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Background

The Institute for European Studies is an autonomous department of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB). It was created in 2001 through an initiative taken by the Flemish Government (Decree of 20/04/2001 (GG 13/07/2001), amended by the decree of 07/12/2001 (GG 12/2/2002), amended by the decree of 21/12/2001 (GG 29/12/2001) – coming into force on 01/01/2001).

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

While promoting European Studies in general, the IES specifically focuses on the interface between the EU and international affairs and institutions. It explores EU institutions, policies and law within the context of globalization and global governance. The disciplines applied at the IES are a mixture of law, social/political sciences, economics and communication sciences, and the Institute’s activities focus on the various ways in which institutions, law and politics intersect with each other in the EU, its member states and at the international level.

Research at the IES currently concentrates on four evolving areas:

- EU Foreign and Security Policy
- Environment & Sustainable Development
- Migration, Diversity and Justice
- European Economic Governance.

With own resources as well as external funding, these research areas are explored by research projects, conferences, and workshops. These activities regularly lead to high-quality academic publications (books and journal articles) and to working papers and policy briefs.

Fostered by its research, the IES constitutes the focal point for teaching European Studies at the VUB. It coordinates relevant MA programmes and, in particular, hosts the renowned LL.M. International and European Law, and the advanced MA European Integration and Development. In addition, the IES co-organises an annual Summer School on European Policy. A postgraduate programme including three e-learning modules on EU law; European history, institutions and decision-making; and European information sources on the internet (www.emodules.be) completes the educational portfolio of the IES.

The IES also provides a number of academic services to disseminate its research and promote its education and to stimulate academic and public discussion on topical European issues. The Institute utilizes its central location in Brussels for regularly organising events such as the EU in Close-Up training sessions, the IES Lecture Series, the IES Policy Forum and other conferences and workshops for academia and/or the interested public. Furthermore, the IES publishes a book series, the IES Working Papers, IES Policy Briefs and the quarterly IES Newsletter.

The Institute fosters academic cooperation with a wide range of Universities and other public as well as private research institutions in Belgium and abroad.
Introducing the IES 2012 Activity Report

2012 marked the 10th anniversary of the Institute for European Studies. Created in 2001, the Institute effectively started working on 1 January 2002. It would be the start of an ever growing adventure: the IES, which in 2002 started with five collaborators, has grown to host more than one hundred people merely ten years later. On its 10th anniversary, the Institute organised a record number of activities, including the third issue of its international conference “The EU in International Affairs”. Attracting more than three hundred scholars from all over the world, this conference proves that the IES is soundly placed on the proverbial “map” of internationally recognised research organisations.

2012 was also an anniversary year for the Advanced Master programmes of the Institute. The MSc in European Integration and Development, the Advanced Master programme for which the Institute has gained growing responsibility over the past years, celebrated its 10th anniversary, while the LL.M. in International and European Law could blow out 40 candles. Having been part of the pioneers of international and European law studies at the VUB many years ago, it gives me personal pride to witness the 40th anniversary of the programme, which started as the Programme on International Legal Cooperation. It is delightful to see that the law programme, which lies at the basis of the Institute’s creation, is still vibrant and prospering after 40 years - a fact that is endorsed by the many alumni that gathered in Brussels to mark its anniversary.

2012, however, was more than merely a year of celebrations. It was above all a year of enduring hard work; of continuing to move the Institute towards the high level to which it aspires. With a multitude of activities, research workshops, policy forums and lectures, and with a publication record that is high both in terms of quality and quantity, the Institute can show an unprecedented output. Its output was also visible through the graduation of three PhD students, setting the total to 11 postdoctoral IES researchers, all of which have found interesting professional endeavours in their post-PhD careers.

Celebrating ten years of success is also an ideal opportunity to look to the future. With its diversified and qualitative high standing portfolio as a sound foundation, the Institute is ready to build further on its mission of ensuring excellence in European research and teaching. We hope that this annual report may give you many inspiring examples of this mission.

Bart De Schutter, President
Executive Summary

After ten years, the Institute for European Studies continues to grow, not only in input (number of collaborators), but especially in output. In our anniversary year, we managed to organise almost 80 activities (15 more than last year), ranging from two-hour research colloquia to three-day international conferences, while working on 33 ongoing projects, again a 20% increase. The IES delivered 3 additional PhDs in 2012; one in law and two in political science, while scholars published a total of 181 articles, books and book chapters. Moreover, an increasing amount of research papers are published in peer reviewed journals with high international standing. Next to quantity, the Institute also invested in quality: its book publication series has moved to an international publisher (Palgrave Macmillan) and is now subject to peer review. Although this influences the publication process (taking more time, so that no IES books were published in 2012), it does improve the quality in the long run. It also helps our book series to be better recognized internationally. Next to books and academic articles, 2012 also welcomed the creation of IES Policy Briefs: concise articles on timely topics that are relevant for policy and policy-making.

International recognition is something that we definitely obtained through the organisation of the third edition of our internationally renowned EU in International Affairs conference. EU Council President Herman Van Rompuy opened this three-day endeavour, where more than 300 scholars from all over the world gathered to discuss politics, economics, law and policy of the EU in an international setting - an unprecedented success.

With changes to staff and research challenges, the Institute reformed its cluster-structure in 2012 to better reflect the research interests and to improve the research capacity of the individual clusters. Research at the IES is now nurtured through four clusters: Environment and Sustainable Development, Migration, Diversity and Justice, European Foreign and Security Policy, and European Economic Governance. A fifth, Educational Development Unit, completes the operational division at the IES. The clusters were involved in a total of 27 research projects, and managed to have half of those financed by third parties. An additional 9 externally funded educational projects complete the list.

On a general managerial level, the Institute started working with a renewed and enlarged Executive Board - the mid-level Board of the Institute responsible for the appointment of junior researchers and teaching programme reform - while its (general) Board obtained more responsibilities in the appointment of teaching staff (due to new overall VUB regulations).

In the teaching field, the IES fulfilled its obligations as stipulated in the government agreement. The Institute welcomed a total of 96 Master students and 3 new PhD scholars, while it graduated 31 students in the LL.M. programme on International and European Law, 21 students in the Master in European Integration and Development, one PhD in Law, and two PhDs in Political Science. The total number of Master diplomas granted by the IES thus amounts to 52, while three new doctoral degrees were awarded. The Institute was also active in postgraduate teaching, such as its successful Summer School on European Policy Making (17 students), and in contracted teaching for Hendrix College, Vesalius College and the University of Southern California.

This increasing growth, however, does not come without a cost. As predicted, the Institute incurred a loss in 2013, albeit a bigger loss than initially anticipated. As the reasons for the deficit are mainly exceptional and circumstantial, we are confident that our Institute will regain a break-even situation next year. Through good planning in previous years, the net deficit of this year is limited to 0.96% of the overall turnover - more proof that the IES' financial status is solid and ready to withstand another decade of growth and success.
In 2012, the IES delivered three **PhDs** while starting five new PhD research projects (one funded through the FWO, and all others on IES budget). Of the three doctorates, two were in Political Science and one was in Law.

The total number of **projects** the IES has initiated itself and has been working on in this financial year amounts to 14. With an additional 13 externally funded research projects and 9 funded teaching projects, the IES worked on a total of 36 different studies.

The IES employed 37.3 full-time equivalents – in total 84 different people.

40% of the **resources** originated from non-governmental sources.

IES staff were involved in the **publication** of four books, 18 peer reviewed articles in international journals and 41 book chapters and other academic papers. An additional 26 papers were published online or in the media. IES teaching staff and associates also published 93 academic papers and book chapters, bringing the total number of IES publications to 181.

During 2012, the IES worked on 22 externally funded **projects**: three FP7 projects funded by the European Commission (CORPUS, ADVISE, eGovPoliNet), five EC Jean Monnet projects, two projects commissioned by the European Parliament, two projects financed by FWO, one VUB-GOA project, and eight consultancy / training projects of national and international partners.

The Institute continued its **inter-university network** with the United Nations University, the Egmont Royal Institute for International Relations and the Institut d’Études Européennes (ULB) with which it organised an international conference, with the Universität Wien and the Diplomatische Akademie Wien with which it organised a summer school, the Institute for European Environmental Policy with which it organised policy forums, and Vesalius College, with which it organised lectures and teaching events. It also worked together with the Brussels Institute for Contemporary China Studies, Hendrix College, the University of Southern California, Tampere University (Finland), Turku University (Finland), the Erasmus Hogeschool and with the following Belgian universities: Universiteit Antwerpen, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Université Catholique de Louvain and Universiteit Gent.

The IES organised a three-day **international conference**, two summer schools, two lecture series (consisting of up to 10 lectures), 21 research colloquia, 9 policy fora, 7 training sessions, and 11 webinars. In addition, it organised a study abroad programme and also co-organised one more lecture series (of 7 lectures). The total number of organised events amounts to 79.

31 **students** graduated in 2012 from the LLM International and European Law, while another 21 graduated from the MSc of European Integration and Development. A total of 96 students studied at the IES in 2012 (of which 37 new ones in the Euromaster, and 33 new ones in the LL.M; 26 continued their study from 2011). Students come from 29 different countries.
On 17 May 2002, the Flemish Government acknowledged the Institute’s ability to award the diploma of ‘Master in International and Comparative Law’. Following the audit of the programme prior to its accreditation, this Master programme changed its name to ‘LL.M. in International and European Law’. The Programme itself was created in 1971 as a postgraduate LLM programme in international and comparative law and, as such, it is one of the most established of its kind in Europe. Throughout the years it has attracted a steady flow of high quality applicants from all over the world, and, as an internationally oriented Master’s Programme, it has always sought a diverse faculty with a mixture of academics and professionals from a broader European background. Over the years, the focus of the Master’s Programme has gradually shifted from comparative law to international and European law. This was an understandable development due partly to the increasing importance of the European integration process, which has steadily deepened and widened throughout the years, and partly to the obvious advantage of the Master Programme being located in the capital of Europe and therefore close to the major European institutions. Internally, the programme may still be referred to with its ‘old’ abbreviation of PILC (Programme on International Legal Cooperation), although with the recently recognised title of LL.M, the ‘old’ abbreviation is less frequently used.

In November 2007, the VUB decided that the advanced Master programme of European Integration and Development should also fall under the organisational capacity of the IES. This programme, which had been organised since 2002 by the Faculty of Economics, Social and Political Science, focuses on the integration processes of the European Union, and offers two study paths: one on economic integration, and one on political/social integration. It is geared towards international students but has been fruitfully recruiting from the international community in Brussels and those working with or in the European institutions. Contrary to the LLM, this advanced Master programme is designed as an evening programme that can be taken either full-time or part-time. It is therefore not surprising that a large number of international (working) students from Brussels are interested in the programme. Internally, the programme is referred to as the ‘Euromaster’.
Implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2015

The Strategic Plan 2011-2015 described a number of objectives in the education field that are pertinent to 2012:

- LL.M in International and European Law & Master of European Integration and Development:
  - Issuance of 50 diplomas per year on average (as required by the Government Agreement) while paying the necessary attention to quality control;
  - Ensuring attractiveness of programmes (through programme reviews, enhanced recruitment, quality control, etc.);
  - Ensuring financial viability (through increase in tuition fees, search for external funding, etc.);
- Annual organisation of an IES Summer School and initiation of accreditation within VUB (by 2012); regular review of contents;
- E-learning modules: accreditation, increase of income to €20,000 by 2015;

Issuance of 50 diplomas per year (on average)

This objective stems from the obligation written down in the Government Agreement with the University, in which the IES is to deliver (on average over the five years) 50 diplomas per year for its LL.M International and European Law and its Master in European Integration and Development (combined). In 2012 (following the academic year 2011-2012), the IES delivered 31 diplomas in its LLM programme and another 21 diplomas in the EuroMaster.

Ensure the continued attractiveness of the two programmes

The IES continued to invest in publicity for the two programmes, and worked together with other departments of the university in order to be able to actively recruit students. The IES was also active online and in social media. The Institute also continued its efforts to ensure quality, both at the intake of students and at the intake and prolongation of teaching staff.

Ensure financial viability of the programmes

The tuition fees for both programmes were further enhanced to 4,500 (LL.M.) and 3,500 (Euromaster), while the scheme for grants (through tuition fee waivers) was further refined. The increased income from tuition fees, together with the financial guarantees built into the Service Level Agreements with the Faculties of the University allow for the programmes to gradually become self-sustainable. Additional external funding, notably through three accepted projects in the European Commission’s Jean Monnet programme, further enhance the financial viability of the two programmes.

Organisation of Summer School

The Institute successfully organised the 9th edition of the Summer School on European Policy Making in July 2012. Since this year, the Summer School also benefits from EU funding for three years.

E-learning modules

Accredited in 2011, the E-learning modules were completely overhauled in 2012. The IES invested in a new online e-learning system (compatible with the overall VUB environment) in order to be able to fulfill its objectives of attracting more students (and income) in the years to come.
Following the suggestions of the ‘visitation’ committee that audited the programme in 2009, the programme director, Amelia Hadfield, and the programme committee changed the course programme to include a methodological course. Subsequently, an international vacancy was launched, after which the IES appointed a new scholar.

Students in/out

The EuroMaster programme is an evening programme to enable the participation of ‘working students’. To this end, it is also possible to enroll part-time. For the academic year 2011/2012, 59 students enrolled for the MSc European Integration and Development. Out of these students, there were 22 were male and 37 female. 10 of the students chose to study the programme part-time. Following the exams in June and September, a total of 21 students graduated from the programme (1 with summa cum laude, 5 with magna cum laude, 9 with cum laude and another 6 passed with satisfactory results).

For the academic year 2012/2013, 62 candidates were selected, of which 59 students enrolled (37 new students, 16 students from the academic year 2011-2012 and 6 students from the academic year 2010-2011). Out of the 59 enrolled students, there were 26 coming from the EU and 33 from outside the EU (9 from Europe, 12 from Asia and 12 from Africa).

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<tr>
<th>Compulsory Courses</th>
<th>Option “Economic Integration”</th>
<th>Option “European Politics and Social Integration”</th>
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| Institutional and Political Aspects of the European Integration  
  Prof. Angela Liberatore | Competition Policy and State Aid  
  Prof. Doris Hildebrand  
  Regional Development  
  Prof. Andrea Mairate  
  European Monetary Policy  
  Prof. Lea Van Hove | European Culture and Mentalities in Historical Comparative Prospective  
  Prof. Peter Scholliers  
  EU Foreign Policy  
  Prof. Amelia Hadfield  
  Civil Society Representation and Diversity in the EU, Prof. Alison Woodward |
| Theory of European Economic Integration  
  Prof. Jef Vuchelen / Prof. C. Buts | The Rule of Law in the EU  
  Prof. Irina Tanasescu | |
| The EU and the Stakeholders of the Economy  
  Prof. Harri Kallimo | Research Methods  
  Prof. Manuela Alfé | |
Since 2011-2012, the programme has consisted of two study paths: one in Public Law, and one in Business Law. Before this academic year, students had no optional courses in the LLM. The two study paths provide an answer to a demand that has existed for many years, and that was further suggested by the Audit committee that served as basis for the accreditation of the programme in 2010.

**Students in/out**

Candidate students for the LLM programme submit their application by 15 February of the year in which they wish to commence their studies. The LLM Academic Board (i.e. the members of the teaching staff) makes a selection of the applications on the basis of academic background, academic letters of recommendation, motivation of the candidate and knowledge of the English language.

In 2011-2012, there were 73 applications. Of these, 56 applicants were originally selected. In the end 36 students enrolled (32 new students and 4 students who failed the previous year). The group was made up of 26 female and 10 male students. Only students with a prior education of ‘Master in law’ (previously: ‘licentiaat’) or an equivalent legal diploma with a minimum of 240 ECTS were accepted. Three students were born before 1980 – all the rest are between 22 and 29 years old. Of the 35 students, 31 students graduated from the programme. Two students graduated with the grade of summa cum laude and 17 with magna cum laude. A further 8 students graduated cum laude, while another 4 passed satisfactory. Four students had to re-take their year.

126 potential students applied for the academic year 2012/2013. The LLM Academic Board originally selected 53 candidates. Of these, 37 students enrolled (33 new students and 4 students who failed the previous year). The group consisted of 23 female and 14 male students who came from 22 different countries. 6 students were born before 1982 – all the rest are between 22 and 29 years old. Out of the 37 enrolled students, there were 22 coming from the EU and 15 from outside the EU (6 from Europe, 3 from Asia and 6 from Africa).

### Compulsory Courses

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<tr>
<td>International and comparative law</td>
<td>Prof. A. Voiculescu (substituting Prof. E. Franckx) and Prof. R. Gosalbo Bono.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Globalization, International Law &amp; Sustainable Development</td>
<td>Prof. S. van Thiel</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU Economic Law</td>
<td>Prof. T. Joris</td>
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<tr>
<td>International and European Protection of Human Rights</td>
<td>Prof. S. Kouvo, acting professor (Prof. S. Gutwirth).</td>
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<tr>
<td>European and International competition law</td>
<td>Prof. J. Faull / Prof. B. Smulders.</td>
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<td>EU External Relations</td>
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### Option “Business Law”

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<td>Case Study on European competition law</td>
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<td>European and International Private Law</td>
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<td>Prof. S. Oberthür, Prof. H. Kalimo &amp; Prof. M. Maresceau</td>
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<td>EU environmental law in an international context</td>
<td>Profs. Oberthür and Kalimo</td>
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a. Tuition Fee

In conformity with the Strategic Plan 2011-2015, the tuition fee for the academic year 2012-2013 was set at €3,500 for the EuroMaster and €4,500 for the LLM (i.e. an increase of €500 for the latter).

As legally required, the tuition fee was composed of a fixed enrolment fee (€500 for the EuroMaster and €1,500 for the LLM) and a fee per study credit (€50 per credit). In this way, part-time students in the EuroMaster pay €2,000 per year (500 + 30x50).

b. Trends

The higher tuition fees (for the LLM programme) did not influence the number of applicants for the programme. Both in the LLM and in the Euromaster programme, sufficient candidates applied, although a notable higher number of “fall-outs” was noted. These are students that apply, but fail to register once they have been accepted to the programme. The Institute has taken new measures to limit this so-called fall-out, by tightening the deadlines, closer and more personalised financial follow-up and responding quickly to enquiries. The application procedures have also been scrutinized to allow for a system of rewards (partial tuition fee waivers in case of early registration) and penalties (fines for late payers), to be implemented in 2013. Although further research on this needs to be conducted, we expect the growing competition to be at the core of this fall-out (students applying for multiple programmes).

c. Selection policy

The overall recruitment policy for the LLM and the EuroMaster remained the same, i.e. the aim is for a wide geographical spread of the origin of the students, whilst for the LLM, only students with a law degree are accepted. Only by way of exception and with special motivation from the candidates can the Academic Board deviate from this. It did not do so in 2012/2013.

