes the cluster welcomed several high-level speakers.

EVENTS

EFSP staff were involved in the organisation of numerous events in 2016, both internal and external. Highlights include the fifth edition of the EU in International Affairs conference, of which Luis Simon was the conference chair; the organisation of a high-level conference on the NATO summit agenda on 22 November, and the PhD defence of Esther Marijnen (Beyond Rebels and Gorillas: The Multi-Scalar Politics of Conservation and Conflict in the Virunga National Park, DR Congo) on 16 December 2016.

PROJECTS

The EFSP cluster provided the platform for several research projects. Most notably, senior researcher Luk Van Langenhove and associates Richard Higgott, Joachim Koons, Caterina Carta all contributed work to the H2020 EL CID project. The cluster also participated in a collaborative project on the contemporary use of disinformation in international relations, which resulted in the publication of ten IES Policy Briefs throughout 2016. See the Externally Funded Projects section for more information on these projects.
The EEG cluster works on economic law and policy and democratic governance along four intertwined lines of research: 1) The Digital Economy, 2) The Greening Economy, 3) Governance of the Internet; Governance on the Internet, 4) Governance of European Economies and Markets.

PERSONNEL

In 2016 the cluster consisted of ten researchers, five associates and a visiting researcher. Harri Kalimo, Marie Lamensch, Trisha Meyer and Jamal Shahin are senior/post-doctoral scholars. Max Salomon Jansson is approaching the final parts of his PhD work on value balancing tests in international trade and public procurement law. Ferran Davesa continued his exploration of the impact of Internet-based participation activities on EU governance (EDGE). Daniel Acquah is finalising a joint PhD with Turku University on EU’s IPR policy in developing country trade agreements (eCoherence). Ólöf Söebech continued her research on SOURCE, Aviation Biofuels, and PARENT. Klaudia Majcher started the third year of her PhD project on the interrelationships between EU competition and data protection law. Filip Sedefov moved to the second year of his PhD on international economic law and renewable energy policies (Aviation Biofuels). Fausta Todhe began her PhD studies on the intersection between fiscal law and state aid. Martin Ottane shared the cluster as a visiting researcher on competition law. EEG (Senior) Associates included David Anderson (BLP LLP), Dr. Julia Glidden (IBM), Dr. Karim Hamza (Co-Founder Advisor), Dr. Assimakis Komninos (White & Case LLP) and IES PhD and VUB professor Ben Van Rompuy. The cluster had a diligent intern: Catalina Capatina from the VUB New Media in Society MA programme.

PUBLICATIONS

Books: 1
Articles in scientific journal with international peer review: 7
Book chapters: 6
All other publications aimed at the scientific community: 4
Papers presented at conferences: 3

EVENTS

The EEG cluster (co-)organised a variety of ad hoc events in 2016, including high-level events with Commissioner Bieńkowska on EU Single Market reform; with the European Commission on the future of the EMU; and with e.g. Yale and Cambridge on the Circular Economy. The cluster also set up two full-day symposia under the eCoherence project on value reconciliation, GIPO ran an international workshop on multistakeholderism in Internet governance. The cluster organised policy forums on copyright, competition law and regulation, circular economy and aviation biofuels.

TEACHING

The EEG cluster teaches actively at the IES and beyond. Marie Lamensch was the Professor for International and European Taxation in the IES’s LLM programme and taught at the KU Leuven (Principles of Taxation) and at the UCL (Advanced VAT). She is also regular lecturer in the International Tax Academy of IBFD. Trisha Meyer taught as Assistant Professor at Vassar College (Mass Communication Theories and European Communication Policies) and continued to coordinate the IES’s Brussels Study Abroad programme. Harri Kalimo continued as the Director of the LLM and EuroMaster Programmes, and professor in EuroMaster (EU and the Stakeholders of the Economy) and LLM ‘Public International Law’ (assisted by Filip Sedefov). He also teaches EU law in Tampere University as an Adjunct Professor. Jamal Shahin taught as Assistant Professor in European Studies (tenured, part-time) at University of Amsterdam, and was involved in the IES’s Summer School alongside Trisha. Marie, Jamal and Harri were opponents, chairman and/or members in PhD committees/juries in Belgium and abroad. Together they supervise 12 PhD theses in the cluster (8), IES (1) and beyond (3). One of Jamal’s supervisees (Reneta Shipkova) graduated in June 2016.

VISIBILITY

Cluster members made public appearances as keynote speakers, invited moderators, panelists and conference participants and appeared in international media. EEG members also acted as opponents in academic defences. Marie became a member of the VAT Expert Group (European Commission) and of the World Customs Organisation Working Group on e-commerce. Jamal was appointed Auditor for the European International Studies Association for 2015 and 2016, alongside Jan Orbie from Ghent University.

PROJECTS

• Aviation Biofuels
• eCoherence
• rECOncile Jean Monnet Chair
• EUPEFORM
• GIPO
• JPI Urban Europe PARENT

(See Externally Funded Projects section for more information on these projects)
In 2016 the composition of the cluster saw significant changes. The departure of Laraine D’Antin in March and of Alexandra Mihai in September meant the reduction of the cluster to just one FTE: Silviu Piros. At the same time, Léonie Maes provided help on the Postgraduate Certificate and Summer School administration, and Dr. Irina van der Vet delivered one course in the Postgraduate Certificate (European Union Institutions).

TEACHING

Postgraduate Certificate in EU Policy Making (25 ECTS) & Summer School on EU Policy Making (5 ECTS). (See the Teaching Portfolio section)

INOTLES Inter-university Course (9 ECTS)

The IES-led blended learning course in EU Policy Making kicked-off online in the autumn of 2015 and included 50 students and their professors from six countries and nine different universities across the EU and Eastern Partnership countries. Following six months of intense virtual collaboration and the completion of three online courses, participants were tasked with collaborating on a project paper that was publicly defended in Brussels. As the feedback of this online exchange was tremendously positive, the cluster is exploring ways of continuing the course in 2017.

Canvas

In 2016 the EDU made an important shift in terms of e-learning infrastructure, as the cluster moved from the VUB-developed Chamilo platform to Instructure’s CANVAS online environment. This state of the art ecosystem allows the IES to take its digital learning endeavours to the next level and make significant gains in both student numbers and quality of output.

EVENTS / RESEARCH

EuroTLC 2016

The EDU organised between 9 – 10 June 2016 the 2nd European Conference on Teaching & Learning Politics, International Relations and European Studies – EuroTLC (www.eurotlc.eu) at the Institute for European Studies. This biennial conference was kindly supported by BISA, PSA, ECPR, CERIM and UACES and brought together academics interested in active learning from across Europe.

PhD research

Alexandra Mihai continued her research on the relation between technology and pedagogy in teaching political science, and Silviu Piros on the role and relevance of the European Union’s external initiatives in the field of higher education as instruments of foreign policy. They presented their research at the ECPR conference in Prague (Alexandra) and at the UACES conference in London (Silviu). Alexandra is expected to continue her research project with the IES.

PROJECTS


The activities of the IES’s Centre of Excellence included the development of the PGC programme, as well as delivering three Autumn Lecture Series between 2013 and 2016. The EDU was in charge of implementing some of its activities and the overall oversight of the project. The cluster is delighted to report a successful end of the project: the resulting Postgraduate Certificate in EU Policy Making will continue to be a permanent educational offer of the IES after the completion of the project.

‘rECOncile’ Jean Monnet Chair 2016 – 2019

The EDU joined forces with Prof. Harri Kaino in 2016 on a successful proposal to host a Jean Monnet Chair for the next three years. The project includes a series of inter-disciplinary blended learning formats, putting the EDU in charge of the online educational design and support.

Jean Monnet Module Inter-University Summer School 2016 – 2019

In 2016 the cluster was awarded a new Jean Monnet Module for the Inter-University Summer School (see Education section for more details).

INOTLES

‘Innovating Teaching and Learning of European Studies’ – INOTLES was a 2014 – 2016 TEM-PUS project aimed at bringing a solid contribution to curricular reform and modernisation of higher education in Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, by implementing innovative pedagogies in European Studies courses at MA level. In 2016 the EDU was leader in two key working packages.

• Brussels Colloquium

Between 16 and 18 March the EDU organised the ‘Brussels Colloquium’ as the final part of the ‘Innotles Inter-University course (9 ECTS). For more information about this, see the Event section.

• Monitoring Mission to Moldova, Ukraine and Georgia

Between 31 October and 6 November, Silviu Piros travelled to Moldova, Ukraine and Georgia as part of the INOTLES CES monitoring mission. Accompanied by IES Executive Director, Anthony Antoine in Chisinau and Bart De Schutter in Kiev, their main task was to assess the functioning and sustainability of three newly established Centres for European Studies, as well as to evaluate the applicability of innovative teaching and learning methods as part of their curricula. Individual reports concerning each partner’s CES were presented to the funding authorities.
EDUCATION

Education is at the heart of the IES’s strategy and plays out on a number of fronts. Formally, the Institute is required to issue 50 diplomas per year for its two Master-after-Master Programmes (LL.M. International and European Law and MSc European Integration and Development), which the IES has comfortably achieved since its inception. The IES also organises an annual Summer School on European Policy-Making (together with the University of Vienna and the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna), five online EU-Modules courses, and a Postgraduate Certificate in European Policy-Making.

EDUCATION - STRATEGIC GOALS

LL.M IN INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LAW
ADVANCED MASTER IN EUROPEAN INTEGRATION (EUROMASTER)

• Delivering of 50 diplomas per year on average (as required by Government Agreement) while paying attention to quality control;

In the academic year 2015-2016, 16 students graduated from our LL.M programme and 31 from our EuroMaster programme. The Institute realises that this number is below the envisaged average of 50 diploma’s per year, but has taken measures to increase this number significantly over the next years. The low number stems from the sharp decline in students of 2015; meanwhile that number has increased again.

• Ensuring attractiveness of programmes (through programme reviews, enhanced recruitment, quality control, etc.);

In 2016, a reform of the EuroMaster programme was approved. The purpose of the reform is to re-align this programme with the EU’s economic and policy environment. The updated curriculum (effective 2017-2018) will make the EuroMaster more coherent, topical and policy-relevant. It will also offer greater choice by allowing students to specialise in two of four study streams, which each focus on key European policy fields (EU economy, external relations and security, migration and environment).
TEACHING PORTFOLIO

EDUCATION STRATEGIC GOALS

- Ensuring financial viability (through increase in tuition fees, search for external funding, etc.);

  In 2016 the IES had a very successful year in terms of searching for external funding. The number of externally funded projects increased substantially and now amounts to 50% of the IES’s total funding (as opposed to 45% in 2015).

- Enhancing the link between research and teaching (through the development of courses within research clusters and themes that can be offered in the curriculum);

  The IES has taken concrete measures by appointing four of its researchers as professors for new courses in the EuroMaster programme. These courses will kick off in academic year 2017-18.

- Investigate the development of Executive Master programmes and Research Master programmes at the IES;

  The thinking process to prepare this development has been initiated.

TEACHING AND STAFF

Excellence in teaching is a core part of PILC’s vision: a highly dedicated staff of outstanding international standards in an environment characterised by high interaction. The IES staff teaching in the programme were professors Kalimo, Lamensch and Oberthür. The Programme was delighted to appoint IES President Karel De Gucht as the Professor for External Relations, replacing Prof. Martenczuk after years of outstanding work in PILC. Kalimo continued as the Director of the programme (Prof. Joris Co-Director), assisted by IES PhD researcher and PILC alumnus Filip Sedefov and by Marleen Van Impe as the Programme Secretary. Professor Stefaan Simis was re-appointed to give the course in international law. PILC was also delighted to welcome back Prof. Van Thiel from his leave for the Globalisation course.

PROGRAMME

The LL.M. in International and European Law (PILC) is one of the oldest of its kind in Europe, and has over the years educated over 1200 graduates of 108 nationalities. The programme is tailored for demanding global careers in law, and the PILC alumni attest to that objective. The Flemish educational authorities (VLUHR) confirmed its very positive assessment of the PILC Programme in June 2016, rating its educational process as ‘excellent’ and the targeted and achieved outcome levels as ‘good’. The assessment of the VUB Educational services on PILC remains equally very positive. The Programme needs however to remain vigilant in the fast evolving policy context: the European crises on migration, economy and security, the terror attacks in Brussels, as well as the dramatic Brexit and shift in American politics. These trends together with stiffening competition in Brussels may affect the general interest and financial means of students to participate in programmes such as PILC.

PROGRAMME

LL.M. INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LAW (PILC)

AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND DEVELOPMENTS

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The philosophy of the LL.M. in 2016 remained that of a demanding, carefully designed programme that combines European and international law. The curriculum consists of compulsory courses, two specialisation options (Public Law or Business Law) and a Master’s thesis on the subject of the student’s choice.

The LL.M. has also retained the philosophy of a limited class size to ensure high interaction amongst students and professors – a bond that lasts. The alumni and professors offer the students a wide global network to find a future career – this aspect has been receiving specific attention in the programme’s activities over the past years.

**COMPULSORY COURSES**

- EU institutional Framework and Judicial Protection - Prof. V. Devyvest and D. Arts
- International and Comparative Law - Prof. S. Smis and Prof. R. Gosálbez Bono
- Globalisation, International Law & Sustainable Development - Prof. S. van Thiel
- EU Economic Law - Prof. T. Joris
- International Economic Law and Organisations - Prof. F. Hoffmeister
- International and EU Competition Law - Prof. B. Smulders
- EU External Relations - Prof. B. Martenczuk

**OPTIONAL COURSES**

**Public Law Option:**
- Case Study on Public International/EU law - Prof. S. Oberthür
- EU Environmental Law in an International Context - Prof. S. Oberthür and H. Kalimo
- International and European Criminal Law - Prof. P. De Hert

**Business Law option:**
- Case Study on European Competition Law - Prof. T. Joris
- European and International Private Law - Prof. A. Nuyts
- International and European Taxation - Prof. M. Lamensch

**MASTER’S THESIS**

Thesis: compulsory legal research within one of the fields covered by the Programme (first and second semester)

PLL.C continued a number of traditions in 2016. An inaugural lecture by Belgian Secretary of State Philippe De Backer opened the academic year 2016-17. The PILC students’ team played again in the fun event IES Ice Hockey championships in October, while in November two of the PILC students joined a delegation to meet with Philips, the King of Belgians. PILC made the field trip to the Court of Justice of the EU on 13 December. After attending a hearing, the group met with President Lenaerts in person and were given a presentation on the inner workings of the CJEU – the kind of insights that are rare to come by. Over lunch, the PILC students met the first PILC alumnus to serve at the bench of the CJEU: the Irish judge Eugene Regan. He was delighted to see PILC thriving, and reflected on his PILC year and how the Programme had helped prepare him for a very exciting career. The year also included the traditional career lunches with PILC alumni and career services to ensure the students’ smooth shift (back) to the work life after the Programme.

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In the academic year 2015-2016, 16 students graduated from the programme. Four students graduated with greatest distinction, six with great distinction, three with distinction and four with satisfaction. The Programme awarded five theses the grade of Summa Cum Laude, which entitles the students in question to the Outstanding Master Thesis Award. They were Benjamin Magnus, Tony Pitesa, Carmen Puscas, Emily Steenmeyer and Shannon Zeigler.

**STUDENTS**

As a recent law graduate, I felt the need to pursue an advanced LL.M. programme, which will equip me with an international perspective and the challenges of working in an increasing global legal environment. The LL.M. at the IES offers this and more. Some of these professors are EU practitioners or in major international law firms, which creates great networking opportunities.”

Pauline Nguru, LL.M. alumnus, European Parliament

On Wednesday 19 October 2016, a delegation of our LL.M and EuroMaster students got the opportunity to share their ideas on the future of Europe with H.M. King Philippe of Belgium. They were part of a group of VUB students who were invited to attend the Journées de Bruxelles. The event was held at Bozar Centre for Fine Arts in Brussels.
LL.M. INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LAW (PILC) - 62% (18 students) and 38% (11 students)

MSC EUROPEAN INTEGRATION (EUROMASTER) - summer 2013 Professor Kalimo has been the acting Co-director (together with Prof. Marc Jegers), with Lynn Tytgat coordinating the programme.

PROGRAMME
The EuroMaster Programme has been designed to allow students to combine studies with professional activities. EuroMaster classes are organised in the evenings. Students can complete the programme on a full-time (1 year) or part-time (2 year) basis. The EuroMaster comprises 60 ECTS, with courses ranging from 3 to 6 ECTS, and a 15,000-word thesis worth 15 ECTS. The thesis gives the students the possibility to engage in an exciting intellectual journey on the topic of their choice. The Programme starts by a common core of four courses on the essential features of European Integration. Students can then choose between two specialisation streams: Political and Social Integration (EPSI) and Economic Integration (EI).

STUDENTS
A total of 31 students graduated from the 2015-16 Programme. The EuroMaster Programme has always boasted a versatile, international selection of students from all around the world, and taken into account a balanced representation of geographic regions, including, when possible, the legal advancement of developing countries. For the academic year 2016-2017, 49 students enrolled in the Programme. 31 new students started, and 18 students re-enrolled from previous academic years to continue their part-time studies. Out of the 49 students, 30 opted for the EPSI and 19 for the EI stream.

AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND DEVELOPMENTS
The Advanced Master in European Integration (‘EuroMaster’) is the spearhead of IES’ post-graduate educational offerings in the field of political science and economics. The EuroMaster is an advanced interdisciplinary programme that is geared towards an international range of young and mid-level professionals as well as advanced students with a political science background. The programme has for over 15 years been providing students with advanced academic training across a wide range of EU policies in order to offer a thorough understanding of the process of European integration in both its economic and political dimensions. The IES has been in charge of organising the EuroMaster for the past 4 years, and does so in collaboration with the VUB Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences and Solvay Business School. In 2016, a reform of the EuroMaster programme was approved, taking effect as of the academic year 2017-18. The purpose of the reform is to re-align the programme with the EU’s changing economic and policy environment. See the Education – Strategic goals section for more details on this.

TEACHING AND STAFF
The EuroMaster teaching staff is a unique mixture of renowned EU scholars and top-level EU practitioners who combine academic excellence with the latest practical insights on EU policy-making. Drawn from across different parts of Europe as well as North America, the international staff gives students a great opportunity to experience a range of different academic traditions. Limited class size ensures a high interaction between the students and professors – and creates a bond that lasts. The alumni and professors offer a wide global network that will help graduating students find interesting international careers.

Permanent IES staff teaching in the EuroMaster includes Professors Adam, Buts, Kalimo, Ross, Tanasescu and Van Hove. Since
MSC EUROPEAN INTEGRATION (EUROMASTER)

**ALUMNI**

The Institute continues its investment in alumni. It contacted students of last year’s graduation (2015-2016) in order to find out what professional activity they had undertaken since their studies at the IES. Graduates are currently working in a variety of institutions, such as the European Commission, Permanent Representations to the EU and NATO, as well as private companies.

Steven Engels, EuroMaster alumnus

**TEACHING PORTFOLIO**

- **EuroMaster students at the start of the academic year 2016-17**: The mixed faculty includes specialised academics as well as experienced practitioners from the EU institutions. This, combined with the international student body and the proximity of the EU's headquarters, makes for a truly enriching study experience, both on and off campus.