When selecting candidates for both programmes, their command of English (e.g. by presenting TOEFL results), their prior study results (corroborated by letters of recommendation by academics or former employers) and their motivation are taken into account. All the files are prepared by the secretariat and screened by the programme directors and members of the teaching staff, after which the most promising candidates are selected by the respective Academic Boards (endorsed by the IES Executive Board). For the LLM, we aim for a maximum of 40 students. Because of the different study paths in the Euromaster evening programme, a larger number may be accepted. Based on previous experience, a greater number of applicants are selected - where possible with regard to quality - as on average 35% of the selected candidates subsequently decide not to register, or cannot do so for administrative or other reasons (e.g. visa, scholarship, etc.).

d. Programme development

Implementing the advise of the evaluation and accreditation committee of the LLM programme, programme changes were implemented to allow for a choice component in the LLM (as has been the case for the Euromaster programme since its inception). As of the academic year 2012-2013, students can choose from two optional blocks: one in public law, and one in business law. Courses in the first semester remain fixed for all students, yet depending on their choice, second semester courses consist of uniquely public- or business law courses. In the past academic year, 15 students chose the public law option, while 19 students enrolled for the business law option.

In the MA European Integration and Development, one small but vital change took place, i.e. the lectures on research methods, that were incorporated in the thesis, are now detached and form a separate course (Research Methods, taught by Prof. Manuela Alfé, who was attracted to fill this position last year). As a result, the thesis now consists of 15 credits (in stead of 18 previously); the research course holds 3 credits.
This year, the programme benefited from external funding through the European Commission’s Jean Monnet programme, as Prof. Dr. Amelia Hadfield was awarded a Jean Monnet Chair for (inter alia) her course on EU Foreign Policy.

The LL.M. programme could benefit from funding from the same source, as Prof. Oberthür and Prof. Kalimo were awarded Jean Monnet Module funding for their course on EU Environmental Law in an International Context.

e. Recruitment and Advertising

In 2012, the IES continued to advertise its advanced master programmes to a large audience through online advertisements and specific participations in study fairs. Both programmes figured on all advertising material (programme brochure, advertisements, website, etc.) issued by the IES.

The Institute worked together with the International Relations and Mobility Office of the VUB to attend study fairs in the Netherlands, Germany, Romania, Turkey and China. The IES was also present at The Economist/European Voice ‘European Study Fair’ in February 2012 and at a specialized LL.M. Study Fair in the UK.

The IES diminished its paper advertisements, and limited them to one special study supplement of the European Voice and the Economist. Conversely, it invested further in its online marketing tools and was active on social media sites such as LinkedIn and Facebook. It also actively uses other services such as Twitter for marketing reasons. The IES continued to use the analytical tools at its disposal to constantly monitor which advertisement investments are worthwhile, thereby successfully adapting the online strategy on a continuous basis.

f. Alumni

As in 2011, the Institute invested a lot of resources into tracing and contacting its alumni. This was even enhanced in 2012, with the activities surrounding the 10th anniversary of the IES and the 40th anniversary of the LL.M. programme. Through Facebook and other social media, the alumni database was further refined so that a large number of our alumni could be invited (and were present) at the afore mentioned activities.

Like last year, we have contacted students of last year’s graduation (2011/2012) were contacted in order to figure out what professional activity they have undertaken since their studies at the IES. Some of last year’s EuroMaster graduates are continuing university studies, others are currently working for a variety of institutions, such as the European Commission (DG Connect), European Parliament, NATO-HQ, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Fondation Samilia, and various consultancy firms.

LL.M. alumni of the class 2011-2012 who responded to the survey are currently working for a variety of Law Firms (McDermott Will & Emery, Freshfields, van Cutsem, Wittamer, Marnef & Partners, Cadwalader), for the European Court of Human Rights, for the EFTA Surveillance Authority, or as lawyer in their respective country (i.e. China and Turkey).
In July the IES organised together with its long-standing partner, the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna, the 9th edition of the Summer School on European Policy-making. Nineteen students from thirteen countries, in and beyond the EU, gathered for an intensive two-week programme in Brussels and Vienna. Coming from different academic backgrounds, the students had a keen interest in European affairs and the EDU team offered them a comprehensive line-up of lectures on the structure and the functioning of the EU institutions, as well as the EU decision-making process and various policy areas. Complementary to the lectures, the students visited the main EU institutions and had a chance to discuss with practitioners about their day-to-day work and the policy fields they are involved in. In Vienna, the lectures focused on the legal and economic aspects of European integration and the students visited the Fundamental Rights Agency. True to the active learning principle, the Summer School also includes two simulation games, whereby the students experience the negotiations environment of the Council of Ministers. This year, the games on EU foreign policy and EU-wide pandemic threat offered the participants a chance to apply all the knowledge accumulated during the two weeks and end the Summer School on an interactive and fun note.
Can the European Union influence environmental policy beyond its borders? On 6 February 2012, former IES research fellow Katja Biedenkopf publicly defended her dissertation addressing this question. Under the promotership of IES Academic Director Prof. Dr. Sebastian Oberthür, she investigated whether, how and with what result EU environmental policy exerts external effects on the US in the absence of mutually negotiated transatlantic treaties or explicitly coercive measures imposed by the EU on the US. Katja showed that through the introduction of ambitious and pioneering policy, the EU can contribute to policy-making in extra-EU jurisdictions. European Union environmental policy can affect policies, politics and policy problems in jurisdictions outside the EU. Domestic factors in these jurisdictions however play an important role in this transmission process.

Katja’s research focused on EU legislation that aims to minimise the environmental and health risks of waste electronics (e-waste). It presents an in-depth study of EU external effects on the US at the federal and state level. The analysis showed that the EU affected US policies, politics and policy problems through three different mechanisms – learning, emulation and adjustment. The resulting e-waste policy output varies between the different US states and is weakly present at the federal level. This variation can, in addition to the mechanisms, be explained by three groups of factors specific to each individual jurisdiction (states and federal). These factor groups are: the politics, the institutions and the policy problem.

The empirical analysis that Katja conducted during her time at the IES, funded by the Flemish government and a Fulbright grant, strongly confirmed that EU environmental policy can have external effects on policy, politics and policy problems beyond EU borders without negotiating or coercing the extra-EU policy change. External effects can be found at multiple levels of governance and include not only laws but also measures such as industrial standards and non-legislative programmes. While external effects through learning, emulation and adjustment are less steerable and influenceable by the EU than bilateral negotiation or coercive measures, they can nevertheless be considered a distinct and important mode of EU external governance. In an international environment in which binding multilateral agreements are difficult to achieve, leadership through pioneering policy can be an important tool that the EU can attempt to make more systematic use of. Katja’s analysis also stressed the importance of the US state level in transatlantic regulatory governance, an aspect that seems to be under-exploited in the EU’s transatlantic regulatory cooperation efforts.
On 15 October 2012, IES Researcher Armelle Gouritin successfully defended her PhD “Can International Environmental Law and Human Rights Law Fill the Gaps of EU Environmental Law? The Case of Environmental Responsibility”. Armelle prepared her PhD under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Paul de Hert (promotor), Prof. Dr. Marc Pallemaerts (co-promoter) and Prof. Dr. Harri Kalimo (IES supervisor).

First of all, Armelle presented an overview of her dissertation for the jury and the audience. Through her research, she aimed to answer the question of whether international environmental law and Council of Europe human rights law (European Convention on Human Rights as interpreted by the European Court of Human Rights) fill gaps identified in Directive 2004/35 on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage and Directive 2008/99 on the protection of the environment through criminal law. The research is exclusively concerned with private persons’ environmental responsibility. The answer to the research question is “to some degree, but to a limited extent”. The dissertation focuses on environmental damage, environmental harm, and the grounds for environmental responsibility and exceptions to the responsibility principle. All in all, the results of the gap-filling exercise can be viewed as rather limited. The research started with an open question and this limited result was, to some extent, predictable. Nevertheless, this lacklustre performance is, as Armelle argues, not entirely unproductive. It can rather be seen as scientific evidence of the current limits of international environmental law and Council of Europe human rights law. Consequently, were international environmental law and Council of Europe human rights law to fulfil the gap-filling exercise, potential paths for improvement are identified. In addition, the interplay between EU environmental responsibility law, international environmental law and human rights law can be systematised.

On 10 December 2012 Hannelore Goeman stepped up to the challenge. At 4pm on that Monday she gave the jury and public an impressive whirlwind tour of her PhD thesis Integrating integration: the constitution of an EU policy domain on migrant integration. Hannelore’s defence proved very popular with an impressively large audience present. The following is a summary of her presentation and thesis.

The issue of migrant integration is not a novelty at European level. Several EU actors, the Commission in particular, have long emphasised the need to promote the integration of third-country nationals, highlighting how the European Union might play an important role in that regard. However, only recently did the EU Council pick up on these aspirations, explicitly calling for a ‘more vigorous integration policy’ in the Tampere conclusions from October 1999. This statement firmly placed integration policy on the EU agenda, marking a starting point for the constitution of a true policy domain on migrant integration at European level. In the following years, the member states would endorse a series of EU initiatives that directly aimed at furthering the integration of non-EU migrants throughout the Union, with the approval of a first ‘Common agenda on integration’ in December 2005 as a provisional highlight.
The appearance of integration on the EU Council agenda in Tampere may be considered surprising, given that the heads of state and government had barely paid attention to the integration of third-country nationals in the European context before that time. Indeed, national governments had long been reluctant to grant the European Union any role in the development of their integration policies, firmly holding on to their exclusive competence in the field. In addition, the treaty did not provide an explicit legal basis for integration policy until recently, further adding to the conspicuousness of their sudden request. As such, we can question why the member states suddenly agreed to place integration on the European agenda in 1999? And how the ensuing policy domain then developed in the ensuing years, both in terms of timing and outcome? This thesis seeks to tackle these questions, accounting for the constitution of a new policy domain on migrant integration at EU level. Having developed an agenda-based model to shed light on the different steps in the policy process, it more concretely explores the exact circumstances under which this new policy domain took shape between 1999 and 2005.

After a short interlude when the jury considered its verdict, Hannelore was proclaimed as Dr. by Prof. Dr. Alison Woodward, representing the Political Science faculty of the VUB. Hannelore’s promoter, Prof. Dr. Patrick Stouthuysen, shared some warm words about his time working together with Hannelore. He emphasised that Hannelore was a very independent and diligent researcher who required very little supervision. After many more congratulations, there was time for photographs and celebratory drinks. Following her PhD, Hannelore will continue her political engagement as she takes up a position working for the local government of the city of Brussels.

PhD Alumni

IES doctoral graduates have obtained senior positions in different institutions, governmental organisations, and universities. Below is an overview of where our PhD alumni are currently working:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grad. Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sevidzem Kingah</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Senior Research Fellow at United Nations University CRIS, Brugge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Koen Van den Bossche</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>European Commission, DG MARE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Donders</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Postdoctoral researcher at IBBT-SMIT, Lecturer at VUB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hongyu Wang</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Assistant Professor in the School of International Relations, University of</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>International Business and Economics (SIR-UIBE), China</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Rudakowska</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Assistant Professor at the Department of Global Politics and Economics, Tam-</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kang University, Taiwan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander Mattelaer</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Assistant-Director at Institute for European Studies, VUB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Van Rompuy</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Senior Researcher, Asser Institute, Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigrid Winkler</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Project Coordinator on EU macro-strategy on the Danube region, Upper Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Regional Government, Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katja Biedenkopf</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Lecturer at Amsterdam University, Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armelle Gouritin</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Senior Associate Researcher, IES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hannelore Goeman</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Brussels City Council</td>
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The IES constitutes the focal point for training on European integration and teaching of European Studies at the VUB. Through the Educational Development Unit (EDU), the IES provides a number of academic services, stimulating academic and public discussion on topical European issues by drawing on its in-house research expertise.

The EDU contributes to the IES by overseeing training, contracted teaching and blended learning on all aspects of EU integration. The EDU blends its decade of experience in high-quality best practice classroom teaching and training with cutting-edge blended learning in the form of online EU modules. This allows the EDU to expand both its range of teaching outputs, and its regular value-added training to support the full range of IES activities.

In terms of resources, the EDU exploits both the cluster-specific talents of the IES and the policy expertise of the new range of Senior Associates and EuroMaster lecturers to boast new projects like the IES Wednesday Webinars, and strengthen the content of its teaching and training activities. The EDU can therefore offer teaching, training and blended learning on a wide range of EU topics: everything from institutions and decision-making, to law, and public and foreign policy.

EDU outputs are crucial for the IES in terms of acting as a linchpin between policy-makers, scholars, stakeholders and the general public on the one side, and the academic work undertaken by IES scholars on the other. The IES thus provides a working viable form for the cluster content of the IES including Environment and Sustainable Development; EU Foreign and Security Policy; Migration, Diversity and Justice; and European Economic Governance.

In 2012 the EDU saw a few changes in its composition: in May 2012 researcher Alina Christova left the IES to work at the European Commission and in September 2012 Dr. Magdalena Sapala officially joined the Educational Development Unit, after having collaborated with the IES for various months as Associate Researcher. In-between jobs at the European Commission, researcher Jelena Vasic also assisted in organising EDU events.

2012 was a year of consolidation for the EDU activities. Five main activity areas emerged:

**E-learning**

In 2012, the EDU started its transition process towards a new, e-learning platform. After having analysed the various choices available, the unit decided to use Chamilo, because of its friendly user interface and interactive features and not least because of the support provided by the VUB technical staff. Chamilo is an open source learning platform that allows for active and personalized teaching and learning. It was customized and thoroughly tested throughout 2012 to help the EDU reach its pedagogical goals and enrich the overall value of the EU-modules. The new platform is now ready for the migration of the modules, scheduled to take place in the first half of 2013.

In parallel with the platform change, the EDU took the opportunity to do a complete overhaul of the current modules, so the result, available on the new platform by mid 2013, will offer a rich and rewarding learning experience. Five modules will be available, offering a total of 20 ECTS: EU History, EU Institutions, EU Law and Decision-making, EU Policies and EU Information Sources. The modules can be taken separately or as a package, and can also be taken together with the IES Summer School in Brussels and Vienna, offering a Postgraduate Certificate in European Policy-making worth 25 ECTS.
Training through blended learning

The EDU continued to offer in 2012 its signature intensive training “EU in Close-up”. The two sessions in February and October brought together very motivated participants with a broad range of backgrounds and a keen professional interest in EU affairs. In January, the unit organized a specialised workshop on EU Research Funding, attended by representatives of various universities and the European Commission. Beside its face-to-face training sessions, the EDU also continued its webinar series, aimed at broadening the target audience by granting people outside Brussels valuable access to expertise in various EU policy areas. The “Wednesday Webinars” series featured presentations by Dr. Magdalena Sapala on EU budget and Ana Rudakowska on EU values in relation to China. The “Quo vadis EU” series focused on EU foreign policy and featured the lecturers of the Euromaster EU foreign policy course, while the “Decoding the EU” online course offered an insight into the main EU institutions and decision-making processes.

Teaching

In 2012, the EDU consolidated its teaching offer. The EU REDUX course was offered both in the spring semester as part of the Hendrix study abroad semester coordinated by the EDU and in the autumn semester for the new Master programme of Vesalius College, for which the IES acts as service provider. The course is taught by a dedicated team of lecturers drawn from the IES and has received very positive evaluations from the students. Beside EU REDUX, the unit organized two sessions (January and August) of the EU institutions and decision-making crash course for Vesalius College exchange students. Like every year, the EDU took a central role in the organization and running of the Summer School in July 2012. Nineteen talented students from thirteen countries in and beyond Europe attended the two weeks programme is Brussels and Vienna, taking part in lectures, visits to EU institutions and actively participating in two engaging simulation games.

Projects: “Bridging the Gap: Improving EU Teaching”

Throughout 2012 the Educational Development Union has been successfully developing the “Bridging the Gap: Improving EU Teaching” project, part of the Life-Long Learning Programme of the European Commission, “Learning EU in Schools’ stream. Among the various deliverables, including a handbook and an online module, the highlights of the project were the two international teacher workshops, held in Brussels in May and November 2012, attended by secondary school teachers from 16 countries, from and beyond the EU. The project also included six webinars that focused on various pedagogical challenges and solutions for teaching EU topics. The webinar recordings, as well as the handbook and online module are valuable resources that can be used by teachers to plan and design their EU related lessons.

Research on integrating technology in teaching European Studies

In 2012, researcher Alexandra Mihai continued to pursue her research on the use of technology by political science educators. She attended two conferences and wrote an article on the perception of teachers regarding the use of webinars, taking as a case study the IES webinar series. Furthermore, she is currently working on an article on the various specific roles of educators in online teaching and how they differ from their roles in traditional teaching.

The mix of blended teaching and training, management of educational projects and research has strengthened the skills and expertise of the EDU team offering a solid foundation upon which future activities can be built.
Research
In accordance with the *IES Research Strategy* adopted in 2005 and updated in 2012, research at the Institute focuses on the EU in an international context. It explores EU institutions, policies and law within the context of globalization and international law and politics. Research projects analyse the role of the EU as a global actor as well as the interaction between the internal and external dimensions of EU policies. They also address the inter-relationship between the EU and international organisations.

In implementing its research strategy, the IES aims for a multidisciplinary approach, involving particular legal, economic, social and political expertise. It focuses on forward-looking research that produces results of interest to political decision-makers and the academic community.

While IES research principally embraces a wide range of issues, the Institute focuses its resources on an evolving set of research clusters, which in 2012 were updated to include:

- Environment and Sustainable Development,
- European Foreign and Security Policy,
- Migration, Diversity and Justice,
- European Economic Governance

These clusters are nurtured by means of launching their own research projects (principally at PhD level) as well as raising funds from external sponsors. One additional unit focuses on educational development through E-learning and training initiatives.

In 2012, the IES launched two new calls for PhD projects in the fields of EFSP and European Economic Governance. As a result, three new researchers started working in the course of 2012.

### Overview of IES Financed Projects and PhD-Research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project &amp; Promoter</th>
<th>Project Start</th>
<th>Researchers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research cluster European Economic Governance</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online content policy in an EU and international context (promoter: L. Van Audenhove)</td>
<td>September 2009</td>
<td>Trisha Meyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAT regulation on the Internet (promoter: Servatius van Thiel / Lieven Denys)</td>
<td>September 2009</td>
<td>Marie Lamensch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Trade and Foreign Direct investment inflows and outflows in EU (promoter: Luc Hens &amp; Selen Guerin)</td>
<td>November 2010</td>
<td>Cem Tintin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research cluster Environment and Sustainable Development</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate policy integration at EU level (promoter: Sebastian Oberthür)</td>
<td>February 2008</td>
<td>Claire Dupont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Liability in the EU: how to fill the gaps (promoter: Paul De Hert)</td>
<td>October 2007</td>
<td>Armelle Gouritin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The impact of EU environmental legislation on third countries (promoter: Sebastian Oberthür)</td>
<td>May 2007</td>
<td>Katja Biedenkopf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shipping in polar seas (promoter: Erik Franckx)</td>
<td>October 2010</td>
<td>Laura Boone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research cluster European Foreign and Security Policy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Firm, the State and Europe: Disentangling the Politics of the European Defence Technological Industrial Base (promoter: Amelia Hadfield)</td>
<td>September 2012</td>
<td>Daniel Fiott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Peace-Building Efforts in Regional Conflict (Trans)-Formations: Addressing or Extending the Protractedness? (promoter: Gustaaf Geeraerts)</td>
<td>September 2012</td>
<td>Esther Marijnen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Foreign and Security Policy and EU-China relations (promoter: G. Geeraerts)</td>
<td>February 2009</td>
<td>Anna Stahl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research cluster Migration, Diversity and Justice</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Immigration and anti-discrimination policy, and the interaction between these two policy areas (promoter: Patrick Stouthuysen)</td>
<td>January 2008</td>
<td>Hannelore Goeman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policing the Brain-gain: Cross-border Social Networks in South Asian Migration Trends and Governance Implications in the Global North and South (promoter: Helga De Valk)</td>
<td>October 2009</td>
<td>Neepa Acharya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Influence of International Organizations on EU Migration and Asylum Policies (promoter: Sebastian Oberthür)</td>
<td>January 2012</td>
<td>Mathijs Van Dijk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2015

The Strategic Plan 2011-2015 described a number of research objectives:

- Successful completion of at least 10 PhDs (i.e. an average of 2 per year) and launching of at least 12 PhD projects (of which at least 9 on own resources);
- Strengthening IES involvement in national and international research networks;
- Consolidation and strengthening of academic focus areas with thorough review of existing cluster structure;
- 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);
- Consolidation/increase of external project funding (for research projects and scientific services);
- Fostering cross-cluster collaboration and integration (e.g. by prioritisation of cross-cluster projects);

Successful completion of at least 10 PhDs and launching of at least 12 new projects

The IES was able to award three PhD diplomas in 2012, bringing the total number of IES PhDs to eleven. At least two more PhDs are expected to be finalised in the course of 2013. The Institute launched a call for three new PhD projects in 2012 and was furthermore successful in acquiring funding from FWO for one additional researcher, all of which started in the course of the year.

Strengthening IES involvement in national and international networks

Through the organisation of the 3rd EU in International Affairs Conference, the IES effectively strengthened its involvement in Belgian and Flemish research networks, and enhanced its cooperation with the ULB, Egmont and UNU-CRIS as well as with other Flemish and Belgian universities. It was also involved in a large number of European projects (in general funded through the European Commission).

Consolidation and strengthening of academic focus areas

The 5-cluster structure of the IES was reformed to four clusters in 2012. The new cluster on European Economic Governance combines the previous clusters on European Economics and Information Society.

Consolidation / increase of external project funding

Although the record amount of funding through external projects of 2011 could not be achieved as a number of large European projects came to an end, the IES could obtain more funding through grants for research, services and training than it budgeted (i.e. € 515.000).

Fostering Cross-cluster collaboration and integration

As a first measure, the call for PhD projects launched in 2012 promoted cross-cluster research.
## Overview of externally funded projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project &amp; Financing Organisation</th>
<th>Start / End</th>
<th>Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research Projects</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Compliance Committee of the Kyoto Protocol</strong> - German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety</td>
<td>January 2010 - December 2013</td>
<td>Sebastian Oberthür</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Joint Mobility project “Institutionalising EU-Korea Cooperation”</strong> - European Commission Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency in collaboration with Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Bordeaux</td>
<td>November 2010 - October 2013</td>
<td>Luis Simon, Anthony Antoine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Understanding the changing performance of the EU in International Environmental and Climate Governance</strong> (promoter: Sebastian Oberthür) - FWO</td>
<td>October 2012 - September 2016</td>
<td>Sebastian Oberthür, Lisanne Groen, Florian Rabitz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Governance through Regulatory Complexes: The International and European Management of Genetic Resources</strong> - FWO</td>
<td>October 2008 - September 2012</td>
<td>Sebastian Oberthür, Justyna Pozarowska, Florian Rabitz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The International Governance of Geotechnology</strong> - Ecologic</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Sebastian Oberthür</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Politics Beyond the State III</strong> - Representation, coordination and accountability in multilayered settings - Geconcerteerde Onderzoeks Actie (GOA) - VUB</td>
<td>January 2009 - December 2013</td>
<td>Radostina Privmova, Ioannis Spyridakis, Sebastian Oberthür</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advise: Advanced Video Surveillance archives search Engine for security applications</strong> - EC FP7 Cordis</td>
<td>March 2012 - February 2015</td>
<td>Peter Burgess, Dariusz Kloza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Promoting deeper EU-CCC relations</strong> - EU Public Diplomacy and Outreach</td>
<td>January 2012 - December 2013</td>
<td>Jamal Shahin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Study on the Impact of the Crisis on Civil Society Organizations in the EU</strong> - Risks and Opportunities - European Economic and Social Committee</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Amelia Hadfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teaching projects</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Study Abroad (semester) Programme</strong> - Hendrix College</td>
<td>January 2012 - June 2012</td>
<td>Amelia Hadfield, Anthony Antoine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer School on EFSP</strong> - University of California</td>
<td>June 2012</td>
<td>Luis Simon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bridging the Gap</strong> - EC Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Amelia Hadfield, Alexandra Mihai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quo Vadis Europa</strong> - EC Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning</td>
<td>October 2011 - September 2014</td>
<td>Amelia Hadfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer School</strong> - EC Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning</td>
<td>October 2011 - September 2014</td>
<td>Amelia Hadfield, Anthony Antoine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lecture series: EU Energy Policy</strong> - EC Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Claire Dupont, Sebastian Oberthür</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EU Environmental Law teaching module</strong> - EC Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning</td>
<td>October 2011 - September 2014</td>
<td>Harri Kalimo, Sebastian Oberthür</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Training Course EC Environmental Law and the Internal Market</strong> - EC DG Enterprise and Industry</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Harri Kalimo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Training Course US Interstate Commerce &amp; EU Internal Market. Reflection on common aspects &amp; alternative approaches</strong> - EC DG Enterprise and Industry</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Harri Kalimo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Environment and Sustainable Development Cluster covers a wide range of topics including in particular climate change/energy, sustainable production and consumption, energy, biodiversity, and trade and the environment.

In 2012, Senior Research Fellow Harri Kalimo and Academic Director Sebastian Oberthür as well as 15 pre-doctoral IES researchers contributed to the cluster. Two researchers successfully concluded their PhDs during 2012: in February, Katja Biedenkopf defended her PhD on the external effects of EU environmental policy. She has since remained associated with the cluster as a Senior Associate Researcher. In October 2012, Armelle Gouritin successfully defended her PhD on the role that international environmental law and human rights law can have in filling the gaps left by EU environmental liability law.

Six PhD students are expected to submit their theses in 2013. Claire Dupont’s PhD research assesses the integration of climate policy into the EU’s energy policies. FWO-funded researchers Justyna Pozarowska and Florian Rabitz explore the international and European management of genetic resources. Ioannis Spyridakis and Radostina Primova are completing their PhD projects on policy coordination in the field of energy, which are financed through a VUB concerted research action (GOA). Thuy Van Tran’s work relates to EU policies in marine environmental protection. Furthermore, Laura Boone’s PhD work focuses on “Navigation in the Arctic” from a legal perspective. In April 2012, Lisanne Groen started FWO-funded research on the role of the EU in international environmental governance (climate and biodiversity). On a grant from the Brazilian Research Council, Ernesto Roessing Neto started work in November 2012 on the legal aspects of reducing deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD+). In September 2012, Max Salomon Jansson started his legal PhD research on the reconciliation of economic and environmental values with biofuels as a case study. Alex Daniel worked with the development of the CORPUS Web Platform (see below). Thomas Sattich analysed as a visiting researcher the EU’s energy policies. Kristian Krieger (focus on risk governance in Europe) became a Senior Associate Researcher in summer 2012. Koen Van Den Bossche (fisheries/law of the sea) remained Senior Research Associate. Johanna van Vrede, Veronika Jurcova and Marilena Zidianaki helped the cluster as diligent interns during 2012. The cluster also welcomed Eléonore Maitre as visiting researcher from the University of Oslo working on extended producer responsibility in preventing environmental impacts of products.

Publications

The environment cluster’s research output in 2012 was in total 1 edited book volume and 23 articles, 8 of them in peer reviewed journals. (see the publications list for details)

Members of the environment cluster also authored three of the five IES Policy Briefs launched in 2012.

Events

The environmental cluster organises a number of recurring and ad hoc events. The IES hosted four lunchtime Environmental Policy Forums on topical issues of European environmental politics and law in 2011. They attracted an audience of approximately 25-35 people, on average. The cluster moreover organises occasional “discussion seminars” where researchers present their work-in-progress in an informal setting for comments and feedback.

Under the leadership of Claire Dupont, the cluster also successfully organised the 2012 IES Autumn Lecture Series, focusing on “EU Energy Policy: On the Road to Decarbonisation?”. From October to December 2012, ten well-attended evening lectures featured 2-3 high quality speakers from civil society, policymaking and academia. As a follow-up, 2013 will see work on an edited book volume. The lecture series received financial support from the European Commission’s
Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning Programme and was organised in cooperation with WWF, Climate Strategies, and the Ecologic Institute (Berlin).

**Teaching and visibility**

Sebastian Oberthür and Harri Kalimo jointly give the courses “European environmental law in an international context” and, together with Claire Dupont, “Case Study on Public International/EU Law” as a part of the IES’s LL.M programme in International and European Law (“PILC”). Harri’s course “EU and the Stakeholders of the Economy” in the other post-graduate programme of the IES, the Euromaster, also is oriented towards environmental law and policies. Several researchers from the environmental cluster taught as guest lecturers within these and other courses. Harri also held a two-day high-level training session with twenty officials from DG Enterprise and Industry on “Environmental law and the Internal Market”. In addition, the cluster’s researchers made a large number of public appearances as keynote speakers, panellists and conference participants.

**Projects**

The environment cluster was involved in various externally funded projects. The German Environment Ministry continued to support the work of Prof. Oberthür as a member of the enforcement branch of the Compliance Committee of the Kyoto Protocol. The IES was also added to the new ‘AMI list’ for short-term projects called for by DG Envi and DG Clima.

Three PhD projects were financed by the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), on “Governance through Regulatory Complexes: The International and European Management of Genetic Resources” (2008-2012) and “Understanding the Changing Performance of the European Union in International Environmental and Climate Governance” (2012-2016). Two further PhD projects received funding of the concerted research action (GOA) on “Politics beyond the State III: Representation, coordination and accountability in multilayered settings” (2009-2013), executed jointly with the VUB’s politics department and financed by the VUB (see above under personnel). In 2012, Sebastian Oberthür furthermore contributed to a research project funded by the German Federal Environment Agency (UBA) and led by the Ecologic Institute in Berlin on the international governance of geoengineering.

The IES Team finalised its online knowledge brokerage Web platform in FP7 Project CORPUS in 2012. The platform initiates, nurtures and researches the interactions between policymakers, scientific researchers, civil society and industry in three key areas of sustainable consumption: mobility, housing and food. The site has so far created a user base of over 850 experts, and registered over 144,000 page views over the first 26 months with an average of 500 visits per week.

Furthermore, external funding was secured through the aforementioned high-level training for DG Enterprise and Industry as well as for the IES Autumn Lecture Series (Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning Programme; see above). The cluster also continued its active collaboration with Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies in 2012 on individual producer responsibility.

The IES is also a member of the European Concerted Research Action on “The Transformation of Global Environmental Governance: Risks and Opportunities (TGE)” (COST Action ISO802). The COST Action receives funding through the European Science Foundation (ESF) for its networking activities. It became operational in October 2008 and was concluded after four years in October 2012.
Research cluster:
Migration, Diversity and Justice

The areas of focus of the Migration, Diversity and Justice Cluster in 2012 included immigrant integration policies (from the European to the local level), return migration, accommodation for minority religions, European identity and racism; intersectionality, i.e. the interrelation between multiple forms of discrimination (race/ethnicity, gender, religion, residence status, nationality, sexual orientation, class or disability) and European and international criminal law.

The cluster operates under the joint leadership of Post-Doctoral Researcher Ilke Adam with Senior Research Fellow Richard Lewis taking a supporting role. During 2012 the cluster included one part time (non-contractual) Senior Research Fellow (Richard Lewis), one post-doctoral researcher (Ilke Adam), one associated research-professor (Alison Woodward), five doctoral candidates (Hannelore Goeman, Neepa Acharya, Mathias Holvoet, Irene Wieczorek, Mathijs van Dijk), one visiting researcher (Medlir Mema, George Washington University, Fulbright Scholar) a newly appointed Senior Associate (Dr. Chantal Lacroix of the International Centre for Migration Policy Development and one intern (Candice Nguyen from September to December 2012). By the end of 2012, Medlir Mema changed status from a visiting to an associate researcher.

Doctoral Defence

On 10 December 2012, Hannelore Goeman publicly defended her dissertation on the subject of Integrating Integration: The Constitution of a EU policy domain on migrant integration thus becoming the Cluster’s first doctoral award supervised by VUB/IES.

Publications

The Cluster’s 2012 publications included 7 articles, 5 book chapters and 2 research reports.

Events

Events organised by the Cluster in 2012 included a series of policy fora on the International Criminal Tribunal on the occasion of its tenth anniversary (Mathias Holvoet and Medlir Mema) a one-day seminar on the situation of the Roma in Europe (co-organised by Richard Lewis and Professor Dr. Paul de Hert, Law faculty), a Belgo-Canadian conference on Reasonable Accommodation for religion (co-organised by Ilke Adam with ULB) and a seminar with the European Network Against Racism (co-organised by Ilke Adam). Alison Woodward co-organized a book launch at IES of the publication Gendering the European Union of which she is the author of a chapter. The Cluster as a whole also devoted substantial time to preparing the Spring 2013 lecture series on the Multi-Level Governance of Migration and Immigrant Integration.

Teaching and Visibility

The Migration, Diversity and Justice cluster has also been continuously active in formal teaching or one-off presentations, both in IES programmes and elsewhere. Alison Woodward continued teaching the course ‘Civil Society Representation and Diversity in the European Union’, in the IES master on European Integration and Development. Ilke Adam and Mathijs Van Dijk taught courses or supervised papers on European immigration policies in the exchange programme of the IES with Hendrix College (Little Rock, Arkansas) and in the Vesanlius College Master in European Studies. Hannelore Goeman further lectured on the history of European integration in the IES ‘EU in close-up’ sessions.

Outside the IES programmes, Ilke Adam teaches “Introduction to Political Science” (bilingual bachelor’s degree in Politics, ULB) and Alison Woodward, ‘Gender and Diversity in Politics’ (Master in Politics, VUB). In addition, a number of cluster members were involved in promoting and following-up master’s theses of students in the IES Euromaster and PILC programmes, and the VUB masters in law and political science.
The cluster members made a large number of public appearances as key-note speakers, and paper presenters in several national and international conferences and seminars, amongst others at the following venues in 2012: Council of European Studies Conference in Boston, the International Political Science Association Conference in Madrid, the European Consortium for Political Research Joint Sessions (Antwerp) and General Conference, the Flemish Dutch Politicologen etmaal, in Amsterdam, the Ruppin Academic Center, Israel, the University of California at Berkeley, New York University, the Wissenschaftszentrum in Berlin, the European Social Science and History Conference in Glasgow.

Alison Woodward made a number of media appearances in relation to the US presidential elections and diversity issues (Het Laatste Nieuws, De Morgen, Canvas).

Projects

In 2012, five PhD projects were ongoing in the Migration and Diversity research cluster. Hannelore Goeman completed her PhD on The Constitution of a EU policy domain on migrant integration and was awarded her degree of Doctor in Political Science, as indicated above. Neepa Acharya (3rd year), working on her PhD project on return migration of India’s high skilled professionals, conducted field work in India for six months from January 2012. Mathias Holvoet (2nd year VUB PhD student working at the IES) continued working on his PhD project on the definition on crimes against humanity in the International Criminal Court statute. Mathijs Van Dijk took up his position as a doctoral researcher in January 2012 with a project on the influence of international organizations on EU immigration policies. Irene Wieczorek joined the cluster in April 2012 (financed by the VUB) to persue her doctorate on European constitutional law as a limit to EU criminalization powers. Alison Woodward obtained financing for a research workshop programme financed by the Flemish government on the subject of the intersectional impacts of equal opportunities policies (Steunpunt Gelijke Kansen, Vlaanderen) as well as for a research project on the impact of austerity on European civil society (with Jamal Shahin and George Terzis).
Researchers that are part of the cluster ‘European foreign and security policy’ develop and carry out projects that concern the role of the EU in the areas of foreign and security policy. These projects analyse European policies in terms of decision-making processes, strategy development, evolving civilian and military crisis management capabilities and engagement with emerging powers such as China. Members of the cluster closely collaborate with other universities and think tanks for joint research initiatives as well as the dissemination of results.

In 2012, the EFSP cluster comprised of one senior research fellow (Prof. Eva Gross), two postdoctoral researchers (Dr. Alexander Mattelaer and Dr. Luis Simon) and three PhD researchers (Daniel Fiott, Esther Marijnen and Anna Stahl). In addition, the cluster received support from several associated researchers from within and beyond the VUB (Peter Burgess, Alina Christova, Amelia Hadfield, Joachim Koops, Gjovalin Macaj, Amelia Padurariu, Susan Penksa, Anna Rudakowska, Georgios Terzis, Dominik Tolksdorf, Hongyu Wang, Stephanie Weil and Sigrid Winkler). The cluster was also home to one visiting researcher (Niklas Novaky).

International mobility of EFSP staff was in many ways the defining feature of 2012. Dr. Luis Simon embarked on an FWO-funded visiting fellowship at the Saltzman Institute for War and Peace Studies, Columbia University in New York. Anna Stahl successfully completed an FWO-funded trip to the Centre of Chinese Studies, Stellenbosch University, South Africa. She also spent two weeks in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, conducting interviews with a range of personalities for her PhD research. Dr. Dominik Tolksdorf was selected as a fellow at the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies at Johns Hopkins University. Prof. Dr. Joachim Koops was appointed as advisor to the Head of the Partnership Unit of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and spent from July to August based at UN HQ in New York. At the end of the year, Senior Research Fellow Eva Gross left the IES and went on to take up a fellowship at the Berlin-based think tank ‘stiftung neue verantwortung’.

In the same timeframe, the cluster recruited new doctoral researchers and underwent internal reorganisations. From September Daniel Fiott has been focusing on European defence-industrial integration, and Esther Marijnen has worked on the transformation of regional conflicts in Africa. Dr Alexander Mattelaer, who was appointed as Assistant Director in January 2012, went on to assume the interim coordination of the cluster in the light of Eva Gross’ departure.

Publications

In 2012 research cluster members published three books; three peer-reviewed journal articles; two book reviews; two IES Policy Briefs; ten book chapters; and five policy-relevant articles and working papers. Most notably, Luis Simon, Alexander Mattelaer and Amelia Hadfield co-authored a study for the European Parliament entitled “A Coherent EU Strategy for the Sahel”. The authors presented the study to Members of the European Parliament as well as to the Foreign Affairs Committee in the Belgian Parliament.