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Steven Engels, EuroMaster alumnus

**CURRENT OCCUPATION 2016 GRADUATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academia</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<td>Government</td>
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<td>International Organisation</td>
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<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lobbying</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>23%</td>
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**CURRENT OCCUPATION 2016 GRADUATES**

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<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>23%</td>
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**GEOGRAPHICAL SPREAD**

Academic year 2016 - 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>EU member countries</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe non EU member countries</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>6%</td>
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**ECONOMIC INTEGRATION TRACK VS EUROPEAN POLITICS AND SOCIAL INTEGRATION TRACK**

Academic year 2016 - 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic Integration</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Politics and Social Integration</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMPULSORY COURSES**

- The History and Law of European Integration
- The Economics of European Integration
- The Political Aspects of European Integration
- The EU and the Stakeholders of the Economy

**OPTIONAL COURSES**

- Economic Integration: Competition Policy and State Aid
- European Monetary Policy
- EU Cohesion Policy
- European Politics and Social Integration: European Foreign Policy

**MASTER’S THESIS**

Students finish the Programme with a Masters’ thesis, worth 15 credits.

- Economic Integration track vs European Politics and Social Integration track

Academic year 2016 - 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Integration</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Politics and Social Integration</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>51%</td>
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POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN EU POLICY MAKING

CHARACTERISTICS AND OBJECTIVES

The Postgraduate Certificate (PGC) in EU Policy Making combines five online courses with the Inter-University Summer School on EU Policy Making, using the blended learning method. This academic programme aims to provide students and young professionals with sound knowledge on the history and theories of European integration, the functioning of the main EU institutions and their role in the decision-making process, the principles and characteristics of EU law, and the main aspects of EU internal and external policies.

The online courses run from September to May, covering the following topics:

- History and Theories of European Integration
- European Union Institutions
- EU Decision Making and Law
- European Union Public Policy Analysis
- European Union Foreign Affairs

The blended learning method perfected by the IES combines the asynchronous aspects of online learning with interactive assignments and live webinars. Moreover, each student is assigned a tutor ready to guide him or her through the learning process.

The online courses are complemented with the two-week interactive Inter-University Summer School on EU Policy Making, which takes place in July (see separate section for further details).

DEVELOPMENTS & STUDENT STATISTICS IN 2016

In 2016, nine students of seven different nationalities completed their training in EU Policy Making. Nine students from five European countries enrolled in the Programme in the academic year 2016-2017.

STAFF

In terms of human resources, Alexandra Mihai and Silvia Piros handled the academic side of the programme in 2015-16. The departure of Laraine D’Antin in March was accompanied by the arrival of Léonie Maes, who is currently in charge of the administration of the programme. In September, Alexandra Mihai was replaced by Irina van der Vet who took over the European Union Institutions course.

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CHARACTERISTICS AND OBJECTIVES

For the 13th time, the IES joined forces with the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna and the University of Vienna to organise the Inter-University Summer School on EU Policy Making in Brussels and Vienna. From Monday 4 to Friday 15 July 2016, the intensive two-week summer school aimed at providing students and young professionals with an interest in the European Union with a crash course in EU Policy Making Programme. The first week in Brussels introduced participants to the functioning and structure of the main EU institutions, their role in the decision-making process and their interactions with stakeholders. It also addressed key aspects of EU internal and external policy such as the EU internal market and EU migration policy. Lectures by senior academics were complemented with study visits to the Brussels-based institutions. The second week in Vienna further examined a select set of EU policy issues. It discussed the principles and implications of the European Monetary Union and addressed a number of key constitutional and legal issues, including in the context of Brexit. The emphasis on EU foreign affairs was reflected both in the lectures – on the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy, the role and functioning of the European External Action Service and the institutional relationship between the EU and the United Nations system – and in the visits to the UN, the OSCE and the EU delegation in Vienna. Each week of the Summer School concludes with a simulation game during which the students experience the negotiation environment of the European Union.

SUMMER SCHOOL EUROPEAN POLICY MAKING

The combination of high level lectures on European politics, eye-opening study visits and challenging simulation exercises made the two weeks Summer School in Brussels and Vienna a very valuable and memorable academic experience.

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CHARACTERISTICS AND OBJECTIVES

From the first week of June to the first week of July included, the EFSP cluster hosted the eighth edition of the Brussels Programme on European Foreign Policy with students from the University of Southern California (USC).

DEVELOPMENTS IN 2016

Over the years, the programme has managed to annually attract a steady stream of students. In 2016, 14 USC students participated in this summer programme. The group of students took internship positions at Brussels-based think-tanks and organisations and had an intensive lecture programme on European Foreign and Security Policy, taught by high-level European academics and policy-makers from leading universities, think-tanks and international organisations. Programme lecturers not only brought their academic expertise to lectures but also a wealth of policy experience, which only added to the programme’s learning experience. During their stay, the students also visited international organisations and institutions such as the European Parliament and NATO as well as the Airbus Group.

PROGRAMME

Week one of the programme began with an orientation visit to the IES and students then spent the rest of the week working full-time at their internship hosts. Week two started with an overall introduction to European integration and foreign policy, and students acquired an understanding of the EU’s key foreign-policy institutions, its foreign policy decision-making processes and the policies of the key EU member states. Week three focused on the US-EU Transatlantic Partnership. Week four looked at some of the EU’s key international relations with players such as China and Russia. Students ended the programme in week five with a focus on Europe and global relations, and in this context students analysed issues such as climate change and migration. From weeks two to five, after lunch until the end of the working day, students continued and finalised their internships.

BRUSSELS PROGRAMME ON EUROPEAN FOREIGN POLICY

CHARACTERISTICS AND OBJECTIVES

In Spring 2016, we had the pleasure of hosting eight great students from Hendrix College (Arkansas, USA). They participated in our Brussels Study Abroad Programme, which aims to provide undergraduate students with a well-rounded introduction into EU affairs.

PROGRAMME

The programme includes four main academic components. The EU Redux course focuses on the basics of EU institutions and decision-making, as well as policy developments in topical areas such as data protection, defense, migration and climate change. Students also research an EU topic of interest with an IES supervisor, culminating in a final paper and presentation. Furthermore, in order to gather first hand knowledge on EU affairs, students are offered an internship in EU politics, research and/or education. Examples of placement organisations are Carnegie Europe, the Global Governance Institute and UNICA. Finally, students take a course of choice with our partner institution Vesalius College. If living in Brussels for five months and travelling across Europe isn’t enough, the international learning environment of Vesalius College provides a cross-cultural experience in itself.

In all this, we try to ensure that Brussels feels like a home away from home by introducing students to the city’s varied social life. This year’s social activities included a movie night featuring ‘The Agreement’, a documentary on Kosovo and Serbia’s first post-independence agreement negotiated under the auspices of the European Union, a visit to the avant-garde art exhibition on ‘Theo van Doesburg: A New Expression of Life, Art and Technology’, bowling and karaoke! It was a pleasure to witness, as in each year, that the students had absorbed and thoroughly processed the great amount of information they received on the complexities of the EU.

BRUSSELS STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMME

CHARACTERISTICS AND OBJECTIVES

In Spring 2016, we had the pleasure of hosting eight great students from Hendrix College (Arkansas, USA). They participated in our Brussels Study Abroad Programme, which aims to provide undergraduate students with a well-rounded introduction into EU affairs.
LISANNE GROEN  
Doctor in Political Science • Oct 2016  

On Thursday 13 October 2016, Lisanne Groen successfully defended her PhD thesis on the impact the EU has had in multilateral climate and biodiversity negotiations. In front of a jury of 6 people (Prof. Edith Diesrøen - KU Leuven, Prof. Tom Detolle - UCL, Prof. Joachim Koops - Vesalius College and IES-VUB, Prof. Jamal Shahin - IES-VUB and University of Amsterdam, Prof. Ilke Adam - IES-VUB (chair), and promoter Prof. Sebastian Oberthür - IES-VUB) Lisanne elaborated on the subject, methodology and main findings of her research.

Dr. Groen left the Institute in September 2016 to take up a job as researcher at the United Nations University in Tokyo.

IRENE WIECZOREK  
Doctor of Law • Nov 2016  

On Tuesday 15 November 2016, Irene Wieczorek successfully defended her PhD thesis, entitled ‘The Legitimacy of EU Criminal Law: What Role for Normative and Instrumental Justifications?’. Irene’s PhD promoters were Prof. Dr. P. De Hert and Prof. Dr. Weyembergh while members of her exam committee were Prof. Dr. F. Trauner (VUB), Prof. Dr. M. Dony (ULB), Prof. Dr. E. Herlin-Karnell (VUB) and Prof. Dr. J. Spencer (University of Cambridge). Dr. Wieczorek left at the end of the year to become a Post-Doctoral Researcher at the University of Cambridge and the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

ESTHER MARIJNEN  
Doctor in Political Science • Dec 2016  

On Friday 16 December 2016, Esther Marijnen defended her PhD thesis entitled ‘Beyond Rebels and Gorillas: The Multi-Scalar Politics of Conservation and Conflict in the Virunga National Park, DR Congo’. Her promoter was Prof. Dr. Patrick StouthuySEN. The doctoral committee consisted of Prof. Dr. Koen Vlassenroot (UGent) and Prof. Dr. Alexander Mattelaer (IES-VUB). Dr. Marijnen left at the end of the year after having been granted a Max Batley fellowship at the University of Sheffield.
BOOKS AND SPECIAL ISSUES


For a complete overview of IES publications in 2016, see the Annex to this Annual Report.