Events

In 2012 the cluster organised a number of events including the successful third edition of the European Union in International Affairs conference in May. Like previous years, 2012 witnessed ongoing and increased collaboration with other research institutes in the VUB, the Brussels policy community and think tanks such as the Egmont Institute. Staff members were also involved in the European Global Strategy initiative, which was initiated by the Italian, Polish, Spanish and Swedish foreign ministries.

Members of the cluster were also occupied with the dissemination of research results at various conferences. Members of the cluster presented at events organized by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, Aston University, the British International Studies Association, Carnegie Europe, the Center
for Security Studies at ETH Zürich, the Centre for Economic and Policy Studies, the China-Africa Think Tanks Forum, the Cyprus Council Presidency of the EU, the European Policy Centre, the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, the International Studies Association, the National Chiao-Tung University, Open Society Foundation, Renmin University, the School of African and Oriental Studies, the Swedish Institute of International Affairs and UACES. In addition, members of the cluster attended academic and policy-relevant workshops in Beijing, Berlin, Bishoftu, Brussels, Edinburgh, Geneva, Helsinki, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Passau, Sarajevo, Shanghai, Stockholm and Zurich.

**Teaching and educational services**

Members of the cluster remained active in the areas of teaching and educational services. The IES hosted 11 undergraduate students for a course on ‘European Foreign and Security Policy’ in the framework of the five-week USC summer school programme that was organised by Dr. Luis Simon. Luis also taught on the EU’s strategic context in February at the European Security and Defence College. The College also welcomed Dr. Alexander Mattelaer as a guest lecturer on CSDP mission planning in September. Daniel Fiott gave a lecture on EU foreign policy to students from the Missouri University School of Journalism in December. Dr. Alexander Mattelaer taught a course in conflict studies at Vesalius College and a number of cluster members lectured in the Jean Monnet foreign policy module ‘Quo Vadis EU’, organised by the IES Educational Development Unit. The cluster continued its engagement in externally funded projects in 2012. Prof. Dr. Amelia Hadfield was successful in her bid for funding from the European Commission’s “Lifelong Learning Programme” for a series of lectures, webinars, public colloquia and podcasts on European foreign policy under the title “Springboard Brussels 2015”.
2012 saw the merger of two existing clusters at the IES, namely those on Information Society and European Economics, into a newly formed ‘European Economic Governance’ cluster. The new cluster is planned to enhance the potential for substantive synergies and multidisciplinary research on issues related to European economic law, economic policy and economics.

The European Economic Governance Cluster works on three overlapping themes:

- The Digital Single Market focuses on intellectual property rights, online content, e-commerce and taxation.
- E-Governance deals with governance and online democracy, participation and engagement.
- Value Balancing scrutinizes three areas of economic governance - trade, competition and intellectual property rights, and combines them with non-economic fields such as environmental protection, media and culture.

These research themes cover economics-related public and private sector issues, and combine on-line and off-line matters. The cluster interacts with other IES research clusters, just as the Europe 2020 strategy links economic competitiveness with a participatory and inclusive society and sustainable development. CORPUS, ROCCS and the DG ENTR Training are good examples of crosscutting projects.

In 2012 the cluster consisted of 15 researchers: one IES Senior Researchers Fellow (Harri Kalimo) and two Post-Doctoral research fellows, Jamal Shahin and Magdalena Sapala. Four PhD researchers – Max Salomon Jansson, Marie Lamensch, Trisha Meyer and Cem Tintin – complete the in-house team. Additionally, Senior Associates Karen Donders, Julia Glidden, Doris Hildebrand and Ben van Rompuy, as well as Associate Researchers Renato Botti, Byron Maniatis and Rami Nissilä, and Visiting Researcher Karim Hamza provided input into specific activities of the Cluster. Ines Kefel and Günes Ünüvar helped the cluster as diligent interns.

In 2012 Harri Kalimo’s work dealt mainly with the value balancing theme (see below on e.g. CORPUS and DG ENTR training) and the Digital Single Market theme. Jamal Shahin’s activities principally focused on the E-Governance theme, including public service governance, eGovernment, public participation, and global governance of telecommunications. Magdalena Sapala researches the EU budget and cohesion policy. Marie Lamensch, who joined the IES in 2009, is progressing towards the final stages of her PhD, which critically evaluates current taxation legislation for e-commerce. Trisha Meyer, who also joined the IES in 2009, is similarly approaching the end part of her PhD, which deals with the copyright infringement regimes in France and the United Kingdom, and, in addition, places these regimes within the context of emerging EU policies in this area. Cem Tintin, an economist, started as a PhD researcher in the cluster in 2010 and is already preparing to defend his PhD in 2013. Cem’s thesis is on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and International Trade. It analyses the interaction between globalisation (measured by Foreign Direct Investment and International Trade), and economic growth and development. Max Salomon Jansson started his PhD research in September 2012 and is linked both to the European Economic Governance and the Environment and Sustainable Development clusters. He analyses the reconciliation of economic and environmental values in competition and trade law, with biofuels as a case study. Finally, Visiting Researcher Karim Hamza submitted his doctoral thesis on the role of social media in post-Arab Spring Egypt, ready for a doctoral defence in February 2013.

Publications

The EEG cluster’s research output in 2012 was in total one monograph, one edited volume, as well as over twenty scientific articles, 7 of which in peer-reviewed journals (see publication list on pag. 40).
Events

The European Economic Governance cluster organised a number of events in 2012. The IES hosted Policy Forums on the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA, organised by Trisha Meyer) and on Economic Efficiency in Anti-Trust law (organised by Ben van Rompuy), as well as a mini-lecture series on Interest Representation in the EU Internal Market (organised by Harri Kalimo and Trisha Meyer). All events were very well attended, with approximately 40-60 participants in each of them.

Teaching and Visibility

Harri Kalimo (with Trisha Meyer as a teaching assistant) taught on IT related internal market issues in the IES’s EuroMaster programme. Marie Lamensch was a guest lecturer on VAT in the IES’s LL.M. Programme (PILC). Jamal Shahin has been an active lecturer in the IES’s EU in Close Up seminars. Both Jamal and Harri were doctoral opponents and/or members in a number of PhD juries in Belgium and abroad. In Fall 2012 the cluster also launched virtual research colloquiums on International and Economic Law and Legal Theory with the Turku University Faculty of Law. All members of the cluster have been actively participating in international academic conferences.

Projects

The two training projects with DG Enterprise, which ran from 2010 to 2012, were successfully completed. They consisted of annual two-day high level training sessions with up to twenty officials from DG Enterprise and Industry on “The EU and US Internal Markets” and on “Environmental Law and the Internal Market”, respectively. Further, the cluster is a member of the EU-funded project “eGovPoliNet”, an FP7 project with 18 consortium members. It is designed to build up an international research community on ICT solutions for governance and policy modelling. The cluster continued work on the horizontal research project EUPERFORM as well, focusing on the role of the EU in the International Telecommunication Union.

The cluster also emerged as a partner in several new externally-financed projects in 2012. These include Participation in the European Commission’s Digital Agenda Assembly as a moderator, an EEAS-funded project on EU-GCC relations, a Framework Contract for work on strategies and visions in DG CONNECT, and a study for the European Economic and Social Committee entitled: “Risks and Opportunities for Civil Society in times of Crisis.”

Linking the activities in the economic governance and environmental clusters, the IES Team finalised its online knowledge brokerage Web platform in FP7 Project CORPUS in 2012. The platform initiates, nurtures and researches the interactions between policy-makers, scientific researchers, civil society and industry in three key areas of sustainable consumption. The platform has so far created a community of over 850 experts, and registered over 144,000 page views over the first 26 months.
During 2012 the IES organised 21 research colloquiums of own research (-progress) by IES PhD researchers and visiting fellows.

As a forum for information and discussion, the IES Research Colloquia are held once or twice per month. Attendance is mandatory for all IES researchers, and invitations are sent to interested parties across the campus (depending on the subject). The IES also collaborates with the Central Doctoral programme of the VUB and of the ULB, who integrate part of the IES methodological workshops into their general programme geared towards all VUB & ULB doctoral researchers.

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<td>Florian Rabitz</td>
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IES Publications

Implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2015

In the field of publications, the Strategic Plan 2006-2010 stipulates the following:

- Publication of 25-30 articles in recognised international journals or major book publications per year, on average (with the share of peer-reviewed publications reaching at least one third by 2015);
- Publication of 1-2 books per year on average;
- Publication of 3-4 IES Working Papers per year on average (pending interim review of Working Paper series).

**Articles**

In line with the strategic plan, the IES published 58 articles in international journals and book publications, of which 18 in peer reviewed journals. Another 26 papers were published online or in the media, while associate researchers were involved in another 94 publications, of which two books and 20 peer reviewed articles.

**Books**

IES scholars published a total of 4 books in 2012. To enhance quality and international visibility & impact, the IES implemented international peer review in its own Book Series, and changed its academic publisher to Palgrave Macmillan. This, however, refrained the Institute of publishing books in its own series in 2012 (as the peer review process takes more time). Meanwhile, a number of books were prepared, and will be ready for publishing in 2013.

**Working Papers and Policy Briefs**

The IES published only one working paper, yet it started with the publication of Policy Briefs, of which five were published in 2012.

**Newsletters**

Non-academically, the IES also published four Newsletters in 2012, destined to inform the general public about IES activities and research outcomes.
BOOKS


PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Lamensch, M. Proposal for Implementing the EU One-Stop-Shop Scheme from 2015, In International VAT Monitor, 23 (5).

BOOK CHAPTERS


PAUL PARTNER: EU Strategic Partnerships and Climate Change, edited by Giovanni Grevi and Thomas Renard, Madrid: FRIDE/Academia Press. 45-57


ACADEMIC ARTICLES


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Simon, L. 2012. Interview with Jolyon Howorth, In European Geostrategy, 4 September.
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BOOKS

Baden-Baden: Nomos.

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Boehm, F. and De Hert, P. 2012. Notification, an important safeguard against the improper use of surveillance - finally recognized in case law and EU law. In European Journal of Law and Technology, 3 (3).
De Hert, P. and Kloza, D. 2012. Internet (access) as a new fundamental right. Inflating the current rights framework? In European Journal of Law and Technology, 3 (3).
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Lim P. and Winkler, S. 2012. The European Union’s Relations with the Republic of China (Taiwan). In: European Perspectives on Taiwan, edited by J. Damm and P. Lim, Wiesbaden: VS Verlag, 170-195.


ACADEMIC ARTICLES


POLICY REPORTS, WORKING AND OCCASIONAL PAPERS


De Hert, P., Weis, K. 2012. Development of an EU evaluation mechanism in the area of anti-corruption with a particular focus on identifying and reducing the costs of corruption in Public Procurement involving EU Funds, European Criminal Law Network (ECLAN), April 2012.


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Winkler, S. 2012. Taiwan’s UN Dilemma: To Be Or Not To Be. In The Brookings Institution, Taiwan-U.S. Quarterly Analysis, n° 9, June.

### MEDIA PERFORMANCES BY IES STAFF


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Hadfield, A. 2012. Referenced in ‘EU send team to combat terrorism in the Sahel region’, on Deutsche Welle, 1 August.


Koops, J. 2012. Air Strikes or talking- how to deal with Iran, on EURONEWS (The Network), 22 March.


Sapala, M. 2012. ‘Strength in Reform’ on Public Service Review, 5 October.


Dispute Settlement Alternatives in Future EU Bits
Building the Framework for Investment Protection

by Günes Ünüvar

Following the inclusion of the Common Commercial Policy in the exclusive competences of the European Union, a handful of policy adjustments have occurred. Among these adjustments, investment protection has been a remarkable one - given its new, exclusive framework and an already established, state-level practice. As the new policy stands, Bilateral Investment Treaties, which had been negotiated and executed by the EU Member States in the pre-Lisbon period, can now only be negotiated and executed by the EU. These prospective 'EU BITs', inter alia, aim for an even stronger mechanism for the protection of investors both in the EU and in third states. A strong protection mechanism inevitably calls for a strong Dispute Settlement Mechanism, and the establishment of a DSM may prove to be challenging. The EU currently faces several questions on its path to a tangible and reliable 'EU BIT', and arguably the most outstanding one is the question of the DSMs to be incorporated in these new agreements. What are the alternatives of a DSM for these new BITs? Which alternatives are currently utilizable and which ones are not? What are the current problems that the EU face, and how can these problems be tackled? Is the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes an alternative, and if not, why? Following a thorough overview, this paper aims to analyse the DSM alternatives for the EU to be used in the new EU BITs and ultimately provide a solid DSM proposal.

Günes Ünüvar holds an LL.M. degree in International and European Law from Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium and an LL.B. degree in Law from Bilkent University, Turkey. He currently serves as a researcher at TÜSİAD (Turkish Association of Business and Industry) EU Representative Office. He is also an attorney-at-law, admitted to the Ankara Bar Association in Turkey. His research interests include international investment law, international arbitration, WTO, trade law, environmental law and energy law.
Geared towards policy makers and the public at large, the IES launched a new publication platform in 2012. The IES Policy Briefs are concise, to the point articles on current and policy-relevant issues. Titles launched in 2012 are: “EU 2020 Renewable Energy Goals Insufficient” by IES researcher Claire Dupont, “The Role of EU Special Representatives in the Post-Lisbon Foreign Policy System: A Renaissance?”, by Associate Fellow Dominik Tolksdorf, “Energy Transition in Europe’s Power House. Alleingang, avant-garde or blackout?”, by Associate Fellow Thomas Sattich, “Reviewing the EU’s Crisis Management Procedures” by Postdoctoral researcher Alexander Mattelaer, and “The Role of Civil Society Dialogue in the EU-China Cooperation on Renewable Energy” by researcher Radostina Primova. The Policy Briefs are available online and can be ordered in print from the IES secretariat.
IES Newsletters
Academic Services
Implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2015

The Strategic Plan 2011-2015 described a number of objectives in the field of academic services:

- Organise (bi-annually) an international scientific conference
- Organise the Summer School on the European Decision-Making Process;
- Organise 1-2 IES Lecture Series per year;
- 4-5 IES Policy Fora for an informed and constructive public debate on topical issues of European policy and law per year;
- IES Research Colloquium (approximately 10-12 sessions per year);

International Scientific Conference

In collaboration with the ULB, Egmont and UNU-CRIS, the IES organised the third issue of the EU in International Affairs conference. This three-day conference brings together practitioners and academics from all over the world to discuss issues pertaining to the EU in world affairs. This year’s issue, organised in the Palace of the Academies, attracted more than 300 high-level participants.

Summer School

The IES organised its 9th annual Summer School on European Decision-Making Process (currently renamed to Summer School on European Policy-Making) in July 2012. In collaboration with the Diplomatic Academy and the University of Vienna, 19 students from 13 different countries studied one week in Brussels and one week in Vienna (see the chapter on Education for more details). For the University of Southern California, the IES also organised a five-week summer school on European security issues. 11 USC students attended.

Lecture Series

The Institute organised two lecture series: one on the International Criminal Court (with the Global Governance Institute) and one on EU energy policy (with WWF, Climate Strategies and the Ecologic Institute). With Vesalius College, it also co-organised a third series on European security. Each lecture series attracted students, as well as practitioners and (a lot of) general public.

Policy Forum

The IES organised 9 policy fora on various themes, ranging from environmental issues, migration and human rights to security and defence issues. In the policy fora, scholars and practitioners in the field met to discuss topical subjects of European Policy. The environmental policy fora were organised in collaboration with the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP). Some of the security-related policy fora were organised in collaboration with the Global Governance Institute.

Research Colloquium

A total number of 21 research colloquia were held in 2012. Next to the presentation of research findings by IES researchers, the Research Colloquia also featured ‘methodological workshops’. The workshops continue to foster the improvement of quality of research of IES staff (see also the chapter “Research”).

Study Abroad Programme and other contracted teaching

As in previous years, the Institute organised a ‘study abroad programme’, i.e. a semester with specifically designed courses on European Policy-Making for Hendrix College (Arkansas, US). Contracted by Vesalius College, the IES designed and taught two course modules for their Master of European Studies.
In 2012, the IES organised a total of 74 activities, amongst which two lecture series (one on the International Criminal Court, and one on EU Energy Policy and Decarbonisation), the first consisting of 5 lectures and the second of 10 lectures, 9 policy forums, 21 research colloquiums and several thematic lectures and other events. The Institute also organised two Summer Schools, six training sessions and eleven webinars, and co-organised another lecture series on European Security in collaboration with Vesalius College.

Lecture Series

The International Criminal Court’s Second Decade: Quo Vadis?

Ten years ago, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, entered into force. Since then, the Court has made important strides forward in becoming an important player in the international criminal justice arena. With nearly 120 member states, seven situations referred under the three different referral mechanisms envisioned in the Rome Treaty, and several more under consideration, it is difficult to dismiss the Court as irrelevant in the global governance architecture.

However, as it embarks on the second decade of its existence, the Court faces difficult challenges and determined efforts by some attempting to delegitimise and politicize it, thereby undermining its ability to carry out its mandate to bring about an end to impunity. Foremost among these challenges are:

- Finding new ways to move forward State and Non-State Party Cooperation with the ICC
- Ensuring proper implementation of victim participation and reparation regime in the Rome Treaty
- Paying sufficient attention to the prosecution of gender-based crimes
- Determining how the Court will handle its relationship with the UN Security Council as well as several emerging powers

Against this background, several policy makers, academics, Court officials, and civil society representatives came together over the course of seven lectures under the auspices of the Institute for European Studies (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) in cooperation with the Global Governance Institute to debate and suggest how to best deal with the aforementioned issues.
Spring Lecture Series

Programme:

Friday 24 February 2012
Opening session of the lecture series: The Future of the International Criminal Court by Christine Van den Wyngaert, ICC judge and VUB alumna

Wednesday 7 March 2012
Cooperation by Medlir Mema, Associate Researcher IES, Dan E.O. Ochieng, Legal Advisor at the Kenyan Embassy in The Hague, Gerard Dive, Head of the Unit for International Humanitarian Law at the Belgian Ministry of Justice and Elizabeth Evenson, Senior Counsel, International Justice Program, Human Rights Watch

Wednesday 28 March 2012
Victim Participation by Alison Smith, Legal Counsel and Coordinator of the International Criminal Justice Programme, No Peace Without Justice, Luc Walleyn, Lawyer, Blanmailland & Partners, Legal Representative for the Victims in the Lubanga Trial and Cyril Laucci, Legal Officer at the International Criminal Court.

Friday 27 April 2012
Gender Rights by Dianne Luping, Trial Lawyer, Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court, Melina Lito, Program Director, Women, Peace and Security, Global Action to Prevent War, Rober Zuber, Director, Global Action to Prevent War, Sari Kouvo, Co-Director, Afghanistan Analysts Network & Professor International and European Protection of Human Rights IES, VUB and Joachim Koops, Director, Global Governance Insitute and Senior Associate Researcher at IES

Wednesday 16 May 2012
The politices of the International Criminal Court by Rafael De Bustamante, European External Action Service; Former EU Focal Point for the ICC, Medlir Mema, Visiting Researcher IES & PhD-Candidate, George Washington University, Wei Xiaohong, Ph.D. candidate, International Law, Erasmus University Rotterdam and Renmin University of China; Member of the Editorial Board of the Forum for International Criminal and Humanitarian Law, Sunil Pal, Head of the Legal Section of the Coalition for the ICC (CICC), Jamal Shahin, Postdoctoral Research Fellow IES

On 24 February, the IES and the Global Governance Institute (GGI) launched the lecture series with a keynote speech by ICC judge and VUB alumna, Christine Van den Wyngaert. During her keynote speech Judge Van den Wyngaert gave an interesting insider’s view on the first ten years of existence of the ICC. She described the general framework of the ICC as laid down in the Rome Statute and discussed the situations that have been referred to the ICC to date. In addition, she addressed the main challenges that in her opinion the Court is facing: establishing a workable framework for the effective implementation of the principle of complementarity, and providing a practical and meaningful victim participation and reparation regime.

On 7 March, the lectures were chaired by IES associate researcher Medlir Mema. This second session focused on the ongoing concern about the relationship between the Court and African states, as well as the lack of forthcoming cooperation by other member and non-member states with regards to the execution of arrest warrants and penalties, freezing of assets, information sharing, etc. In most of these cases, much work needs to be done by both Court officials as well as government representatives to ensure cooperation becomes a more stable pillar as the Court moves forward. Dan E.O. Ochieng, Legal Advisor at the Kenyan Embassy in The Hague, Gerard Dive, Head of the Unit for International Humanitarian Law at the Belgian Ministry of Justice and Elizabeth Evenson, Senior Counsel, International Justice Program, Human Rights Watch, had an interesting and at times lively discussion on the challenges the ICC is facing in obtaining cooperation from both member and non-member states.
The third session, on 28 March, gave more insight on the side of the actual victims of international conflicts. While the Rome Statute is a landmark document with regards to victims’ rights and participation, the Court’s record to date leaves much to be desired. Not only that, but many have begun to question the wisdom and feasibility of the victim participation and reparation regime in the international criminal justice fora in general, and in particular, as envisioned under the Rome Statute. Whether a workable participation and reparation regime can be worked out, will have an effect on how the Court is perceived by its stake-holders, including victims and affected communities. Alison Smith (Legal Counsel and Coordinator of the International Criminal Justice Programme, No Peace Without Justice), Luc Walleyn (Lawyer, Blanmailland & Partners, Legal Representative for the Victims in the Lubanga Trial) and Cyril Laucci (Legal Officer at the International Criminal Court) looked into the rights and participation of victims in international criminal law cases.

On 27 April, Dianne Luping from the Office of the Prosecutor of the ICC, discussed the track record of the prosecutions of gender-based crimes in the seven situations currently referred to the Court. She discussed the difficulties in prosecuting such crimes, especially with regard to the collection of evidence. The enshrining and protection against gender-based crimes in the body of international criminal law is an important contribution of the Rome Statute. Moreover, the Statute guarantees unprecedented gender equality within the Court’s several organs. Nevertheless, while significant progress has been made in the latter, the prosecution of gender-based crimes has been often decried by civil society members as receiving insufficient attention. Clearly, more needs to be done to allay such concerns.

The series concluded on 16 May with an interesting discussion on the politics of the ICC. How the Court will handle its relationship with the UN Security Council as well as several emerging powers, including Brazil, India, and South Africa, will determine whether the Court will be able to be perceived as a legitimate actor in its own right, or as just another political tool in the hands of powerful and at times unaccountable states. This risk of politicization has been greatly increased subsequent to the agreement in Kampala on the crime of aggression. As events in Sudan and Libya demonstrate, these risks of politicization are very real and risk undermining the image of the ICC as an independent and impartial institution. For this session the following speakers made an appearance:

- Rafael De Bustamante, European External Action Service; Former EU Focal Point for the ICC
- Medlir Mema, Visiting Researcher, Institute for European Studies & PhD-Candidate, George Washington University
- Wei Xiaohong, Ph.D. candidate, International Law, Erasmus University Rotterdam and Renmin University of China; Member of the Editorial Board of the Forum for International Criminal and Humanitarian Law (FICHL)
- Sunil Pal, Head of the Legal Section of the Coalition for the ICC (CICC)

With presentations on both the EU, the US, the China and the NGO-community perspective on the Court, a wide variety of viewpoints were discussed by both the panelists and audience.
EU Energy Policy: On the Road to Decarbonisation?

This year’s IES Autumn Lecture Series, supported by the Jean Monnet life-long learning programme, focused on the EU’s energy policy, and discussed the question: how far is the EU’s energy sector from achieving goals of decarbonisation by 2050? The EU’s ambition to reduce emissions of climate-damaging greenhouse gases by between 80 and 95% by 2050 can only be achieved with almost zero emissions from the energy sector by 2050. How are EU energy policies pushing such dramatic change? What remains to be done for the energy sector to decarbonise? What policy responses are required? What are the challenges for policymakers in meeting the decarbonisation goals? How do current energy policies match up to these ambitions? What sort of consequences will the EU’s move to decarbonisation have on energy relations with current partners? Will new partners emerge to help fulfil the EU’s decarbonisation ambitions? How is the EU’s neighbourhood reacting to the EU’s move to decarbonise? The lecture series was organised with WWF, Climate Strategies and the Ecologic Institute.
Programme:

Wednesday 3 October 2012
Introduction to the EU’s energy acquis: policy development and gaps to 2050?
Tom Howes, European Commission, DG Energy and Severin Fischer, SWP, German Institute for International and Security Affairs

Wednesday 10 October 2012
Introduction to the EU’s climate policy acquis: policy gaps?
Jason Anderson, WWF European Policy Office, Head of EU Climate and Energy Policy, Stefaan Vergote, European Commission, DG Clima and Jos Beekwilder, DigitalEurope

Wednesday 17 October 2012
Decarbonisation by 2050: Roadmaps and scenarios compared
Adam White, WWF European Policy Office, Project officer, Climate & Energy and Stefan Lechtenböhmer, Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy

Wednesday, 24 October 2012
Decarbonising the power sector: opportunities and challenges
Arne Mogren, European Climate Foundation, Programme Director, Power and Susanne Nies, Eurelectric, Head of Power Generation policy unit

Wednesday 7 November 2012
Decarbonising transport and industry
Hans Bergman, European Commission, DG Clima, Tom van Lier, Vrije Universiteit Brussel and Jos Dings, Director, Transport & Environment

Wednesday 14 November 2012
Role of energy efficiency improvements on the road to decarbonisation
Erica Hope, Climate Action Network Europe and Aviel Verbruggen, University of Antwerp

Thursday 22 November 2012
EU gas pipelines and electricity grids in 2050
Mihai Paun, European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E), Network Development Adviser and Joseph Dutton, Research Associate, University of Leicester

Tuesday 27 November 2012
Evolving external energy interdependencies, part 1: past energy partners
Andrei Belyi, Associate Professor, Centre for EU-Russian Studies, Maciej Bukowski, President of the Institute for Structural Research, Warsaw and Ralf Vogel, Senior Research Analyst, OPEC

Wednesday 5 December 2012
Evolving external energy interdependencies, part 2: new and emerging energy partners
Pedro Ballesteros, European Commission, DG Energy and Alec Van Vaerenbergh, Lawyer, DLA Piper

Wednesday 12 December 2012
EU decarbonisation to 2050: views from the neighbourhood
Leiv Lunde, Director, Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Norway and Fatih Hasdemir, Deputy Undersecretary in the Turkish Ministry for EU Affairs
This first lecture in the IES Autumn lecture series on 3 October, which aimed to provide a multi-sectoral approach, analysed the EU’s energy policy across a range of different sectors. Mr. Tom Howes from the European Commission, DG Energy, discussed various aspects of the energy acquis with a particular emphasis on renewable energy legislation and the progress made so far with regard to their implementation in the individual Member States. Afterwards Mr. Severin Fischer from the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) took the floor providing a policy analysis with regard to decarbonisation.

The second lecture of the Climate lecture Series on 10 October, provided an introduction to the existing EU policy achievements and gaps in climate policy from the perspective of the European Commission, WWF and a digital industry representative from DigitalEurope. Stefaan Vergote from DG Climate opened the discussion detailing successes in decoupling carbon emissions from GDP and the role of the Emissions Trading Scheme in helping put the EU on track for 20% reduction in carbon emissions by 2020. Jason Anderson from WWF stated that more could be done, pointing to a lack of longer term vision beyond 2020, problems within the EU Member States variation of energy sources, prompting European Council vetoes as well as a surplus of credits in the ETS system. An ICT industry point of view from Jos Beekwilder urged for more incentives for innovation underlining the prevalence and benefit of ICT technology in a low carbon future in Europe.

On 17 October, the third lecture looked at scenarios to obtain varying degrees of decarbonisation by the year 2050. Adam White, project officer in the Climate and Energy team at the WWF European Policy Office, presented WWF’s global and European energy vision. Among other points, Mr. White stressed that we need a better understanding of the risks involved in following certain roadmaps, invest in infrastructure, focus more on increasing the use of renewables, and start working towards electrification. Stefan Lechtenböhmer, director of the Research Group Future Energy and Mobility Structures at the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy, presented the results of a study that the Wuppertal Institute conducted with the Öko-Institut for Applied Ecology, comparing scenarios in the electricity sector. The study includes eleven scenarios from Eurelectric, Greenpeace/EREC, the European Climate Foundation and the European Commission. Mr. Lechtenböhmer emphasised that demand efficiency is crucial; that decarbonisation will not happen if we continue to invest in fossil fuels; that renewables are variable but important; that improving the grid is key; and that the role of CCS and nuclear is highly uncertain.

The lecture on 24 October looked specifically at the opportunities and challenges that arise from decarbonising the power sector. In the opinion of Mr. Arne Mogren, Programme Director Power at the European Climate Foundation, it will be essential to: update transmission grid capacity; implement the 2020 plans; provide for a major shift from operational costs to capital investments; improve the energy usage efficiency at the demand-side and, finally, to align the internal energy market and decarbonisation agendas. Ms. Susanne Nies, Head of Power Generation Policy Unit, Eurelectric, argued for: a European integrated electricity market; a system approach to manage the power system with an increased penetration of variable renewables; a coherent and integrated EU policy that delivers on carbon neutrality and cost-effectiveness; the strengthening of the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS); and lastly, more support for measures to foster innovative technologies to make the transition a success.
On 7 November, the fifth session consisted of three presentations covering industry and transport perspectives on the EU policy towards decarbonisation. Hans Bergman of DG Clima provided an overview of the EU agreed objectives, the low energy roadmap for 2050, where we stand on implementation and the actions taken by the industry. According to Bergman, a global agreement and international action continue to be key elements to solve the equation of having a thriving industry as well as a low carbon economy. Tom Van Lier presented his findings on sustainability for the transport sector. Van Lier called for looking for a solution that incorporates the interests and needs of all the different stakeholders involved, taking into account the multi-actor reality of the transport sector. Jos Dings shared his critical point of view on EU transport emissions, pointing to carbon and transport pricing as the key pillar for change. Suggestions put forward involved a greening tax, optimal use of e-mobility and changing the incentives in EU transport spending.

The sixth lecture on 14 November emphasised the importance of energy efficiency in decarbonising Europe. Prof Aviel Verbruggen, from the University of Antwerp, put forward the difficulty of measuring efficiency, while energy intensity proves easier to measure and helps to identify the type of lifestyles in a society. Prof Verbruggen recommended a “rationally radical” approach, whereby Europe would aim at achieving sustainable development (radical), without seeking to change humankind (rationally) and added that potentials for energy efficiency can be unlocked by cash flow boosts and directed levies built into prices. Erica Hope, from Climate Action Network Europe, explained that energy savings have the potential to achieve half of the 80% decarbonisation in Europe, but stressed the need to act quickly to avoid a situation of lock-in as early as 2017.

On 22 November, the IES Autumn lecture series focused on the role of EU electricity grids and gas pipelines in the context of the decarbonisation targets 2050 and addressed some of the main challenges in modernising the current energy infrastructure and completing the internal market in electricity and cross-border trade in order to meet these ambitious goals. Mihai Paun, Network Development Adviser at the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E), identified the necessary tools to guarantee long-term development of the electricity transmission infrastructure. He outlined three main problems in infrastructure building – permitting & public acceptance, legislative implementation and attracting financial framework. Joseph Dutton, a researcher at the University of Leicester, focused in his presentation on the EU gas trends, the existing interdependencies in the framework of the current gas infrastructure and the importance of completing the EU internal market as a driver of liquidity on the gas market. He addressed the problems of insecure EU gas demand, unstable investment climate, the European Commission’s anti-trust cases against Gazprom and the implementation deficits of the third liberalisation package on energy. He also reflected on the role of natural gas in the decarbonisation scenarios 2050.

On 27 November, the lecture examined the EU’s energy relations with some of its key energy partners from three different perspectives. Ralf Vogel, senior research analyst at the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), provided an overview of the energy relations between the EU and OPEC. Maciej Bukowski, president of the Institute for Structural Research (ibs), focused on the issue of energy security, taking the example of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Dr. Bukowski argued that shale gas could become a bridging technology, which could help these countries to become less dependent on Russian energy. Finally, Andrei Belyi, associate professor at the Centre for EU-Russian Studies, explained that the EU and Russia are important energy partners, but follow rather different objectives.

On 5 December, the lecture examined the potential for new external energy partners for the EU to develop over the next number of decades. Alec Van Vaerenbergh, Lawyer at DLA Piper, explained that renewable energy is a vital element of the
EU’s total energy mix, but renewable usage will have to substantially increase if the EU is to meet its 80% reduction target in CO2 emissions. Pedro Ballesteros, from the European Commission and DG Energy’s Special Envoy in charge of activities under the "EU-China Partnership on Urbanisation" and the "EU-China Mayors Forum", contrasted EU-China energy relations with those of North Africa. Ballesteros underlined that China’s enormous and sustained economic growth means the country is and will increasingly become a massive energy consumer.

The last session of the lecture series focused on EU cooperation with Norway and Turkey in the energy sector. Leiv Lunde, director of the Fridtjof Nansen Institute, presented his perspective on the challenges that the industry will have to face in Norway as Europe moves towards decarbonisation. Lunde pointed out that concerns regarding environmental sustainability do exist. However, oil and gas having dominated production for a long time and the Norwegian renewables industry is even struggling in finding employers. Lunde emphasised that despite obvious difficulties, Norway has a role in supporting EU on the road to decarbonisation. Faith Hasdemir from the Ministry of EU Affairs in Turkey was the second speaker of the evening. Turkey’s ambitions to become a member of the Union means that it is already now trying to comply with EU policy – and climate change forms no exception. According to Hasdemir, this is the case despite public support for EU membership having dropped dramatically in the last 7 years from 80% to 50%. Hasdemir sees the role of Turkey in the international energy market as a hub or transit country. There are several projects to expand the network of pipelines for gas from both north and south through Turkey in order to facilitate export into Europe.
Policy Forums

Rio+20: Towards Transforming the Institutional Framework for Global Sustainability?

On Friday 20 January 2012, the IES hosted a policy forum, organised by the environment and sustainable development research cluster, in cooperation with the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP). The event focussed on discussing the need for and prospect of reforming the institutional framework for sustainable development, and in particular served to present the “Rio+20 Policy Brief: Transforming Governance and Institutions for a Planet under Pressure”, prepared by the Earth System Governance Project, (a core project of the International Human Dimensions Programme), to the Brussels community.

Professor Frank Biermann, from the VU University Amsterdam and chair of the Earth System Governance Project, opened the discussion by stating that we have now entered the ‘anthropocene’ period, which poses a major question about how we can shape our institutions to deal with this reality. On presenting a summary of the key points and policy recommendations as proposed in the Policy Brief, the message was clear: we need a transformative, structural change in global governance, and the Rio+20 conference in June 2012 should be a major stepping stone towards achieving this change.

Mr. Chris Vanden Bilcke, UNEP, Brussels Liaison Office to the EU, followed with his presentation that highlighted all the promises made, but not yet realised, in Johannesburg in 2002. Despite this, he was positive about the potential for positive outcomes from the Rio+20 conference; this was clear in his assessment of the “zero draft” document released in preparation for the conference. However, inadequacies remain, in the form of the limited powers of treaties, the lack of a roadmap or programme for the development of the “green economy”, and the lack of discussion of ECOSOC in the “zero draft”. On institutional reform, Mr. Vanden Bilcke questioned what the added value would be of strengthening UNEP to a United Nations Environment Organisation.

Mr. Hugo-Maria Schally, Head of Unit ‘Multilateral Environmental Agreements, Processes and Trade Issues’, DG Environment, European Commission, described the “zero draft” as rather short and focussing too much on the risks, rather than opportunities of a green economy, as well as neglecting the responsibilities of the emerging economies. Expressing thoughts on changing the voting structure in international negotiations from consensus to majority voting, he recognised that such a change would still not improve enforcement of the agreements. With a large audience attending the policy forum, many questions were raised and points discussed, ranging from the issue of global equity to a more ethical approach to sustainable development. In making a shift from incrementalism to transformation, the goals need to be clear as creating something new does not solve the problems by itself. Building a stronger bridge between the scientific community and international organisations promoting green economic development was also highlighted as an area where more cooperation is necessary.

EU-China Economic and Trade Relations: Cooperation or Competition for Raw Materials?

On Thursday 26 January 2012 the IES hosted a policy forum, organised by the foreign policy and environment and sustainable development clusters, in cooperation with the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP). The event focused on the issue of Sino-European economic and trade relations, in the context of a recent WTO ruling that found China’s limitations on rare earth exports to be in breach of WTO rules. Ms Marjut Hannonen, member of the Cabinet of Commissioner Karel de Gucht, opened the event by outlining how the EU has had open dialogue with China over the last two years since the case on the export restrictions of 9 raw materials started in 2009. Despite many years of attempting to engage the Chinese, and despite the recent WTO ruling, it has so far not succeeded in increasing exports of the minerals that are so crucial for the European industry and economy. In fact, since the start of the case there has been a narrowing of China’s policy,
with export figures even further reduced. The fact that China creates different conditions for different companies, which are often unknown, makes it even more difficult. A worrying trend for the EU (and USA) is that many emerging economies are copying this Chinese way, therefore the WTO case is very important and will be seen as guidance on what is compatible and what is not with existing regulation. Mr Daniel Fiott, research fellow at the Madariaga Foundation, shared his views on the outcome of the WTO ruling. Highlighting the strategic consequences of rare earth resources, of which China owns by far the largest share, he explained that it has become a supply, demand and price issue; there is too much global demand due to the rise of developing countries, and the switch to low carbon economies in the West. He also pointed out that the USA has suggested that the export restrictions may be politically motivated, rather than related to illegal mining or to the environment, as China has stated. Presenting a Chinese perspective, Mr Duncan Freeman, research fellow at the Brussels Institute of Contemporary China Studies, reminded the audience of the contrast between the recent rush on rare earths by the West over the last few years, and the importance of rare earths in China over the past decades. During the discussion with the audience, questions were raised about the reopening of previous Western based mines and the potential opposition to this, as well as the Chinese having ‘price dumped’ Western producers out of business, thus creating their own environmental problems. Which resources are most affected by the export reduction was discussed, as well as how these resource issues can be addressed in the multilevel international sphere. Whether China respects the WTO’s ruling or not, the problem of resource access will not go away, and needs to be addressed.