17. Reporting on the Minsk II Agreement: the Effect of Russian Narratives in French and German Media by Svitlana Kobzar


20. Building better multistakeholderism: GIPO’s role in promoting debates on internet governance by Catalina Capatina, Katarzyna Jakimowicz, Trisha Meyer and Jamal Shahin

21. Western Intelligence and Counter-intelligence in a Time of Russian Disinformation by Alexander Lanoszka
1. 8 January in: MO*, Alexander Mattelaer & Daniel Fiott: Groenere legers hebben strategisch voordeel
2. 24 January in: Brussels Nieuws, Ilke Adam: Waarom veel Belgische Marokkanen en nauwelijks Turken naar Syrië trekken
3. 26 January in: NPO Radio 1, Esther Marijnens: Olievondst bedreigt Virungapark
5. 29 January in: Magyar Nemzet, Florian Trauner: Útban a többségesegés Európa felé? (‘Towards a multi-speed Europe?’)
6. 2 February in: De Standaard, Alexander Mattelaer: ‘De totale ineenstorting van Defensie dreigt al langer’
7. 3 February in: Politheor European Policy Network, Florian Trauner: The integrative power of the threat of disintegration
8. 6 February in: De Morgen, Alexander Mattelaer: ‘Parazie worden rangers: Defenseminister Vandeven wil elitesoldaten anders inzetten
9. 8 February in: Climate Home, Sebastian Oberthür: EU faces two-year wrangle to ratify Paris climate deal
10. 9 February in: De Morgen, Allison Woodward: Vrouwen kozen voor Hillary. Als ze al wat ouder zijn toch
11. 10 February in: De Standaard, Alexander Mattelaer: Obama’s laatste defensiebegroting wil technologische voorsprong VS vergroten ‘Begroting voor de toekomst’
12. 15 February in: German Broadcasting Cooperation ARD, Florian Trauner: TV Interview on the EU’s refugee crisis
13. 16 February in: Knack.be, Leo Van Hove: ‘Schaf ook het bijltje van 200 euro af’
14. 17 February in: Brussels Nieuws, Allison Woodward: Feministisch archief moet op zoek naar nieuwe stek door besparingen
16. 18 February in: EU today, Luis Simón: Japan set to become a bigger player in global security
17. 18 February in: de Levé, Leo Van Hove: ‘Te riett pas een hasard si le billet de 500 est si populaire dans les milieux criminels...’
20. 3 March 2016 in: Politalk.nl, Karel De Gucht: Architect van verdrag EU-Oekraïne: ‘Hopelijk negeert de Nederlandse regering de uitslag van het referendum’
21. 22 March in: Der Tagesspiegel, Christof Röse: Das Mengenrauschen von Brüssel
22. 22 March in: Der Tagesspiegel, Christof Röse: Das Mengenrauschen von Brüssel
23. 22 March in: Der Tagesspiegel, Christof Röse: Das Mengenrauschen von Brüssel
25. 2 May in: Real Clear Defense, Luis Simón: A European Perspective on
MEDIA APPEARANCES IN 2016

27. 3 May in: War on The Rocks, Lucas Simón: A European Perspective on Anti-Access/Area Denial and the Third Offset Strategy
28. 4 May in: Le Matin, Daniel Fiott: Un nouveau chef pour une OTAN en pleine mue
29. 4 May in: Indian Strategic Studies, Luis Simón: The Third US Offset Strategy and Europe’s Anti-access Challenge
30. 5 May in: Capital Madrid, Daniel Fiott: La UE debe contemplar la utilidad militar de sus infraestructuras
31. 6 May in: Terzake, Daniel Fiott: Khan weerspiegelt de diversiteit door Karel De Gucht
32. 6 May in: Prospect Magazine, Alison E. Woodward: Big handelsverdragen
33. 7 June in: TV3, Richard Lewis: Com se surt de la UE?
34. 8 June in: La Liberté, Jamal Shahin: Vers une campagne plus apaisée
35. 10 June in: Capital Madrid, Daniel Fiott: The Cátedra Jean Monet on Anti-Access/Area Denial and the Third Offset Strategy
36. 12 June in: Der Standard, Florian Trauner: Die möglichen Wege aus der Flüchtlingskrise
38. 12 June in: Indian Strategic Studies, Luis Simón: The Third US Offset Strategy and Europe’s Anti-access Challenge
39. 18 June in: La Liberté, Jamal Shahin: The ‘Third’ US Offset Strategy (and Europe’s Anti-access Challenge)
40. 22 June in: NPO Radio 1, Esther Marijnen: Record aantal milieuactivisten vermoord in 2015
41. 24 June in: Defendactie.be, Karel De Gucht: Moelijjk om buitenlanders te overtuigen van belang van EU handels­verdragen
42. 24 June in: Bloom­berg, Tomas Wyns: EU: Carbon Slumps Most Since 2014 as Brexit Sparks Doubts
43. 25 June in: Main­lain­d, Alison E. Wood­ward: EU and Russia-China approach is continuing
44. 26 June in: Bloomberg, Tomas Wyns: U.K. Said to Prepare to Adopt Carbon Pollution Target This Week
45. 2 July 2016 in: UTV News, Medlir Mema: Medlir Mema dhe Ilir Kalemaj ne UTV News
46. 4 May in: Indian Strategic Studies, Luis Simón: The Third US Offset Strategy and Europe’s Anti-access Challenge
47. 4 June in: Small Wars Journal, Lucas Simón; the A2/AD Predicament Challenges NATO’s Paradigm of ‘Reassurance Through Readiness’
49. 16 June in: Prospect Magazine, Alison E. Woodward: Big Handelsverdragen
50. 19 June in: La Liberté, Jamal Shahin: Vers une campagne plus apaisée
51. 23 June in: Bergens Tidende, Jamal Shahin: Brexit will have a domino effect
53. 24 June in: TO THE ROCKS, Luis Simón: How would a Brexit affect the environment? Sebastian Oberthür, Tomas Wyns & Claire Dupont: Alles recht so schlecht
54. 25 June in: Capital Madrid, Daniel Fiott: To meet the expat voters in Belgium
55. 25 June in: De Standaard, Karel De Gucht: EX trade commissioner: Jean-Claude Juncker has no backbone
57. 27 June in: Le Matin, Alison E. Woodward: EU and Russia-China approach is continuing
59. 27 June in: Capital Madrid, Daniel Fiott: Le UE debe contemplar la utilidad militar de sus infraestructuras
60. 28 October in: The Bulletin, Alison Woodward: US Elections: We need a strong US, but it’s not so simple

MEDIA APPEARANCES IN 2016

61. 4 November 2016 in: Politico, Karel De Gucht: Ex trade commissioner: Jean-Claude Juncker has no backbone
62. 5 November in: De Standaard, Karel De Gucht: De Graauwe: ‘We hebben te veel flexibiliteit gepredikt. Niemand zegt van zichzelf dat hij rigide is’ De Gucht: ‘Ik wel. Ik ben rigide’
63. 7 November in: Radio BIE, Sebastian Oberthür: Interview for the VRT radio news on Anti-Access/Area Denial and the Third Offset Strategy
64. 8 November in: EUROPI, Alexander Mattelaer: Seven paradoxes of NATO’s revival as Europe’s primary security institution
65. 10 November in: VRT Radio 1, Alexander Mattelaer: Interview in De Nieuwe Eredivisie
66. 10 November in: Euronews, Alexander Mattelaer: European Parliament votes to overrule Trump’s NATO stance
67. 13 November in: The National, Tomas Wyns: Trump has several ways to scuttle US climate pledges
68. 14 November in: Fair Observer, Joachim Koops: Donald Trump and the End of Liberal History
69. 17 November in: De Tijd, Alexander Mattelaer: Don’t get your hopes up that Europe can outflank the US on climate change
70. 18 November in: Správy RTVS, Florian Trauner: Interview for the VRT radio news on Anti-Access/Area Denial and the Third Offset Strategy
71. 19 November in: Správy RTVS, Florian Trauner: Interview for the VRT radio news on Anti-Access/Area Denial and the Third Offset Strategy
72. 19 November in: De Tijd, Alexander Mattelaer: NATO opnieuw onveilig voor populisten
73. 22 November in: El Cronista, Leo Van Hove: Suecia sigue a Ecuador con su anuncio de la moneda virtual
74. 24 November in: RTVS, Florian Trauner: Dublin is dead, long live Dublin! The EU’s struggle for paradigmatic change in EU asylum policy
75. 29 November in: Liberation, Leo Van Hove: Liquidier ses espaces, la Suède helète
76. 2 December in: Liberation, Leo Van Hove: ‘Liquider ses espaces, la Suède helète’
77. 2 December in: Luxembourger Wort, Sebastian Oberthür, Tomas Wyns & Claire Dupont: Alles recht so schlecht
78. 4 November 2016 in: Newseuroweb, Florian Trauner: Radio 1, Karel De Gucht: ‘Het kan niet zijn dat de rechtstaat capituleert voor dit soort populisten’
79. 20 December 2016 in: De Afspraak – Canvas, Karel De Gucht: De glazen bol van Karel De Gucht
80. 22 December 2016 in: De Afrapaak – Canvas, Karel De Gucht: De glazen bol van Karel De Gucht
From the 11th to the 13th of May 2016, scholars from all over the globe came together in Brussels, the heart of the European Union, to discuss topical issues at the fifth biennial European Union in International Affairs conference (#EUIA16). Organised by the Institute for European Studies at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (IES-VUB), the Institut d’Études européennes at the Université libre de Bruxelles (IEE-ULB), the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS) and Egmont - the Royal Institute for International Relations, the conference again featured as the unique major stopover of the European Studies conference circuit at the Academy Palace in Brussels.

#EUIA16 was organised with the support of the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union. It brought together over 400 scholars and policy practitioners from over 40 countries and 140 different academic and policy-related institutes. #EUIA16 proved itself to be a truly diverse conference focusing on the role and place of the European Union in international affairs in several policy areas, including but not limited to security, foreign policy, migration, the environment and economic governance.