EU Budget Reform: Pathways to Greening the Future EU Cohesion Policy

This Environmental policy forum was organised jointly by the Institute for European Studies at the VUB and the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP) to explore the green credentials of the EU’s cohesion policy. The policy forum brought together speakers from the European Commission, NGOs and think tanks. Axel Volkery, head of environmental governance programme at IEEP chaired the forum and introduced the speakers. Ms Agnes Keleman, policy officer at DG regional policy at the European Commission opened the discussion with her perspective on the issue. She described the progress made in greening the EU budget generally, and outlined some of the new initiatives for the environment present in the Commission’s June 2011 proposal for the 2014-2020 EU budget. One challenge that Ms Keleman identified was the fact that environmental impact assessments for funded projects under the cohesion policy are not required to take climate change impacts into account. Mr Markus Trilling, EU funds campaigner for the NGOs CEE Bankwatch and Friends of the Earth Europe took the floor next. He expressed general satisfaction with the Commission’s 2011 budget proposal from the perspective of achieving environmental policy integration. What will be necessary in the future, according to Mr Trilling, will be careful monitoring of the funds and how the money is really spent. Ms Keti Medarova-Bergstrom, a policy analyst at IEEP, concluded the interventions from the panel. She highlighted the likelihood of political and implementation challenges arising, both in terms of the negotiations on the Commission’s proposal, and later in implementing environmental mainstreaming in the funding of projects. Ms Medarova-Bergstrom warned that administrative capacity in certain member states may be lacking to ensure proper implementation. Mr Volkery then chaired a lively discussion with the audience. Questions raised were related to the efficiency and effectiveness of tools such as the Strategic Environmental Assessments and technical ability of member state administrations to promote the greening of funded projects. Other points of discussion included on the potential for negotiations during the policy process to change the Commission’s proposal. The discussion was dynamic and lively.
The Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)

On 6 March, IES hosted, in collaboration with IBBT-SMIT, a Policy Forum on ‘Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)’. ACTA deals with the international coordination of intellectual property rights enforcement. On 26 January 2012, the EU and twenty-two of its member states signed the highly controversial trade agreement. MEP Kader Arif resigned as European Parliament rapporteur of the agreement and argued that the ACTA negotiations lack transparency. The consent of the Parliament is necessary for the European Union to ratify ACTA. Civil society has also reacted strongly: there have been waves of protest by citizens across Europe. The protesters see ACTA as promoting Internet censorship and monitoring, whereas the supporters of ACTA have contended that ACTA is needed to combat the large-scale infringements of intellectual property rights that threaten the competitiveness of our economy.

In this Policy Forum, four experts debated ACTA and the implications of ratification by the EU. The Commission representative, Benoît Lory, argued that the Agreement does not in fact change the existing EU law on copyrights at all, but just improves enforcement. Burak Özgen from the European Grouping of Societies of Authors and Composers (GESAC) put forward similar arguments and underlined the need for better protection against illegal copying. MEP Carl Schlyter (Greens, Sweden) and Joe McNamee from European Digital Rights strongly disagreed with the two former speakers, pointing amongst other things to a legal analysis where a group of eminent IPR scholars had illustrated the expansive nature of ACTA, and to the favouring of rightsholder interests in the (secretive) negotiations of ACTA.

The EU and the Arctic: Breaking the Ice

On 21 May 2012, the IES hosted a policy forum, organised by the Environment and Sustainable Development cluster, in cooperation with the Vrije Universiteit Brussel faculty department Internationaal en Europees Recht (IERE). The event focused on the current and future interest and involvement of the EU in the Arctic. Prof. Dr Erik Franckx (VUB) was assigned as moderator. Mr Ramon Van Barneveld, Policy Officer at DG MARE opened the policy forum by giving a comprehensive overview of the objectives and efforts of the EU within the Arctic, both now and for the future. He highlighted the importance of current developments and provided some insight as to what will be expected from the upcoming EU Arctic Communication. Ms Anastasiya Kozubovskaya-Pellé, legal project manager for the Aurora Borealis – European Icebreaker project, presented us with a thorough overview of this interesting research project. Ms Kozubovskaya-Pellé explained why this research vessel is a true opportunity for both Europe and the Arctic. Mr Steffen Weber, Secretary-General of the EU Arctic Forum, was the third and final speaker of the event. Mr Weber built upon the presentations of the previous speakers and further highlighted the potential of the EU in the Arctic. As Secretary-General of the EU Arctic Forum he was able to share his knowledge from both the institutional and industry perspective. In the discussion following the presentations, the audience posed questions on whether climate change in the Arctic is taken for granted and therefore accepted to be exploited.

The Role and Achievements of EU Special Representatives in EU Foreign Policy

On 15 June 2012, Dominik Tolksdorf organised a Policy Forum on ‘The Role and Achievements of EU Special Representatives in EU foreign policy’ which was attended by Philippe Lefort (EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia), Pieter Feith (International Civilian Representative in Kosovo and former EU Special Representative in Kosovo), Marc Otte (former EU Special Representative in the Middle East peace process) and several political advisors of the ten EUSRs that are currently involved in the EU’s conflict resolution efforts. Issues discussed included the current setting of EUSRs within the EU’s foreign policy system and the current status of international conflict resolution efforts in Central Asia, Kosovo, the South Caucasus and Sudan.
The European Union in Global Security: The Politics of Impact (BOOK LAUNCH)

On 22 June, the cluster hosted a book presentation for Senior Associate Susan Penksa, for her recently published book (with Prof. Roy Ginsberg) The European Union in Global Security: The Politics of Impact. The presentation and discussion focused on ways to assess the impact of the EU's security policy, and the way forward for CSDP.

Economic Efficiency: The Sole Concern of Modern Antitrust Policy? (BOOK LAUNCH)

One of the research streams in the Economic Governance cluster deals with value reconciliation in modern societies. Taking the dual, even paradoxical process, of globalisation and fragmentation as its basis, the objective of the cluster is to research and develop mechanisms to reconcile economic and non-economic values in international, EU and national decision-making. The work cuts across various areas of law and policy, and makes comparisons between jurisdictions facing similar challenges. The recent book launch of the EECG Senior Associate Ben Van Rompuy, held in the form of a Policy Forum on 28 September, is a great example of this work. To mark the publication of his book, “Economic Efficiency: The Sole Concern of Modern Antitrust Policy? The role of non-efficiency considerations under Article 101 TFEU” (Kluwer Law International), Ben, who successfully defended his PhD at the IES in 2011, convincingly claimed that over the past decade, we have witnessed an apparent convergence of views among competition agency officials in the European Union and the United States on the appropriate goals of competition law enforcement. Recent EU Commission Guidelines on the application of Article 101 TFEU (competition restricting agreements) appear to banish considerations that cannot be construed as having an economic efficiency value – such as the environment, cultural policy, employment, public health, and consumer protection – from the application of Article 101 TFEU. Arguing that the professed adoption of an exclusive efficiency approach to Article 101 TFEU does not preclude, but rather obfuscates the role of non-efficiency considerations, Ben’s timely contribution accomplishes the following objectives: it traces the genesis of the shift to an efficiency orientation in EU and US antitrust policy and dispels several ingrained misconceptions that underpin it; demonstrates the close interrelationship between evolving images of the purpose of antitrust, the development of related enforcement norms, and enforcement output; provides in-depth analyses of a number of analytically rich cases in the audiovisual sector (and particularly those related to sports rights); explores what the role of non-efficiency considerations in the application of Article 101 TFEU could and should be under the modernized enforcement regime. Following Ben’s presentation of the main themes of his book, we were honoured to have Dr. Ioannis Lianos, Reader in Competition law and Economics at University College London, as guest speaker.

The State(s) of the Union(s): Europe’s Crisis and Regional Integration

On 26 October 2012, the IES organised a policy forum on the book release “The State(s) of the Union(s): Europe’s crisis and regional integration”. The main author, Joaquín Roy is Jean Monnet Professor and Director of University of Miami European Union Center of Excellence. Prof. Dr. Joachim Koops, senior associate researcher at the IES, chaired the session and has also contributed to the presented book. Around 30 participants, academics and students, joined for the policy forum and listened to the insights of Prof. Dr. Roy on the regional integration in the EU and how the rest of the world looks at this. He also highlighted the ongoing euro crisis, and the consequences for the EU and its neighborhood. After the presentation of his book, Prof. Dr. Koops opened the discussion to the rest of the audience, which brought a wide variety of questions, mainly on the euro-crisis. After an extensive round of questions, Prof. Dr. Koops concluded the event with some final remarks and views on the future of regional integration.
“Bridging the Gap” teacher workshops May & November

On May 14-15 and November 12-13, the IES organized two workshops on “teaching the EU” for secondary school teachers, in the framework of the “Bridging the Gap: Improving EU Teaching” project. For the May workshop we had the pleasure to welcome 22 teachers from 11 countries inside and beyond the European Union (Germany, UK, Romania, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Italy, Macedonia, Albania, Latvia, Luxembourg and Czech Republic). In November we had 15 participants from 9 countries (Albania, Belgium, Germany, Latvia, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain and Sweden), bringing a great mix of East and West, North and South European teaching experiences. Whereas the first part focused on the essential information on the latest developments in the institutional structure and decision-making process of the EU, the second part was dedicated to exploring various teaching tools and environments, including interactive class activities, simulation games and the use of online sources. The teachers worked in groups to exchange good practice and the group leaders presented the results in plenary. The workshops offered a great opportunity for teachers across Europe to discuss their teaching methods and share ideas on how to integrate EU topics in their curriculum.

“Bridging the Gap” Webinars

Part of the “Bridging the Gap: Improving EU Teaching” project, six webinars were organized, out of which five took place in 2012 (in March, June, September and November), with the final one organized in January 2013. They were aimed at a broader audience of teachers, students, policy makers interested in education and specifically in how to integrate EU-related topics in the secondary school curricula across Europe. The webinars addressed specific teaching methods, such as simulation games and the use of online tools and platforms, as well as exploring various opportunities for establishing partnerships among schools in various countries.

EU Research Funding Workshop

In January, the EDU offered a Workshop on EU research funding. The training workshop aimed to bring together scholars from different European universities active in the field of European Studies and to provide them with all necessary knowledge and tools to apply for FP7 funded projects. To this end, speakers who have worked for the European Commission in this area and scholars who have successfully applied for FP-funded projects in the past from both academia and think tanks were invited to provide background information and guide participants through the application process. The workshop was strategically divided into two days. During the first day participants were introduced to the structure of the FP7 programme, the calls for proposals and the work programmes. The key part of the training was the research factory workshop on the second day, which included practical exercises to apply the gained knowledge. Moreover, the event aimed at fostering exchange of experiences between the participants and hereby improving the chances of success in the application process.
“EU in Close-up”: Intensive Training sessions

In February and October 2012 the EDU organized two ‘EU in Close-up’ intensive training sessions. The seminar, aimed at participants from various backgrounds, ranging from the corporate sector to NGOs and academia, was entirely overhauled to include more interaction with practitioners from EU and national institutions. The new programme includes two practitioner lectures on the third day of the training and a welcome dinner on the first day. For both sessions we had the pleasure of having Mr. Hugo D’Hollander, from the European affairs Committee of the Belgian Federal Parliament, as a guest speaker at the welcome dinner. Moreover, emphasising the practical angle of the seminar, a simulation game on decision-making and lobbying in the European parliament was conducted by Mr. Doru Frantescu, from Votewatch (www.votewatch.eu) for our February session. In October, Dr. Magdalena Sapala and Alexandra Mihai conducted a newly designed simulation game, with an inter-institutional setup, on the current topic of the negotiation of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

“Quo Vadis” and “Wednesday Webinars” series

In 2012 the EDU continued its Wednesday Webinars series, offering one-hour interactive online sessions on various EU affairs related topics. As part of a mini series of “Quo Vadis” webinars started in autumn 2011 - the interactive component of the IES’ new graduate Jean Monnet module- the EDU conducted three more webinars, in January, March and April.

The “Quo Vadis” webinar on 11 January focused on the actors involved in EU foreign policy. Prof. Dr. Amelia Hadfield, Dr. Alexander Mattelaer, Alina Christova and Dr. Katja Biedenkopf elaborated on the role of each EU institution in the EU foreign policy decision-making mechanism.

On 7 March, the third “Quo vadis” webinar addressed the topic: “Foreign Policy Vehicles and the New Neighbourhood”. This time, the webinar was hosted by a team of five academics, including Prof. Dr. Amelia Hadfield, Dr. Alexander Mattelaer, Prof. Dr. Selen Sarisoy Guerin, Prof. Dr. Joachim Koops and our new visiting Jean Monnet Professor Simion Costea, from the University of Targu Mures, Romania. The webinar had an interdisciplinary character, bringing together topics such as European Neighbourhood policy and the Eastern Partnership, external security and Libya, trade and development as well as EU’s interactions with other international organisations such as UN and NATO.

The final “Quo Vadis” webinar took place on 25 April and brought together Prof. Dr. Amelia Hadfield, Prof. Dr. Luis Simon, Dr. Alexander Mattelaer and Dr. Fraser Cameron. It focused on the most animating aspects of EU external relations: foreign and security policy, defence developments, and its current strategic partnerships with Russia, US and Asia, including focal points relating to trade and energy security, before concluding with a broad analysis of short and long term trends.
The “Quo vadis” webinars were attended by a mix of Euromaster and external students and participants and the lectures were followed by debates on the topics presented, proving that the webinar format allows for efficient interaction between professors and students as well as among students.

On 22 February, as apart of our monthly Wednesday Webinar series, Dr. Magdalena Sapala hosted a webinar on the topic “The Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020: problem or solution?”. The webinar focused on presenting and explaining the main issues of the ongoing debate on the European Union Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for 2014-2020. The state of play in the European Parliament and the Council negotiations were also highlighted.

Later in the year, on 27 June, Dr. Anna Rudakowska, based in Taiwan, hosted a webinar on “EU values in relation to China: not such an ‘empty speech’?”. The webinar started with an overview of perspectives on values offered by various schools of IR. Next, it moved to the literature on the arms embargo on China in order to demonstrate how values are approached in the studies of EU’s relations with Beijing. Finally, new avenues for research were discussed.

“Decoding the EU” online course

In May 2012, the EDU organized the first edition of the “Decoding the EU” online course. The course consisted of four consecutive webinars, held each Wednesday at lunch-time and addressing the role and functioning of the main EU institutions (European Commission, Council of Ministers, European Council and European Parliament, as well as the complex decision-making process, with a focus on the Ordinary Legislative Procedure. The webinars could be followed as stand-alone events or in conjunction with our EU-modules, as a one-year online course. Taking advantage of the Brussels location but also of the flexibility of the medium, a team of lecturers with a balanced mix of academic knowledge and practical expertise was put together. The feedback received from the participants was positive, so that the EDU will consider organizing similar online courses in the future.

EuroMaster Alumni event

Building on the idea of bringing together current and former EuroMaster students and consolidate a genuine IES Alumni Network, the 2012 Alumni Autumn Event took place on the 30th November featuring LSE’s Maria Chen with the lecture “Mixing Wine & Politics: The European Community’s Wine Policy in the 1960s and 1970s”. The reception that followed enabled both present and past EuroMaster students to exchange views, contacts, and discuss about EU-related issues.
Joint Events

European Peace and Security Studies Lecture Series

This year’s Joint Lecture Series in European Peace and Security Studies, jointly organized by Vesalius College and the Institute for European Studies in cooperation with the Royal Military Academy and the Global Governance Institute brought together senior officials and experts in order to examine major topics related contemporary security issues.

Programme:

**Tuesday 25 September 2012**
After Osama: Pakistan, Afghanistan and the Future of Regional Stability
Imtiaz Gul, Executive Director, Centre for Research and Security Studies (CRSS), Islamabad, Pakistan

**Tuesday 16 October 2012**
Coping with Contemporary Challenges: Assessing the Capacity of International Organizations
Dr. Antonio Costa, former UN Under-Secretary-General and Director of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), former Secretary-General of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, former Under-Secretary General, OECD

**Tuesday 23 October 2012**
Welcome to reality - The challenges of promoting and evaluating peacebuilding
Andre Kahlmeyer, Peacebuilding Expert, Channel Research and former Evaluation Officer, EUJUST Iraq

**Tuesday 13 November 2012**
Tackling the Challenges of Human Trafficking
Dr. Myria Vassiliadou, European Anti-trafficking Coordinator, European Union

**Thursday 15 November 2012**
Being a Humanitarian: Personal, Political and Bureaucratic Reflections
Dr. Agostino Miozzo, Managing Director, Crisis Response Department, European External Action Service and former General Director, Italian Civil Protection Department

**Tuesday 4 December 2012**
The Greater Good? Personal Reflections on Diplomacy, Political Advocacy and Peacekeeping
Tom Pravda, British Diplomat, Peacekeeper and Co-Founder of the Political Advocacy Website AVAAZ.org

**Wednesday 5 December 2012**
From National Cybersecurity to Global Cybergovernance
Col. Christof Tatschl, Head of Cyberdefence, Austrian Armed Forces and Senior Expert, Global Governance Institute (GGI)
The year 2012 marked 10 years of existence of the Institute for European Studies at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. The start of the academic year was deemed an ideal moment to celebrate and reflect upon these 10 years of success. Therefore, a number of events were organised on Friday 28 September 2012.

The day kicked off with a book launch and policy forum. Dr. Ben Van Rompuy, former IES PhD researcher, presented the main findings and themes of his new book, “Economic Efficiency: The Sole Concern of Modern Antitrust Policy? The role of non-efficiency considerations under Article 101 TFEU”. Ben’s presentation was followed by a keynote address. For this purpose, the IES was honoured to welcome Dr. Ioannis Lianos, Reader in Competition law and Economics at University College London. His expert views were greatly appreciated by the audience, as was the chance to get acquainted with Ben’s book, which could be purchased after the event.

After the rather technical nature of the first event, there followed a more convivial and social event. The ‘Expo-Reception’ as it was called, was the culmination of the past ten years in pictorial form, featuring images of the IES from the very beginning, when there were a dozen staff members, to the present day, with 100 teachers, researchers, staff and visiting fellows from around the globe. This display, which took several weeks’ worth of planning and design to put together, highlighted some of the key achievements of the IES team, as well as more light-hearted moments over the years.

Against this colourful backdrop, and in the company of colleagues from the VUB and Vesalius College, the newly appointed Vice-Rector for Internationalisation, Prof. Dr. Jan Cornelis, gave a speech that touched upon some of these highlights. First of all, he drew the audience’s attention to some impressive figures: the 400 Advanced Master degrees and nine PhDs awarded over the ten years, as well as the many more Doctoral researchers who will defend their PhDs in the coming months. He then went on to praise the IES’ successful record in obtaining external funding:

“I am particularly pleased to learn from this exposition that the Institute is thriving well on externally funded research projects, such as the FP6 and FP7 framework projects from the European Commission, by which it is proven once more, that you don’t need to be a 30,000+ university to be successful in research.”