The conference featured a staggering 57 academic panels spread across seven parallel tracks lasting for two-and-a-half days in total, alongside four policy link panels that provided a space for discussion and exchange between policy practitioners and senior academics. In addition, we had the pleasure of listening to Gilles de Kerchove, EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, as the opening keynote speaker, and Koen Lenaerts, President of the European Court of Justice (ECJ), as the closing keynote speaker of the conference. Both opening and closing keynote speeches were also broadcasted online via livestream.
viding the closing keynote address. De Kerchove, introduced by IEE-ULB President Prof. Anne Weyemberg, concentrated on the terrorist threat that Europe faces and the EU response. He highlighted that EUROPOL plays an important role in ‘connecting the dots’ by bringing all data together and that it should strengthen its cooperation with the US. He also held that cultural diplomacy (such as an Erasmus programme with the Middle East and North Africa region) could be critical in preventing radicalisation.

In addition to the academic panels, keynotes and policy link panels, the conference included several novelties. All of these new initiatives led to valuable knowledge exchange:

• a panel on teaching European Studies and International Relations with researchers from the United States, Greece, Romania and the Netherlands;
• three Young Researchers’ Masterclasses for PhD researchers and early post-docs focusing on economic governance and the environment, foreign and security policy and migration;
• a Think Tank Roundtable in which senior representatives from leading think tanks in Brussels (The German Marshall Fund of the United States; the European Union Institute for Security Studies and Ifri Brussels) discussed the new EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy;
• two book (series) presentations, of the Palgrave ‘EU in International Affairs’ book series and the GEM book series title ‘Interregionalism and the European Union’;
• for the first time, scholars were able to submit panel proposals.

#EUIA16 included, like previous editions, a ‘Brussels-Seoul Security Forum’, consisting of three academic panels on EU-Korea relations including high-level academics and policy practitioners from the Republic of Korea, the US and Europe. We were honoured to welcome two Ambassadors among the panelists: his Excellency Ahn Chong Ghee, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Belgium, Luxembourg and the EU and his Excellency Masafumi Ishii, Ambassador of Japan to Belgium and NATO. Moreover, the conference featured an excellent dinner at the Korean Cultural Center in Brussels, with speeches from his Excellency Ahn Chong Ghee, Korean Ambassador; and IES-ULB President Karel De Gucht.

#EUIA16 was organised with the support of the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union.
ACADEMIC SERVICES

IES PUBLIC EVENTS IN 2016

6 January 2016: Burden Sharing - Defence spending in times of austerity
20 January 2016: The Paris Climate Agreement: Implications for the European Union
22 January 2016: Turning the Circular Economy strategy into workable reality
26 January 2016: Insights in measuring EU performance in international institutions from young scholars
28 January 2016: Europe-Japan relations: shaping the future
6 February 2016: EU Studies Fair
11 February 2016: LLM in International & European Law: Q&A webinar session
16 March 2016: INOTLES Brussels Colloquium
7 April 2016: The Paris Agreement on Climate Change: Transatlantic Perspectives
25 April 2016: Industrial Ecology: Science, the Environment and the Circular Economy
26 April 2016: Internal Market Commissioner Bienkowska on Single Market Strategy
11-14 May 2016: The European Union in International Affairs V
19 May 2016: The Refugee Crisis and the EU-Turkey Deal: Which Role for the EU's Home Affairs Agencies?
23 May 2016: Brexit and the Environment: EU and UK Environmental Policies after 23 June
3 June 2016: Debate on the future of EMU: Enhanced market discipline, centralised governance or somewhere in between?
28 September 2016: Academic Year inaugural event

13 October 2016: Public PhD Defence of Lisanne Groen: The Importance of Fitting Activities to Context: The EU in Multilateral Climate and Biodiversity Negotiations
19 October 2016: Sustainable Advanced Fuels in Emission Reduction for Aviation: what are EU policy options?
20 October 2016: COP 22 and CMA 1 in Marrakech - Towards Implementation of the Paris Agreement
24 October 2016: Copyright in the Era of Big Data
15 November 2016: Public PhD Defence of Irene Wierzbicki: The Legitimacy of EU Criminal Law: what role for normative and instrumental justifications
22 November 2016: Tracking NATO's Revival: From Warsaw to Brussels
23 November 2016: Trump triumph: Critically catastrophic or overly ominous for the EU?
1 December 2016: A science diplomacy approach for Belgium?!?
7 December 2016: Europan identity in crisis: What role for the EU?
14 December 2016: The EU Enlargement and Gay Politics in Central and Eastern Europe
16 December 2016: Public PhD defence by Esther Marijnen: 'Beyond Rebels and Gorillas: The Multi-Scalar Politics of Convergence and Conflict in the Virunga National Park, DR Congo'

THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE: TRANSATLANTIC PERSPECTIVES
7 April

Professor David Wirth of Boston College Law School explored, from a US perspective, at what cost this accommodation was reached, as measured by the durability of the US economy-wide emissions reduction pledge for 2025 (minus 26-28% from 2005 levels) and the likelihood of its effective implementation. This presentation thoroughly explained the domestic legal and political constraints, unique to the US legal system, at work behind the scenes in shaping the form and content of the US position on the Paris Agreement. He analysed the role of the Congress, especially the US Senate, and the courts, and examined the extent to which the Obama Administration has fully utilised its executive power both domestically and internationally. Jacob Werksman, Principal Adviser, DG-CLIMA, European Commission, had set the stage for the discussion by responding with a European perspective on the legal character of the Paris outcome and on next steps for the EU and for the US in implementing the Paris Agreement.
IES PUBLIC EVENTS IN 2016

THE REFUGEE CRISIS AND THE EU-TURKEY DEAL: WHICH ROLE FOR THE EU’S HOME AFFAIRS AGENCIES?
19 May

The Policy Forum brought together panellists from the EU’s agencies, civil society and academia in order to discuss the changing roles of Frontex, Europol and EASO. It took a look at how the crisis changed the ways in which these agencies interact and function. It also discussed the future development of these agencies, notably in view of the reoccurring calls to further enlarge their competences and powers.

BREXIT AND THE ENVIRONMENT: EU AND UK ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AFTER 23 JUNE
23 May

Brexit raised the prospect of considerable change in the future for UK and EU policies in these areas. The Policy Forum debated the role played by environmental policy in the UK referendum debate and the possible and plausible post-Referendum scenarios for UK and EU environmental policy.

THE INTERFACE BETWEEN EU COMPETITION LAW AND REGULATION: CHALLENGES AND NEW DEVELOPMENTS
13 October

The Policy Forum aimed to address substantive and procedural developments as well as contentious aspects that surface in the context of this interrelationship.

SUSTAINABLE ADVANCED FUELS IN EMISSION REDUCTION FOR AVIATION: WHAT ARE EU POLICY OPTIONS
19 October

This Policy Forum offered the opportunity to debate and explore various aspects related to the development and market uptake of Sustainable Advanced Fuels for aviation with EU policy makers and industry professionals. It was the first in a series of two.

COP 22 AND CMA 1 IN MARRAKESH – TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT
20 October

The Policy Forum discussed the prospects for the Marrakesh conference in the context of international climate policy more generally. It also reflected on the role of the European Union and its member states in this context.

TRUMP TRIUMPH: CRITICALLY CATASTROPHIC OR OVERLY OMINOUS FOR THE EU?
23 November

The election of Donald Trump as 45th president of the United States came as a shock to the world. This Policy Forum discussed some potential scenarios of what might happen to the EU, the consequences of Trump’s triumph for the transatlantic security relationship and the geopolitical role of Europe and the global struggle against climate change.

Speakers:
• Peter Vila, Advisor on decarbonisation of transport, European Commission
• Thierry Nowaczky, EU Environmental Affairs Director, Airbus Group
• Sini Eräjää, Policy Officer on EU Bioenergy, European Environmental Bureau, BirdLife Europe
• Filip Sedefov, Researcher, Institute for European Studies – VUB (moderator)
IES PUBLIC EVENTS IN 2016

EUROPEAN IDENTITY IN CRISIS: WHAT ROLE FOR THE EU?
7 December
This Policy Forum brought together panellists from academia and EU institutions, and proceeded from a recognition of the need for scholarly approaches that seek to examine the question of European identity in its multiple dimensions, both theoretical and empirical and within institutional and socio-spatial fields alike.

THE EU ENLARGEMENT AND GAY POLITICS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE
14 December
LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transsexual) rights have acquired symbolic value in EU politics and discourse, both in its internal and foreign policies. Yet such symbolic politics stand in sharp contrast with the limited amount of actual EU powers and legislation in the field. The policy forum constituted the closing lecture of the ‘Diversity Politics in the European Union’ course in the Master Programme in European Integration of the Institute for European Studies at VUB.

THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION
20 January
The IES contributed through several activities in January to exploring the implications of the climate agreement adopted on 12 December 2015 in Paris. On 20 January, the IES hosted a keynote lecture on the implications of the Paris Agreement for the EU by Jos Delbeke, Director-General Climate Action of the European Commission.

INSIGHTS IN MEASURING EU PERFORMANCE IN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FROM YOUNG SCHOLARS
26 Jan
This lecture series was launched with a discussion about the challenges for the development of a multidisciplinary research agenda for the emerging field of EU performance studies. This event brought together a panel of young researchers who are actively contributing to the theoretical and empirical development of the study of EU performance in international institutions. They addressed the challenges that they have undergone during their research: defining their research questions, methodological concerns, and specifically the use of common, understandable terminology.

IEC PUBLIC EVENTS IN 2016: LECTURE SERIES

EUROPEAN IDENTITY IN CRISIS: WHAT ROLE FOR THE EU?
7 December

THE EU ENLARGEMENT AND GAY POLITICS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE
14 December

THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION
20 January

INSIGHTS IN MEASURING EU PERFORMANCE IN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FROM YOUNG SCHOLARS
26 Jan

IEC PUBLIC EVENTS IN 2016: OTHER

EUROPE-JAPAN RELATIONS: SHAPING THE FUTURE
28 January

EUROPE-JAPAN RELATIONS: SHAPING THE FUTURE
28 January
This event addressed a number of questions relating to the strategic cooperation and security issues between Europe and Japan. The discussion featured Prof. Kazuya Sakamoto, of Osaka University, ECFR Council member and former German Ambassador to Japan and China, Dr. Volker Stanzel and Dr. Mathieu Duchâtel of ECFR’s Asia Programme. The event was chaired by Mr. Thomas Renard of the Egmont Institute.