He mentioned IES’ cooperation with the VUB and the fact that the Institute will keep striving for new opportunities for synergy with the university. Prof. Cornelis also stressed the importance of the university’s location in Brussels – a fact that hasn’t gone unnoticed by other universities who keep springing up in this city – the heart of the European Union. We should not, however, be complacent; to grasp the opportunities this provides, we need to be agile and entrepreneurial. To this end, he stressed that collaboration...
with partner universities was the only way forward, and the newly-formed Brussels University Alliance is an ideal opportunity.

It was an enjoyable moment to reflect on IES’ achievements and the challenges which lie ahead. The audience greatly appreciated the colourful and detailed exhibition, especially enjoying the more amusing photos. The desserts also went down a treat. Alongside its own 10th anniversary, the IES also celebrated the 10th intake of students in its MSc programme on European Integration and Development, and the 40th intake of students in the LLM International and European Law. To mark this occasion, we had the honour of inviting Prof. Dr. Allan Rosas, Judge at the European Court of Justice, as our guest speaker. His lecture on the EU Constitutional Order was the official opening lecture of the IES academic year.

In his lecture, Judge Rosas asked whether the European Union most resembles a state or an intergovernmental organisation. The answer was simple: both and neither. He went on to explain how the EU has developed a constitutional order.

Judge Rosas addressed four points. First, the EU has a constitutional order through its hierarchy of laws; the EU’s primary law is basically constitutional. Second, the EU has a unique relationship with its member states, dealing not only with the governments but also many organs and sub-components of the member states. Third, the EU engages in negotiations with third states and international organisations. It cooperates with its member states to conclude mixed agreements, a phenomenon that you cannot find elsewhere. Fourth, the EU has a system of checks and balances. Here it should be noted that national courts and the EU Court of Justice together form the EU judicial system. Taking the gradual constitutionalisation of the EU into consideration, Judge Rosas concluded by suggesting that the EU most resembles a federation. Quoting Jean-Jacques Rousseau, he hopes the EU is “une bonne fédération initiative”.

After this inaugural lecture, there was again time for more ebullient celebrations. The ‘IES family’ celebrated in style at l’Arsenal, near to the VUB campus, with a reception, dinner and dancing. With informal speeches, it was also a moment to thank everyone who has contributed to the success of the Institute. Anthony Antoine, Executive Director, praised the President of the IES, Bart De Schutter, for his monumental role in founding and steering the Institute as well as everyone at the IES who has played a part in its success. The two live bands proved popular, judging by the presence on the dance floor, as did the various culinary options available. It was a great opportunity to catch up with former colleagues and the ideal way to end a splendid day of festivities.

We look forward to the following 10 years of research, teaching and everything in between, in order to be able to celebrate another successful decennium of IES.
The Institute for European Studies (IES-VUB) hosted the third European Union in International Affairs (EUIA) conference from 3-5 May 2012 at the Paleis der Academiën in Brussels. The biennial conference was co-organised by the Institut d’Études Européennes at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (IEE-ULB), the United Nations University Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS) and Egmont – the Royal Institute for International Relations. Approximately 300 participants from over 130 different academic and policy-related institutes, covering 40 countries attended the conference. Senior as well as junior researchers delivered more than 150 academic paper presentations. Highlights of the conference included the three keynote speeches and the four Policy Link Panels, which brought together academics and policymakers to debate some of the most important issues currently facing the EU in international affairs.

The conference was officially opened by the keynote speech of Herman Van Rompuy. The President of the European Council focused on the impact of the Lisbon Treaty on foreign policy with a specific emphasis on the new permanent Presidency of the European Council, the office of the High Representative and the newly created diplomatic service of the EU. Van Rompuy further elaborated on the crucial role of the European Council in identifying the strategic interests and objectives of the European Union. He referred to the relations of the EU with the US, Russia and China, and to the role of the EU in solving the Libya crisis. There was then time for a few rounds of questions, which was highly appreciated by the audience.

On the first day, panels covered topics such as EU-Africa relations, the EU’s role in climate change negotiations, and the EU as a global conflict manager. The first Policy Link Panel of the conference, which brought together high-level academics and policymakers in a roundtable format, concerned the EU’s response to the Arab Spring. The panel proved very popular, with over 80 participants, and the discussion was lively. Richard Whitman (University of Kent) controversially asserted that the Arab spring was a policy success for the EU, whereas Antonio Missiroli (Bureau of European Policy Advisers) argued that, instead of the so-called renationalisation of EU foreign policy, we have instead been experiencing a Europeanisation of domestic politics.

The second day’s agenda included items as diverse as EU trade policy, human rights, the EU’s credibility in international security, and EU peacemaking. Moreover, we saw a further three Policy Link Panels on the regulation of the financial industry, European defence policy after the war in Libya, and the future of the EU after the ‘crisis’. Renowned speakers such as Olivier Guersent (Head of Cabinet Michel Barnier), Mathias Dewatripont (Director National Bank of Belgium) and Claude-France Arnould (Chief Executive EDA) shed light on these issues.

The panel on ‘Europe in crisis’ painted a particularly intriguing picture of the state of the EU, with the presentation of many diverging views. While there is currently a decline in public support for the EU, it was also argued that European politics are closer to European citizens than ever before. The tensions were also explored of pleasing markets versus pleasing the electorate, and the difficulties of trying to change community rules in a crisis context. The Policy Link Panel on European banking regulation also revealed differing viewpoints, exemplifying the challenges ahead. The panel highlighted that remedial policy in response to the crisis is a matter of urgency.

Ambassador Lars Faaborg-Andersen delivered the second day’s keynote speech on behalf of the Danish Presidency. As this took place at the Stanhope hotel during the conference dinner, it provided a welcome opportunity for all participants to discuss their particular interests in an informal context. All were eager to thank the conference coordinators for a well-organised and diverse event and for the opportunity to hear and interact with such numerous and varied panels.
The third and final day once again covered an impressive range of topics such as: cyber-governance, EU-Africa relations, EU and the Western Balkans, and EU energy policy, among many others. The conference concluded with the final keynote speech by Pierre Vimont, the Executive Secretary General of the European External Action Service (EEAS). His speech elaborated the identity and role of the EEAS in a changing global environment. He spoke of the application of the Lisbon Treaty and the need to provide more continuity in European foreign policy, making a plea for the creation of a deputy to the High Representative together with more coordination with the rotating European Presidency. He asserted that the EEAS must become more ambitious, imaginative and assertive to take on the multiple challenges of the ongoing financial crisis, the weakened credibility of the European model, and the increased competition from BRIC countries. It will undoubtedly take some time to establish a new identity for EEAS. Nevertheless, Vimont cited the speed at which a common position over Libya had been reached as an example of this emerging assertiveness. The speech was followed by a round of questions from the audience who were keen to learn more about the future of EEAS.

The EUIA III conference was a resounding success with participants praising its organisation, diversity and the opportunities it presented to examine the implications of theoretical insights in practice and vice versa. Moreover, the conference has built on previous editions and further deepened the relations among the growing number of academics and policy-makers working on the EU in international relations, from legal, political and economic perspectives. On the basis of the overwhelmingly positive feedback, the conference coordinators are already planning the next edition – EUIA IV – which will take place in 2014. A great deal of thanks are due to the many individuals who have helped in the organisation of the conference, and also to the various institutes that have provided the support to ensure that this conference can take place.
Hendrix Programme

The annual Hendrix Semester Abroad programme has been running for four consecutive years. Six American students followed courses at the IES and Vesalius College for one semester, focusing on learning about the functioning of the EU and EU’s role in the world. In parallel to their studies, they had to do an internship, which allowed them to familiarise themselves with the working environment and at the same time get first hand experience of some EU-related issues studied in their courses. At the end of the semester they defended their final paper and it was a pleasure to witness, like each year, that the students had absorbed and thoroughly processed the great amount of information they received on the complex EU structure. We look forward to welcoming the new group of Hendrix students in January 2013.

USC Summer School

The fifth edition of the University of Southern California Summer School, organized by the EFSP cluster, took place in 2012. 11 students from the University of Southern California arrived on the 26th of May and spent five weeks at the IES, where they took an intensive course on European Foreign and Security Policy organized by Dr. Luis Simon. During their time in Brussels, the students interned for a wide range of organizations dealing with foreign and security policy issues and took two study trips to the European Commission and the European Parliament.
Training

US Interstate commerce & EU internal market – Reflections on common aspects & alternative approaches

Continuing the training programme for DG ENTR of 2011, Senior Research Fellow Harri Kalimo gave a two-day training programme on the United States internal market to a specialist audience of 20 lawyers of DG Enterprise and Industry. The course explored how commerce is regulated in the federal legal systems of the US and the EU. The comparative analysis provided insights to answer four basic sets of questions: 1) Division of powers: who has the power to regulate ‘commerce’? On what constitutional legal basis? 2) How are the commercial interests to be balanced against other, non-commercial interests? 3) What kinds of instruments and institutions are there for regulating commerce? 4) How is (the regulation of) interstate commerce affected by globalization? The EU and US answers to these questions were assessed both in situations before and after federal harmonisation.

EC environmental law and the internal market

Prof. Kalimo also gave a two-day training programme on the intricate relationship between two core areas of EU law and policy-making: environmental protection and the internal market to a generalist audience of 20 officials of DG Enterprise and Industry. The topic was approached from three angles. First of all, the constitutional structural links between the environment and the internal market were explained. Second, the practical consequences of the interrelationship between the latest environmental policy and internal market rules on the market operators (consumers and companies) at the micro-level were analysed. Third, the course gave instrumentalist, macro-level perspectives on the proper tools of policy making at the environment - internal market interface.
Structure and Organisation
## Structure and Organisation

### Members of the IES Board:

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kris Deschouwer</td>
<td>Member of Boards of Directors</td>
<td>VUB</td>
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<td>Bart De Schutter</td>
<td>Repr. of the Fac. of Law</td>
<td>VUB</td>
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<td>Jonathan Faull</td>
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<td>Freedom and Security,</td>
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<td>Erik Franckx</td>
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<td>Annemie Neyts</td>
<td>Member of the EP</td>
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<td>Tony Joris</td>
<td>Professor European Law VUB</td>
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<td>Caroline Pauwels</td>
<td>Prof. Comm. Science VUB</td>
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<td>Michel Praet</td>
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<td>Gerard Van Acker</td>
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<td>Freddy Van den Spiegel</td>
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### Executive Board:

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paul De Hert</td>
<td>Repr. of the Fac. of Law</td>
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<td>Erik Franckx</td>
<td>Repr. of the Fac. of Law</td>
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<td>Amelia Hadfield</td>
<td>Prog. Director Euromaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serge Gutwirth</td>
<td>Prof. Law VUB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marc Jegers</td>
<td>Repr. of the Fac. ESP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caroline Pauwels</td>
<td>Repr. of the IES Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harri Kalimo</td>
<td>Prog. Director LL.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sebastian Oberthür</td>
<td>IES Academic Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bart De Schutter</td>
<td>IES President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen Spinckx</td>
<td>Lawyer, LL.M. alumnus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alison Woodward</td>
<td>Repr. of the Fac. ESP</td>
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<td>NN. Euromaster alumnus</td>
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The structure of the IES remained largely the same in 2012. The Institute has been autonomous from the VUB Board since 2005 and remains an independent structure within the University, with delegated functions, albeit that the delegation has been amended and enlarged through the signing of service level agreements between the IES and the respective Faculties of the university, and through the adoption of new statutes in December 2011.

The IES Board is responsible for the general policy of the Institute and for the appointment of directors and senior staff. It is assisted by an Executive Board that has a specific role in the coordination of the European teaching programmes of the University, and in the appointment of researchers and teaching staff.

The Academic Director, Prof. Dr. Sebastian Oberthür, along with the Executive Director Anthony Antoine, manages the IES. Both operate under the authority of President Bart De Schutter and are assisted by the Assistant-Director dr. Alexander Mattelaer.

In the area of finance, all accounts and financial transactions are dealt with by the IES itself, as has been the case since 2003. In 2002 the Board of Governors of the VUB ratified the University decree. This provides for de facto delegation of financial policy to the IES.

**a. The IES Board**

The IES Board is responsible for approving the general strategy, the policy plan, budget and annual report and audit. The Board also decides on the research strategy and on the appointment of senior staff, including teaching staff and full professors (ZAP). 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 decisions in relation to postgraduate educational initiatives. Following the adoption of the Service Level Agreements between the IES and the faculties, the Institute is also competent to decide in matters of MaNaMa (Advanced Master) programmes that previously ‘belonged’ to the faculties.

**b. The IES Executive Board**

The Executive Board is responsible for management within the financial constraints and the general strategy established by the Board on which the policy plan is based. It executes decisions of principle taken by the Board.

The Executive Board is in particular responsible to consider proposals from the Academic Director, to formulate proposals for the appointment, promotion and, if applicable, renewal of appointments of members of staff, to approve research awards, to appoint researchers, to define the duties of the junior researchers and to consider proposals concerning educational and research matters. As for the latter matter, the IES obtained further delegation from university, the prerogatives of the Executive Board in this field grew.

Consequently, and following the change of the IES statutes approved in 2012 by the university board, the composition of the Executive Board changed to encompass more stakeholders of its MA programmes. To this end, the Executive Board enlarged to comprise two representatives of the Faculty of Law and Criminology, two representatives of the Faculty of Economics and Social & Political Science, and two external members, preferentially former students of the programmes. The Executive Board thus grew from 7 to 12 members.
c. Daily management

Daily management is the responsibility of the Academic and Executive Directors and in accordance with the President of the Institute. Since 2012, they are assisted by an Assistant-Director.

d. Operational Clusters

Research management at the IES is primarily done through thematical 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. Each cluster is headed by a cluster coordinator (a senior research fellow or other postdoctoral researcher). All members of the academic staff belong to one or more clusters through which they report or organise their activities. Cluster coordinators meet once per month in a postdoc meeting to discuss academic and organisational issues, and to coordinate activities.

As in previous years, the IES organised strategic ‘away days’ - two-day strategy meetings amongst management, postdoctoral researchers and a selection of staff, that serve as a basis for further decision-making. As a result of the discussions in those meetings, the Institute chose to re-group its research clusters / operational units and to limit them to five (rather than the previous six), i.e.:

- European Foreign and Security Policy
- Environment & Sustainable Development
- Migration, Asylum and Diversity
  (renamed at the end of 2012 to Migration, Diversity and Justice)
- European Economic Governance
  (replacing the European Economics and Information Society clusters)
- Educational Development

e. Communication

To strengthen the internal and external communication, the IES attracted a Communication Specialist at the end of 2011. Together with the Management Assistant, she sees to the communication between the IES and its researchers, promoters, the faculties and the academic authorities through the publication of internal and external newsletters. The external newsletter is published quarterly (approximately 350 copies) and is distributed to researchers and professors within the relevant departments of the Law and ESP Faculties, and to relevant staff of university’s central academic administration. The newsletter is also sent electronically to a growing number of interested parties and to IES alumni (over 1 350). The internal newsletter is published on an ad-hoc basis.

In order to enhance research communication within the Institute and partially in order to scrutinise the research at the Institute, researchers give project presentations at the IES Research Colloquia. The researcher(s) involved thus present their findings, so that:

1. the other researchers and IES parties involved have a better overview of the work of their colleagues;
2. the researcher(s) involved are also given the opportunity to present their research in a structured way and
3. to obtain feedback from their colleagues and any promoters present. More information on the Research Colloquia can be read in the chapter on Research (see infra).

f. Education

Educational matters are governed through respective programme boards. The LL.M. and Euromaster Boards are headed by their respective programme directors, and include members of staff and students. The programme boards have an advisory function, and play a role in the academic management of the programme, the student intake and the final grading. Their advice is forwarded to the Executive Board and, for personnel issues, to the IES Board for further deliberation. Programme changes and the appointment of teaching staff are also governed by overall VUB regulations, and in most cases need to be approved by the respective university boards.
Academic Collaboration
Collaboration with other institutions

Implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2015

The Strategic Plan 2011-2015 described a number of objectives in the field of academic collaboration:

- Organisation of 1-2 coordination meetings per year with suitable partner institutions in Brussels and Belgium
- Further involvement and active participation in the Brussels University Alliance
- Further expansion and consolidation of existing international networks

Coordination meetings

Together with the European Studies institutes of ULB, FUSL, KUL, UA, Ugl, UG and UCL, the IES held regular meetings to foster synergies and cooperation, organize joint events, and coordinate tender opportunities. These meetings were held on a rotating basis between the different partners and culminated on the one hand in the organisation of the EU in International Affairs Conference in May 2012, and in the organisation of a joint international conference, The EU and the Emerging Powers to be held in 2013.

Brussels University Alliance

Although not actively involved in the academic or operational boards of the Brussels University Alliance, the IES continued to foster synergies with the Institut d’Etudes Européennes of the ULB. Both institutes co-organised the biennial EU in International Affairs conference in May.

Expansion of existing networks

Internationally, the IES has been working with many renowned universities and institutions, more specifically in the light of EU research projects (7th Framework Programme). Through other activities (education, training, events), the Institute continued to foster its network with other institutions worldwide.
Cooperation with the VUB

The endorsement of the IES statutes in May 2005 and the subsequent autonomy that was granted to the Board and to the Management of the Institute enabled growth and made it possible for the IES to develop into a multidisciplinary research organisation in smooth cooperation with the VUB. This autonomy has further increased with the adoption by the university of the renewed IES statutes in December 2011. These now allow for more initiatives in the educational field, while further embedding IES procedures in the overall VUB structures (and vice versa).

In contrast to this enhanced autonomy is the obligation to abide by central VUB personnel rules, i.e. the new ZAP rules that were approved by university in the course of 2012. Whereas the IES was able to appoint non-ZAP contractual teaching personnel autonomously before 2012, new ZAP rules now also encompass the appointment of guest professors and other members of the teaching staff. In practice, this has shifted personnel issues from the IES Executive Board to the Board level, effectively hollowing out the functionality and usefulness of the Executive level. The Institute will have to redraft its internal regulations or its personnel rules in the course of 2013 in order to remedy this contradiction.

In its efforts to build up synergies between the Institute and other VUB research entities working on European issues, the IES has kept good relations with different research departments of the university. The IES notably has strong links with the Politics Department (POLI) and the Faculty of Economics, Social and Political Science (ESP); links that have only tightened since the move of both institutes to joint premises, the Law and Technology Studies Centre (LSTS, Faculty of Law), the International Law department, and the centre for Studies on Media, Information and Telecommunication (IBBT-SMIT, Communications Science Department of the Faculty of Arts and Literature). This is exemplified by numerous shared research projects and joint activities (e.g. lecture series, workshops, colloquia, etc).

In practice, IES researchers benefit from a dual affiliation that fosters transparency and collaboration: they are at the same time members of the Institute and members of their respective VUB research departments.