INOTLES BRUSSELS COLLOQUIUM
16 March
Between 16 and 18 March the EDU organised the ‘Brussels Colloquium’ as the final part of the INOTLES Inter-University course (9 ECTS). Nine final project papers were publicly defended in Brussels on the first day of the event. The colloquium included two parallel simulation games and thematic visits to the European Parliament and the European Commission’s DG NEAR, specifically aimed at bringing at the same table EU experts and students. The group met once more to discuss the results at a conference in Kiev from 16-18 June.

INDUSTRIAL ECOLOGY: SCIENCE, THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY
25 April
Scientists at the IES, Yale University, the University of Cambridge, the Norwegian University of Science & Technology and INSEAD under the auspices of the International Society...
for Industrial Ecology organised a day-long event to explore environmental and resource dimensions of the circular economy. The event presented examples of research—along with commentary by stakeholders—that illuminated what industrial ecology can contribute to the beneficial development of the circular economy.

**COMMISSIONER BIENKOWSKA ON SINGLE MARKET STRATEGY**
26 April
Elżbieta Bienkowska, the EU Commissioner in charge of the Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, spoke at the IES on Tuesday 26 April. She talked about the Commission’s approach to the Single Market.

**ACADEMIC OPENING EVENT**
28 Sept
On Wednesday 28 September we had the honour of welcoming Belgian Secretary of State Philippe De Backer, who joined us in greeting a new generation of LLM and EuroMaster students. Our alumni in the audience witnessed an extremely interesting inaugural lecture on the Digital Economy, Digital Single Market and Privacy.

**(Guest Lecture)**
**COPYRIGHT IN THE ERA OF BIG DATA**
24 Oct
The Centre for Literary and Intermedial Crossings, the Institute for European Studies and Vesalius College at the VUB and the Institute for German Studies / Literary and Media Studies at the University of Duisburg-Essen organised an evening lecture with Prof. Michael Madison (University of Pittsburgh) on copyright in the era of big data. Professor Madison is Professor of Law and Faculty Director of the Innovation Practice Institute at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

**Social Interaction in EU East Asia Relations: How the EU (re)invests itself as an international security actor**  
26 Jan 2016  
Research Colloquium Speaker: Stephan Klose  
Research Colloquium Chair: Alexander Mattieser

**The European Commission and its quest to save nature in Central Africa: ‘crisis’, securitisation and the invisibility of violence**  
9 Feb 2016  
Research Colloquium Speaker: Esther Marijnen  
Research Colloquium Chair: Christof Roos

**Teaching politics with technology? The interface between technology and pedagogy in political science**  
22 Mar 2016  
Research Colloquium Speaker: Alexandra Mihai  
Research Colloquium Chair: Alison E. Woodward

**Immigrant integration in Europe. Towards the mainstreaming of ethnic equality?**  
12 Apr 2016  
Research Colloquium Speaker: Laura Westerven  
Research Colloquium Chair: Luis Simón

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IES RESEARCH COLLOQUIA

17 May 2016

EDGE roundtable on methods: recruitment and selection of participants
Moderator: Claire Dupont
Speakers: Kris Deschouwer (survey research), Ilke Adam (focus group research), Didier Caluwaerts (experimental research), Eline Severs (elite interviews)

21 May 2016

European and International law governing species protection against marine renewable energy installations
Research Colloquium Speaker:Carlos Soria Rodríguez
Research Colloquium Chair: Joachim A. Koops

31 May 2016

International cooperative initiatives on climate: exploring their effectiveness and legitimacy
Research Colloquium Speaker:Laura Iozzelli
Research Colloquium Chair: Ilke Adam

14 June 2016

Intersection of EU competition law and data protection in the digital market
Research Colloquium Speaker: Klaudia Majcher
Research Colloquium Chair: Florian Trauner

28 Jun 2016

The Europeanisation of intersectional mobilisation: manifold opportunities or manifold barriers? Romani women activism in central and eastern European member states.
Research Colloquium Speaker: Serena D’Agostino
Research Colloquium Chair: Claire Dupont


Participation in EU policy-making: Which approach for youth?
Research Colloquium Speaker: Ferran Davesa
Research Colloquium Chair: Alexander Mattelaer

29 Nov 2016

Understanding European defence-industrial cooperation
Research Colloquium Speaker: Daniel Fliott
Research Colloquium Chair: Harri Kalimo

13 Dec 2016

Conceptualising the relations between world regions and external actors: towards an interactionist role theory framework
Research Colloquium Speaker: Stephan Klose
Research Colloquium Chair: Christof Roos
WEBINAR ON LLM IN INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LAW
11 Feb

On 11 February 2016 the IES held a webinar during which Prof. Dr. Harri Kalimo and alumni Filip Sedefov and Sheila Wilkinson spoke with prospective students about what it is like to study at the IES. 29 people registered for this webinar. This event proved to be very useful to students and more will be planned in the future.

CONFERENCE DEBATE ON THE FUTURE OF EMU:
ENHANCED MARKET DISCIPLINE, CENTRALISED GOVERNANCE OR SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN?
3 Jun

The IES and the Representation of the European Commission in Belgium organised an Expert conference on the Future of EMU. The conference brought together academics and students interested in EMU governance, policy makers and other stakeholders from social partner organisations, government administrations and civil society.

TRACKING NATO’S REVIVAL: FROM WARSAW TO BRUSSELS
22 Nov

On 22nd November 2016 the Institute for European Studies, in cooperation with the Baltic Defence College, and with the financial support of NATO’s Public Diplomacy Division, organised a public roundtable with a view to assessing the outcomes of the Warsaw Summit and paving the way forward to the Brussels Summit in the spring of 2017. The discussions reviewed the evolution from the assurance measures of the Newport Summit to the deterrence measures of the Warsaw Summit; the challenges encountered when countering hybrid or non-linear warfare; and the implications of the rise of Asia for the transatlantic relationship.

MANAGING SOCIETAL SECURITY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION:
POLICY-MAKERS AS SECURITIZING ACTORS
2 Dec

This conference brought together academics and policy makers working in various fields of societal security. The event aimed to provide an overview on the complexity and interlinkages among various areas of societal security, societal resilience and policy making, with a special emphasis on the actors involved. This event was organised by the IES under the auspices of the SOURCE project and the SOURCE network of excellence.
Following the recommendations of the management audit carried out in 2014, the Institute changed its statutes to increase the involvement of own faculty and to improve communication between the different stakeholders. From 2016 the IES Board includes three additional observers: one representative from the senior academics, one from the junior researchers and one from the administration. The new statutes also clarify the responsibilities between the Board and the Executive Board, which had become blurred since the adoption of IES ZAP in 2012. The Executive Board was renamed to Academic Board, and was enlarged to include three IES representatives. Both Boards operate under the chairmanship of President Karel De Gucht.

As announced in 2015, the Institute welcomed a new Academic Director in 2016. Prof. Dr. Christian Kaunert officially started his mandate in September, although he had already been invited to Board and Executive Board meetings since March. Prior to his appointment at the IES, Dr. Kaunert served as Jean Monnet professor at the University of Dundee.

The management structures of the Institute are the following:

a. The IES Board

The IES Board is responsible for approving the general strategy, policy plan, budget, and annual report. The Board also decides on the research strategy and gives its final approval to the appointment of senior staff. It is the highest management authority of the Institute.

In particular, and without prejudice to any other of its responsibilities, the Board is competent to define the general guidelines and to approve the general regulations of the IES, to define and approve the policy plan, to define, approve and if necessary adapt the budget, the annual accounts and the annual report, to establish staff training, to appoint directors and senior research fellows, and to take framework decisions in relation to postgraduate educational initiatives. Following the adoption of the Service Level Agreements between the IES and the faculties in 2010 (renewed in 2015), the Institute is also competent to decide on matters of teaching (i.e. in the Advanced Master programmes that the faculties previously managed).

The Board consists of 12 members: 5 externals (to the VUB), 5 VUB faculty, the Rector (or her representative) and the Academic Director. Since fall 2016, three observers from the IES staff join the Board meetings (one senior academic, one junior researcher and one secretariat staff). Mark Vanheukelen left the Board due to his new professional position as EU Ambassador. He has not been replaced yet in the IES Board.
b. The IES Academic Board

The Academic Board (previously: Executive Board) is responsible for Human Resources and education at the IES. It deals with appointments, promotion dossiers and, if applicable, renewal of appointments of members of staff; approval of research awards, appointment of researchers, defining the duties of researcher staff and considering proposals concerning educational matters (including changes to Programme curricula). In all these matters, the Academic Board obtained exclusivity in the new statutes, albeit that certain decisions may still be revoked (but not altered) by the Board.

The Academic Board consists of 15 members: two representatives of the ES Faculty, two representatives of the RC Faculty, two representatives of the IES Board, three representatives of IES staff, the programme directors of the Advanced Master Programmes, the Academic Director and the President of the Board. It also includes by two external members (alumni of the IES programmes).

c. Daily management

Daily management is the responsibility of the Academic and Executive Directors, in accordance with the President of the Institute. In 2016, they were assisted by a deputy Academic Director. In the absence of the latter at the beginning of 2016, and awaiting the formal start of the new Academic Director, the tasks of the Academic Director were shared by two members of IES senior academic staff. From February to September, Prof. Dr. Ilke Adam and Prof. Dr. Harri Kalimo shared most of these tasks.

d. Operational Clusters

Research management at the IES is primarily done through thematic clusters with a certain degree of managerial capacity. Members of each cluster meet at least monthly and their findings / suggestions / activity reports are communicated in overall staff meetings, which take place once per month. These research clusters are led by senior academic staff. All members of the academic staff belong to one or more clusters where they report and organise their activities. Senior researchers meet once per month in a postdoc meeting to discuss academic and organisational issues, and to coordinate activities. Since 2012, the Institute has four research clusters: (1) International Security (formerly European Foreign Security Policy), (2) Environment and Sustainable Development, (3) Migration, Diversity and Justice, and (4) European Economic Governance, as well as one Educational Development Unit.

e. Strategic Away Days

As in previous years, the IES organised strategic ‘away days’ in October - two-day strategy meetings of management and postdoctoral researchers, and representatives of all staff. The outcome of the strategic away days serves as a basis for further decision-making. In 2016 these strategy meetings served as a basis for writing the five-year Strategic Plan.
Initiated in 2013, the IES gender and diversity awareness policy and its implementation are regarded as ‘best practice’ by the VUB as its aims go beyond the work of all institutions and departments at the University, including the Gender Action Plan launched by the VUB in February 2014. The IES Diversity and Gender Task Force (DIVGEN) has attempted to address issues of gender and diversity on multiple levels. The IES confidential counsellor, Ms Anne Sterckx, followed several training courses on HR policy and practice throughout 2016. No incidents were reported over the past year.

During 2016, IES Management implemented gender equality measures in its governing boards. The IES statutes were changed in March to include a paragraph on gender and diversity, now reading: ‘a minimum of one third of the members [of the Board and of the Academic Board] need to be of a different gender’. With this article, the IES went further than the VUB policy, which only ‘strives’ to have one third of its members from the opposite sex. With the election of new representatives in the Academic Board, this policy was implemented fully, resulting in a relative balance of 36% women, against 64% men, as opposed to 9% and 91% respectively in its previous composition. The IES sought a gender balance at the time of the appointment of new members in its evaluation and promotion committee.

Overall, the Institute employs 87 people (43 women and 44 men), but there is a difference between the categories of personnel (see the tables below). In Management, both the Academic and the Executive Director are men. Only one female professor teaches in the IES LL.M. programme. The opening of an assistant management position at the beginning of 2017 (approved by the Board in December 2016) may open opportunities to help build gender balance, while upcoming vacancies in the LL.M. programme may lead to a more gender-balanced teaching staff. Balance is difficult to obtain, as most teaching staff have long-term or tenured contracts. IES Management however recognises the issue and will take measures to help achieve this balance wherever possible.
OUTREACH

The IES communicates with the outside world by targeting Brussels-based public and policy-makers, academics and researchers interested in the EU as well as potential students (both students and professionals) for its various educational programmes. Below are some of the highlights in the Institute’s outreach in 2016.

WEBSITES

2016 saw a change in the visual identity of VUB university. The IES now applies this across its main website as well as on its websites dedicated to its LLM, EuroMaster, Summer School, and Postgraduate Certificate programmes.

NEWSLETTERS

The monthly newsletter is sent at the start of the month to the IES mailing lists. The main list has over 4,000 recipients and continues to grow. Moreover, in 2016 the IES launched its IES Alumni Newsletter, a quarterly issue sent to some 600 recipients.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Below are some 2016 statistics on the main IES social media channels. The number of followers / fans went up for all channels (+18% followers on Twitter, +42% on Facebook, approx. +10% on LinkedIn). In the autumn the IES also stepped up its Instagram activity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Platform</th>
<th>Followers</th>
<th>Engagement (tweets, replies, quotes and likes)</th>
<th># of impressions</th>
<th>Followers / fans</th>
<th>Engagement (reactions, comments)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instagram</td>
<td>7,574</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>688,800</td>
<td>6,126 (main IES page)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>11,711</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11,711 (all IES FB pages combined)</td>
<td>1,214 (main IES page)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LinkedIn</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,120 (all IES FB pages combined)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YouTube</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>129</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OUTREACH
The IES collaborates on a daily basis with a vast number of universities and institutions around the world, in the context of its academic programmes and research activities. In this report we identify three dominant types of interactions: Memoranda of Understanding, Long-standing relationships in both education and research, and Project-based collaboration.

1. COLLABORATION BASED ON MOU

The IES has developed a range of formal Memoranda of Understanding with various research and educational institutions. These MoUs are signed as a result of enhanced cooperation between the IES and partner institutions. They allow us to forge global partnerships, encouraging exchange of knowledge between these institutions. The following list of agreements highlights our global reach.

- Hendrix College (Arkansas, USA)
- University of Vienna and Diplomatic Academy of Vienna (Austria)
- UNU-CRIS – United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (Belgium / Japan)
- USC – University of Southern California (USA)

2. COLLABORATION BASED ON LONG-STANDING RELATIONSHIPS

Long-standing relationships form the basis for many of the Institute’s collaborative activities. Our senior and junior staff have developed and carefully nurtured a range of different relationships with various academic partners across Belgium, Europe, and beyond. In terms of education, these relationships have taken the form of visiting lectures, courses, and roles as members of examination committees. In Belgium, this interaction has involved the VUB, Vesalius College, KU Leuven, Kent University, the ULB, UCL, and the Universities of Antwerp and Ghent. In Europe, long-standing educational collaboration is seen in seven countries from Austria to the Netherlands, and also the United States of America. Similar collaboration is taking place between the IES and EU-wide or global institutions, such as the European Security and Defence College and NATO Defense College.
IES researchers are engaged with other institutes and organisations on an individual basis as well as at a more formalised level. These informal partnerships have been established for many years and concretely they take the shape of participation in seminars and panel discussions, acting as (keynote) speaker, co-organising workshops, co-authorship of publications, etc. Across our various clusters, we have such partnerships with universities and institutes in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, the Netherlands, UK and USA. In terms of formal thematic networks in research, the IES is participant in a variety of institutionalised networks. These include: APSA Migration and Citizenship Network; CES (Council for European Studies) Migration network; EANRS (European Academic Network for Romani Studies); Expert network on Value Reconciliation; IMISCOE (International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion Network), covering 18 countries; INOSD (Innovations in climate governance), a network of excellence including researchers from 27 European countries; INSEAD network on circular economy; Lund University network on industrial ecology; REFFRACT (Research Network on Regime Complexes and Fragmentation); Research Network Political Sociology of ESA (European Sociological Association); etc.

The Institute has deeply integrated projects into its ‘DNA’. As shown in the Externally Funded Projects section of this report, some 30 projects operated in 2016. The international networks established by our individual staff members continue to be used to great effect to contribute to the internationalisation of the Flemish research landscape. In this section, we highlight the academic collaboration that has stimulated and flowed from these projects. The IES participates in a range of different types of projects, from policy support (service contracts) to fundamental research projects. The IES is also active in educational projects, and some of these have entailed the creation of formal networks, such as the INOTLES Project.

All of these projects have entailed international collaboration, with some (COP21-RIPPLES, PACT, ACT2015 and EL-CSID) going far beyond the EU’s boundaries. However, the majority of IES project based collaboration remains within (or close to) the EU’s boundaries. Even so, the projects may have global reach.
As indicated in the chapter on ‘Organisation and Structure’, the IES Academic Board is responsible for the appointment of all staff at the IES. Senior Academic staff appointments must be confirmed by the Board. Appointments of administrative staff are undertaken by daily management.

Selected at the end of 2015, Prof. Dr. Christian Kaunert took up his function as Academic Director of the Institute in September 2016. Following the grant award by the European Commission for the H2020 project on Science and Cultural Diplomacy (EL-CSID), three new senior academics started research at the Institute: Prof. Dr. Luk Van Langenhove (70%), Prof. Dr. Caterina Carta (20%) and Prof. Dr. George Terzis (20%) all took up office in March 2016.

The IES also launched two new calls for projects in the course of 2016. Consequently, two new researchers, Fausta Todhe and Eli Perot, started as PhD researchers at the Institute in October. In addition, Dr. Irina Van Der Vet started as project researcher in February 2016. In order to follow up the increasing number of projects (most notably the H2020 project EL-CSID), the secretariat welcomed Léonie Maes, who started as project officer in March. Jurgen Smet started as the new Communications Officer in June 2016.

Several IES members left the Institute in 2016:
• Dr. Lisanne Groen, who finalised her PhD in the course of 2016, left the Institute in September to take up a job as researcher at the United Nations University in Tokyo;
• Dr. Esther Marijnen, who finalised her PhD in the fall of 2016, left at the end of the year after having been granted a Max Batley fellowship at the University of Sheffield;
• Dr. Irene Wieczorek, who finalised her PhD in the fall of 2016, left at the end of the year to become a Post-Doctoral Researcher at the University of Cambridge and the Université Libre de Bruxelles;
• Laraine d’Antin, who worked as learning technologist at the IES Educational Development Unit, returned to the UK;
• Marie Tuley ended her communications function at the Institute in May 2016 to continue a career in research elsewhere;
• Alexandra Mihai’s contract was temporarily suspended (for 1 year) taking effect 1 September 2016.
OVERVIEW OF PERSONNEL AT THE IES

TOTAL STAFF

16 different job students helped with basic research tasks and administration in 2016. With these personnel changes, the total number of people directly paid by the IES amounted to 38.5 full-time equivalents (as opposed to 36.2 FTE last year). The total number of IES staff, including those not paid directly by the IES (e.g., the President, the Advisor, one Senior Academic, and all VUB-paid teaching and support staff) amounted to 89. An additional 30 people were associated with the Institute (as either senior associate fellow or visiting fellow).

President Karel De Gucht*
Academic Director Christian Kaunert (since September 2016)
Acting Academic Director Harri Kalimo (from February – September 2016)
Assistant Academic Director Alexander Mattelaer 50%
Executive Director Anthony Antoine 100%

Ilke Adam 100%
Claire Dupont 100%
Harri Kalimo 100%
Marie Lamensch (60% until September 2016, 30% afterwards)
Richard Lewis*
Alexander Mattelaer 50%
Trisha Meyer 60%
Sebastian Oberthür 100%

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Lisanne Groen 100 % (until September 2016)
Tran Van Ty*
Ernesto Roessing Neto*
Carlos Sofia Rodrigues 100%
Laura Iozzelli 100%

EUROPEAN FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY
Daniel Fiser*
Esther Marjinen 100%
Stephan Klose 100%
Antonios Restoras*
Elke Perot 100% (since October 2016)

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE
Ferran Davesa 100%
Max Jansson*
Filip Sedefov 100%
Fausta Todhe 100% (since October 2016)

MIGRATION, DIVERSITY & JUSTICE
Serena DiAgostino 100%
Neepa Acharya*
Matthias Holkema*

SECRETARIAT
Management Assistant & Projects Jacintha Liem 100%
Finance & HR Manager Anne Sterckx 100%
Communication & Marketing Jurgen Smet 100%
 Events & Communication Anamaria Bacin 100%
EuroMaster & Education Lynn Tylgat 100%
LL.M. Secretariat Marleen Van Impe 80%
IT Klaas Chielens 100%
General Secretariat Hilde Vanderheyden 80%
EL-CSID Project, Postgraduate Certificate & Summer School Leone Maes 100%

LL.M. IN INTERNATIONAL & EUROPEAN LAW
Dirk Arts 5%
Karel De Gucht 10% (since October 2016)

MSC EUROPEAN INTEGRATION
Ilke Adam*
Manuela Alfe 10%
Youri Devuyst 10%
Dirk Arts 5%
Harri Kalimo 10%
Andrea Mairait 10%
Christof Roos*
Irina Tanaseiscu 10%

PERSONNEL

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT
Alexandra Mihai 100%
Silku Pliss 100%
Irina Van Der Vet 40%

JUNIOR RESEARCHERS
Jamal Shahin 60%
Florian Trauner 70%

MANAGEMENT

President Karel De Gucht*
Academic Director Christian Kaunert (since September 2016)
Acting Academic Director Harri Kalimo (from February – September 2016)
Assistant Academic Director Alexander Mattelaer 50%
Executive Director Anthony Antsine 100%

Ilke Adam 100%
Claire Dupont 100%
Harri Kalimo 100%
Marie Lamensch (60% until September 2016, 30% afterwards)
Richard Lewis*
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Ilke Adam* (since October 2016)
Manuela Alfe 10%
Youri Devuyst 10%
Dirk Arts 5%
Harri Kalimo 10%
Andrea Mairait 10%
Christof Roos*
Irina Tanaseiscu 10%

MSC EUROPEAN INTEGRATION
Ilke Adam*
Manuela Alfe 10%
Youri Devuyst 10%
Dirk Arts 5%
Harri Kalimo 10%
Andrea Mairait 10%
Christof Roos*
Irina Tanaseiscu 10%

* Supported by other funds

PROJECT RESEARCHERS
Tomas Wyns 100%
Olof Sixtebech 100%
Irina van der Vet 40%
Ewout Ramon 100%

DIRECTLY EMPLOYED

TEACHING STAFF

LL.M. IN INTERNATIONAL & EUROPEAN LAW
Paul De Hert 10%
Serge Gutwehr 10%
Stefaan Smits 10%
Tony Joos 25%

MSC EUROPEAN INTEGRATION
Caroline Buts 10%
Leo van Hove 10%
Luis Simon 10%

VUB-PAID TEACHING STAFF

LL.M. IN INTERNATIONAL & EUROPEAN LAW
Paul De Hert 10%
Serge Gutwehr 10%
Stefaan Smits 10%
Tony Joos 25%

MSC EUROPEAN INTEGRATION
Caroline Buts 10%
Leo van Hove 10%
Luis Simon 10%
QUALITY ASSURANCE

Management applies quality control measures ex ante as well as ex post. In attracting academic personnel, the IES applies the highest standards. Likewise in its financial management, the IES implements both internal and external control; equally in its services, the IES delivers the best possible services and tries to improve them through feedback from its clients.

QUALITY OF SERVICES

For all relevant major activities organised at the IES, an evaluation form is distributed to participants to assess the quality of the rendered services. After each major event/activity, management and organising staff jointly assess the strengths and weaknesses of the outcomes in order to identify potential for improvement.

QUALITY OF PERSONNEL

All personnel are hired through a quality control procedure, which, as a general rule, begins with the publication of an external vacancy. These vacancies are published internationally through relevant Internet sources, specialised e-mail distribution lists, newspapers and/or journals. The files of candidates are scrutinised by (external) evaluators, with top-ranked individuals invited for an interview with management, senior IES researchers and experts in the field, as appropriate. In the case of recruitment for teaching staff, the incumbents present a guest/test lecture that is assessed by both colleagues and students. Teaching staff is further assessed by the Academic Council of the university before a final appointment is made. Candidates for professorships (ZAP) also follow VUB university appointment procedures.

PhD students are recruited through international calls for projects. In 2016, the IES launched two of these calls: one in the field of European Economic Governance and one on International Security. All attracted a large number of candidates, which were scrutinised by a diverse team of scholars. After interviews with the most promising candidates by the cluster coordinators and a team of scholars and staff, two PhD researchers were appointed by the IES Academic Board and awarded a scholarship for a maximum duration of four years.
The quality of personnel is further monitored through periodical evaluations. PhD researchers are to meet their promoter and supervisory committee at least twice per year, while all other academic personnel is assessed on a yearly basis, using standard benchmark sheets. Such assessment did not take place in 2016 due to the change in academic management. Within the secretariat, IES personnel are evaluated twice per year through an internal assessment procedure, using standard evaluation forms. In 2016, two such evaluations took place (one in April and one in November). These six monthly IES evaluations serve as benchmarking for the upcoming six months.

Administrative personnel are also supported in the development of personal or work-related skills. In the framework of lifelong learning, a modest budget foresees the support for individual or collective training sessions and/or extra courses. Several such trainings took place in 2016 for the staff responsible for IT, Communications, Projects and HR.

The financial officer is supervised by the Executive Director, who in turn reports to the Board of the IES. An external auditor annually controls the overall finances (currently BDO Auditors). Following EC rules, European-funded projects of a certain magnitude (FP7 and H2020) are scrutinised by an auditor prior to submitting the periodic financial figures to the Commission.

Teaching staff are recruited through international vacancies, subject to external scrutiny, interviews and test lectures. Students annually assess the quality of the teacher/course through feedback forms. Both the Dean, the Academic Director as well as the Programme Director of the respective Master Programme oversee the follow-up of Programme questions relating to teaching, learning and the overall learning objectives of both modules and programmes. The IES Academic Board further refined the Education and Exam regulations, based on the overall university rules on this theme. In order to enhance the quality of the programme, the Academic Board also adapted the programme of the MSc in European Integration. The programme changes will allow for a four stream programme, based on relevant thematic clusters that link back to IES research. In this way, the Institute hopes to even better meet the research-based quality standards that are required by the Flemish Government at Master-after-Master level.

PhD and senior researchers are appointed after a thorough selection procedure involving an international call for applications, including external scrutiny and interviews (see above). Research progress of PhD students is monitored continuously by the promoter, the doctoral committee (twice per year), the responsible senior IES researcher, and the Academic Director in accordance with the IES PhD Guidelines (incorporated in the Guidelines for Academic Staff). In the process of this quality control, junior researchers present a state of affairs of their findings at least once per year at a research colloquium (held biweekly). In order to further enhance the quality of the research, and to streamline the different applicable procedures, the IES Board appointed Prof. Dr. Sebastian Oberthür as Director of PhD Studies – a position it recently created. The Director of PhD Studies will form the pivotal connection between the researchers, IES Management and the university structures. He will collaborate closely with the Doctoral School in Social Sciences, organised by the university at large.

Postdoctoral IES researchers and senior academic staff are monitored by the Academic Director and IES Management in the context of establishing and reviewing ‘benchmarks’.

In order to enhance the quality of overall management, the IES Board changed the composition and prerogatives of the Institute’s governing boards. From October 2016 onwards, the Academic Board (formerly Executive Board) includes IES academic staff while observers were added to the Board. This enhances the involvement of the Institute’s staff and the transparency of the decision-making process. The tasks and functions of both governing boards are also better defined so that overlap is avoided.

To enhance the skills and portfolio of daily management, annual training sessions are usually organised for IES management and senior academic staff. Due to the changes in academic management, these trainings were postponed to 2017.
The IES is in good financial health. 2016 marks the first year in which the Institute has been able to match its core government funding with income from other sources. For the first time in its history, the Institute obtained more than EUR 1.1 million of funding through externally financed projects. A large majority of these funds are linked to European research projects (FP7 and H2020) but the Institute was also successful in obtaining smaller scale projects from NGOs, national foundations and governments. The Institute also rents out its premises (mainly its conference facilities), which helped generate extra income.

On the expenses side, the Institute’s largest costs are – not surprisingly – personnel costs. With 38.5 FTE personnel, it is quite normal that 70% of its expenses are HR-related. With the remaining 30%, the Institute financed its investments, its running costs and the organisation of its events. Most notably, the Institute organised a major international conference – the 5th of its kind, the EU in International Affairs conference (EUIA16) in May 2016. Naturally, the EUIA16 accounted for the bulk of our event organisation budget.

The IES surpassed the total revenue of 2015, generating a total turnover of EUR 3.85 million, which is EUR 340,000 more than last year. It ends the year with a slight surplus, maintaining the break-even situation it has been achieving over the past years.
For an overview of the books published by the IES in 2016, see the Publications section in this Annual Report.

**BOOK CHAPTERS**


FULL ARTICLES IN SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS WITH INTERNATIONAL PEER REVIEW


Institute for European Studies
2016 Activity Report

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