At a managerial level, a Board consisting of both internal and external members (to the VUB) governs the IES. The internal members are selected by the Rector and endorsed by the University Board of Governors, and tend to come from different faculties. In this way, a cornerstone and seed for collaboration between the IES and the different faculties of university are embedded in the Institute’s structures. This is further enhanced by the new structure of the IES Executive Board, that contrary to its previous constitution now also holds four representatives of faculty (i.e. of the Faculty of Law and Criminology, and of the Faculty of Economics, Political and Social Science). To foster transparency, IES decisions are furthermore communicated to the VUB authorities, while important measurements (such as budget and activity report) have to be endorsed by the University Board. Thus far, this collaboration has proved to be very successful.

Cooperation with the Faculty of Law and Criminology and with the Faculty of Economics, Social and Political Science and Management School Solvay resulted in the creation of Service Level Agreements with regards to the two advanced master teaching programmes of the Institute. The agreements, agreed to in 2011 for a period of 5 years, stipulate the degree of academic and logistical oversight of the programme by the various parties.

At the VUB and trans-VUB level, the IES continued its collaboration with the International Relations and Mobility Office (IRMO), VUB’s communication and marketing department and Vesalius College to foster joint marketing and recruitment efforts. The IES continued to head the working group on international communication, marketing and recruitment throughout 2012 and engaged in several joint promotion activities.
Cooperation with Vesalius College (VECO) led to enhanced initiatives in the field of marketing and supporting services. Notably, the financial management is now shared on a 50%-50% basis. Cooperation also led to academic initiatives as Vesalius College scholars who want to conduct research in European Studies are encouraged to become associate researchers at the IES. This is currently so for two Vesalius College professors. VECO and IES also jointly organised a lecture series in 2012. In addition, the IES has delivered teaching services to the new Vesalius College Master in European Studies. Members of the IES Educational Development Unit conducted quality oversight while two postdoctoral IES fellows taught a course at Vesalius College.

National Cooperation

The IES collaborates with a number of national partners, such as the Université Libre de Bruxelles, Egmont - the Royal Institute for International Relations and the United Nations University centre for Comparative Regional Integration Studies in the organisation of various research activities, and more specifically in the organisation of the biennial conference on the EU in International Affairs, which took place in May 2012.

The IES cluster on Migration, Diversity and Justice also further enhanced cooperation with the ULB, through the organisation of joint conferences and the publication of chapters in jointly edited books.

Under the impulse of the Facultés Universitaire Saint-Louis (FUSL), the IES continued its talks in 2012 with the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KUL), the Universiteit Gent (UG), the Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL), the Universiteit Antwerpen (UA) and the Université de Liège (ULg) to jointly organise an international conference on the EU and the Emerging Powers in 2013, whilst triggering other smaller collaboration activities.

International cooperation

The IES has been very successful in international teaching and research endeavours. At the educational level, the Institute continued to develop its structural collaboration with the University of Vienna and the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna to co-organise the joint Summer School on the European Decision-Making Process. It continued to build on this relationship in 2012 with the 9th edition of its Summer School on European Policy-Making. Furthermore, contacts with American universities and colleges have led to the continued organisation of a Summer School on European Security (for the University of Southern California) and of the Semester Abroad programme for Hendrix College. Contacts with other universities led to various research and teaching projects, some of which came to fruition (e.g. an exchange project with South Korea).

Other international research initiatives have been numerous. The IES continued its collaboration with the German-based think-tank ECOLOGIC, the EU Institute for Security Studies in Paris (ISS), the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), the Universities of Leiden Maastricht and Nijmegen, Science Po Paris, Université Paris-8, Brooks University, Edinburg University, Pompeu Fabra University, Wissenschaft Centrum Berlin, the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and the European University Institute – all of which have been involved in collaborative research projects.

In 2012, the IES was also a member of larger international research groups:

- The IES remained a member of the European Concerted Research Action on ‘The Transformation of Global Environmental Governance: Risks and Opportunities (TPEG)’ (COST Action ISO802). The COST Action was initiated by the Institute for Environmental Studies at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and assembles researchers and institutes from different European countries. It receives funding through the European Science Foundation (ESF) for its networking activities;
- The IES is member of an FP7 consortium funded by the European Commission on sustainable consumption: ‘Enhancing Connectivity Between Research and Policymaking in Sustainable Consumption’ (CORPUS). The IES developed and launched an online knowledge brokerage Web platform that nurtures and researches interactions between policy-makers, scientific researchers, civil society and industry in the area of sustainable consumption. The CORPUS project will come to an end in January 2013;

- The IES has also been engaged in an FP7 FET Coordination Action called INSITE, which brings together a range of research centres and CSOs across the EU to discuss the role of Civil Society in new (alternative) roles for technology in society. The project is coordinated by The University of Venice (Ca’ Foscari);

- The IES developed a close partnership with RAND Europe and other policy consultancy companies to provide support to DG CNECT (DG Communications, NETworks and ConTent) in the development of their visions and strategies for the forthcoming four years. This is in the form of a Framework Contract, with projects expected to be launched in 2013;

- In the framework of an FP7 funded project eGovPoliNet (e-Government Policy Network), the Institute collaborated with 18 different partners, i.e. the University of Koblenz-Landau (coordinator), Germany, the Technical University Kosice, Slovakia, Technical University Delft, the Netherlands, Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH), Greece, Volterra Partners LLP, United Kingdom, Innova SPA, Italy, University Laval, Canada, Brunel University, United Kingdom, Center for Technology in Government, University at Albany, United States of America, University Groningen, the Netherlands, University of Auckland, New Zealand, Khmelnytsky National University, Ukraine, Pontificia Universidade Católica do Paraná, Brazil, United Nations University International Institute for Software Technology (UNU-IIST), People’s Republic of China, Moscow State University, Russian Federation, University College Dublin, National University of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland and University of Technology Sydney, Australia. eGovPoliNet aims at building a global multidisciplinary digital governance and policy modelling research and practice community;

- The IES also collaborated with Tampere University (Finland), where Senior Research Fellow Harri Kalimo is guest lecturer in charge of the course on EU law;

- A framework contract on ‘Development Policy’, in cooperation with the German-based think-tank Ecologic, was forged with the European Parliament (External Policies DG);

- The IES is cooperating with the University of Aarhus, the University of Bologna, the Institut Barcelona D’Estudis Internacionals, the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and the Netherlands Institute of International Relations ‘Clingendaal’, within the EUPERFORM network (http://www.ies.be/euperform). As a result of this project, many spin-off academic partnerships have emerged, for example with the KUL;

- Through an EU-sponsored project on academic exchange, the IES works together with Sciences Po Bordeaux, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (S-Korea), the Graduate School of International Area Studies of Sogang University (S-Korea), the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), and the Universita Ca’ Foscari Venezia;

- The IES was furthermore active on the same topic in a research team that is led by INSEAD Business School and includes seven academic institutions and ten corporations;

- The Institute is also involved in the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), the European Sociological Association, the International Sociological Association, the International Studies Association, the UK Political Science Association, the American Anthropological Association, UACES,
GIGANet (Global Internet Governance Academic Network) and Metropolis;

- Throughout 2012, the IES continued to work together with the GRITIM research centre of the University Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona), the Graduate Institute of International & Development Studies (University Geneva), the University of Pennsylvania, the Stanford Center for South Asia, the London School of Economics, the CEMIS research institute of the University of Antwerp, the Ruppin Academic Centre (Israel), CEDEM (Université de Liège); GERME (Université Libre de Bruxelles) and the EU Institute for Security Studies (Paris);

- IES staff holds ties with and gave guest lectures at Kent University, the Belgian Royal Military Academy, the European Security and Defence College, the European Institute of Public Administration, the University of Amsterdam and the NATO Defense College;

- Finally, the IES continued to extend its research and services in the GCC region, working on an EU public diplomacy outreach project in collaboration with the Global Governance Institute and the Gulf Research Centre, and working on the topic of e-governance, specifically with the Omani government.

Through its Educational Development Unit, the IES has also taken first steps towards tightening cooperation with the Poznan University of Economics (Poland), especially with the Faculty of International Economy and Business.
Personnel Management
As indicated in the chapter on ‘Organisation and Structure’, the IES Board is responsible for appointing all Senior Research Fellows (SRFs) and management positions, whilst the IES Executive Board is responsible for the appointment of (junior) researchers.

The Executive Board appointed Mr. Ben Smulders to replace Jonathan Faull as lecturer for the course International and European Competition Law. Mr. Smulders, who was Head of Cabinet of Competition Commissioner Neelie Kroes, was selected from a list of 16 candidates after interviews and a probational lecture in front of students of the LL.M. programme.

With the shift of teaching staff from Faculties to the IES, and with the creation of a so-called “ZAP-contingent” at the Institute (the possibility to appoint full professors), appointment procedures for teaching staff have altered. Whereas the Executive Board in the past advised on the appointment of lecturers in the two Master-after-Master (MaNaMa) programmes, practice has become that the Board is now taking up this task. With ZAP appointments that may lead to tenure, the IES is now obliged to follow VUB regulations more strictly, so that the Board, as highest authority of the Institute, is to advise university’s governing council of all appointments of teaching staff.

Appointments of administrative staff are undertaken by management, i.e. Prof. Dr. Bart De Schutter (President), Dr. Sebastian Oberthür (Academic Director), Anthony Antoine (Executive Director) and Dr. Alexander Mattelaer (Assistant-Director).

As in previous years, all recruitment at the IES occurred after external vacancies were published. For the junior researchers, the candidates were ranked by the respective promoters, the Cluster Coordinators and respective VUB-professors and discussed by the IES Executive Board. Interviews were conducted with the most promising candidates.
The IES launched a double PhD call in 2012, leading to the appointment of three new researchers: one in the field of European Economic Governance (Max Janson, FIN), and two in the field of European Foreign and Security Policy (Esther Marijnen, NL and Daniel Fiott, UK). For the position of researcher in the field of European Economic Governance, 15 candidates applied. For the position of researcher in the field of EFSP, 43 candidates applied. In both cases, a first selection was made by the cluster coordinator (Harri Kalimo and Eva Gross respectively, hereby assisted by dr. Luis Simon and dr. Alexander Mattelaer), while interviews were carried out with the top-five selected candidates.

A similar selection procedure was followed in the case of the appointment of Mathijs Van Dijk (NL), the new researcher in the field of Migration, Diversity and Justice. He was selected from a total of 65 candidates and appointed as PhD researcher at the beginning of 2012, following the call for projects launched in 2011.

The IES also followed a strict selection procedure for the appointment of a new researcher for its externally funded projects. Following the acquisition of a new FWO funded project by Dr. Sebastian Oberthür, the IES appointed Lisanne Groen (NL), to work on this project. She was selected from a total of 19 candidates that applied after an international call for projects was launched.

Following the announcement of the departure of Alina Christova, research assistant with the Educational Development Unit (EDU) at the IES, an international vacancy was launched to attract a scholar with experience in teaching and training. 51 candidates applied. Following a first selection by Dr. Amelia Hadfield, interviews were carried out with the six most promising candidates. They were also asked to give a test course. This resulted in the appointment of Dr. Magdalena Sapala (PL). Prior to her appointment, Ms. Jelena Vasic was appointed immediately and for a limited number of three months to help the EDU team with their most urgent work. Ms. Vasic previously interned at the IES and was familiar with the work to be carried out within the EDU team.

Within the Support Staff, a vacancy was launched for the appointment of management assistant. After eight years, management assistant Laila Macharis chose to find new challenges, so that her position would become vacant at the beginning of 2013. Following an extensive written and oral assessment, Jacinha Liem was selected to join the IES at the beginning of 2013.

A number of people also left the Institute in 2012:

- Having successfully obtained their PhDs, postdoctoral researchers Katja Biedenkopf, Hannelore Goeman and Armelle Gouritin left the IES. Dr. Goeman started working for the Brussels City Council, while Dr. Biedenkopf was appointed as professor at the University of Amsterdam. Dr. Gouritin remained at the IES for a few months to continue an externally funded research project.
- Senior Research Fellow Eva Gross announced that she would leave the IES at the end of 2012 to start a new job at a research institute in Berlin. Eva led the cluster of European Foreign and Security Policy at the IES for more than five years.
- After three years of research assistance in the field of E-learning and Training, Alina Christova left the IES to pursue a career at the European Commission.
- Doctoral researcher Laura Boone, working on legal marine issues, announced her departure by the end of 2012 to start a new career in the private sector.

With these personnel changes, the total number of people directly paid by the IES amounted to 37.3 full-time equivalents (i.e. an increase of 2). The total number of IES staff, including those not paid directly by the IES (e.g. the President and one Senior Research Fellow, and all VUB-paid teaching and support staff) amounted to 84.

An additional 21 people were associated with the Institute (as either senior associate fellow or visiting fellow), while a total of 5 different students helped with administrative and basic research tasks in 2012. In sum, in 2012, the total number of people working with the IES rose to 112.
### Overview of personnel at the IES

#### Management
- **President**: Bart De Schutter (n/a)
- **Academic Director**: Sebastian Oberthür (100%)
- **Executive Director**: Anthony Antoine (100%)
- **Assistant Director**: Alexander Mattelaer (50%)

#### Senior Research Staff
- **SRF Economic Governance**: Harri Kalimo (100%)
- **SRF EFSP**: Eva Gross (100%)
- **SRF Migration & Diversity**: Richard Lewis (n/a)
- **SR Educational Development**: Amelia Hadfield (50%)

#### Supporting Researchers
- **E-learning & Training**: Alexandra Mihai (100%)
- **Postdoc Migration & Diversity**: Ilke Adam (100%)
- **Postdoc EFSP**: Luis Simon (90%)
- **Postdoc Economic Governance**: Selen Guerin (until June) (n/a)
- **Postdoc Economic Governance**: Jamal Shahin (60%)

#### PhD students
- **Cluster Env. & Sust. Dev’t**: Katja Biedenkopf (n/a)
- **Cluster EFSP**: Daniel Fiott (since September) (100%)

#### Support Staff
- **Management Assistant**: Laila Macharis (80%)
- **Finance Manager**: Photis Schurmans (50%)
- **Communication / Recruitment**: Marie Tuley (100%)
- **Events Manager**: Kristof Rogge (100%)
- **General Secretariat**: Hilde Vanderheyden (100%)
- **IT**: Peter Menke (until June) (60%)

#### Directly employed Teaching Staff
- **LL.M. International and European Law**: Dirk Arts (5%)
- **MA European Integration & Development**: Harri Kalimo (n/a)
- **VUB-paid Teaching & teaching support staff**: Sari Kouvo (10%)

#### Cluster Economic Governance
- **Cem Tintin**: 100%
- **Max Jansson (since June)**: 100%
- **Marie Lamensch**: 100%
- **Trisha Meyer**: 100%
- **Neepa Acharya**: n/a

#### Cluster Migration, Diversity & Justice
- **Hannelore Goeman (until February)**: 100%
- **Mathijs van Dijk**: 100%
- **Neepa Acharya**: n/a

#### Cluster EFSP
- **Daniel Fiott (since September)**: 100%
- **Esther Marijnen (since September)**: 100%
- **Anna Stahl**: 100%
Quality Assurance
Ensuring high(est) quality constitutes the most important guiding principle for all decisions by IES Management. Management applies quality control measures ex ante as well as ex post.

In attracting academic personnel, the IES applies the highest standards (international vacancy, external scrutiny, interviews / test lectures). Likewise in its financial management, the IES implements both internal and external control (bookkeeping controlled by external auditors); equally in its services, the IES delivers the best possible services and tries to improve them through feedback from its clients (feedback forms after all activities).

- **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 after the publication of an external vacancy. In the case of academic personnel, these vacancies are published internationally through relevant Internet sources, specialized email 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 are also subject to a guest/test lecture that is assessed by both colleagues and students. Teaching staff is further assessed by the senate of university before a final appointment is made.

PhD students are attracted through an international call for projects. In 2012, the IES launched two of these calls: one in the field of European Foreign and Security Policy, and one in the field of European Economic Governance. Both attracted a lot of candidates which were scrutinized by a team of scholars, led by the respective cluster coordinator who is specialized in the field. After interviews with the most promising candidates (involving also IES Management), three PhD researchers were appointed and awarded a scholarship for a maximum duration of four years.

In 2012, the IES also launched three more international vacancies: one for the position of researcher on an externally funded (FWO) project in the field of Environmental Policy, and one for the position of trainer / lecturer to enhance the IES’ Educational Development Unit. A third vacancy was launched for the position of lecturer / professor of International and European Competition Law. The two latter positions were subject to test lectures.

The position of Management Assistant attracted 48 candidates. After an initial written evaluation, the five best candidates were invited for an interview with the IES Executive Director, the Academic Director and the Assistant Director. At a second interview, the President also joined. The procedure led to the appointment of Jacintha Liem, who will take up her functions in January 2013.

IES Management further refined the existing guidelines for Academic Staff, in which Quality Control through benchmarking is embedded. All academic staff at the IES are evaluated once per year. Junior researchers report to their cluster coordinator (usually the Senior Research Fellow of the cluster), whilst senior academic personnel reports to IES Management who, in joint conversation with the incumbent, set the benchmarks for the upcoming year.

Other personnel are evaluated twice per year through an internal assessment procedure. In 2012, two such evaluations took place (one in January/February, one in June/July) using evaluation sheets that were created in 2010 and further refined throughout 2012. The evaluations served as benchmarking for the upcoming six months.
- **Quality of Finances:** 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.

- **Quality of Education:** The two programme managers aim at ensuring a good balance between academics and practitioners on their teaching staff. As outlined above, teaching staff is attracted through international vacancies, subject to external scrutiny, interviews and test lectures. Students annually assess the quality of the teacher/course through feedback forms. In 2012, the IES scrutinised the candidates for the course ‘International and European Competition Law’ in its LLM programme. After an international vacancy, selection interviews and guest lectures, the Executive Board appointed Mr. Ben Smulders as lecturer in this field. Complying with new VUB regulations, the decision of the Executive Board was sent to the Board and subsequently to the Senate of University for further endorsement.

The quality of the teachers is subject to student evaluations conducted yearly. Both the Dean, the Academic Director as well as the Programme Director of the respective Master programme oversees the follow-up of programme questions relating to teaching, learning and the overall learning objectives of both modules and programmes.

- **Quality of Students:** Students in the Advanced Master programmes and in the IES Summer School are carefully selected, based on their study background and results, their command of English, their suitability and motivation, as well as providing two recommendation letters from current or former professors.

- **Quality of Research:** 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 regularly/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 the art of their findings at least once per year at a research colloquium (held biweekly). Postdoctoral IES researchers are monitored by the Academic Director and IES Management in the context of establishing and reviewing ‘benchmarks’ (see above).
2012 was an exceptional year for the IES. Not only did the Institute its 10th birthday, it could also boast the 40th anniversary of its prestigious LL.M., program in International and European Law (PILC formerly: International Legal Cooperation). Amidst these two celebrations, the IES organized the third edition of The EU in International Affairs, an international scientific conference in the Palace of Academies. The number of other activities, conferences, research seminars, policy forums, summer schools and study abroad programmes continued to increase so that the Institute can look back at 2012 as a year of unprecedented activity.

The written output last year was also very high. IES scholars produced a large number of articles in internationally recognised peer reviewed journals. In its own book series, however, the IES did not publish any books. This is because the Institute decided to change its publisher in order to position itself higher in international publication rankings. The peer review process, linked to the new publisher (Palgrave) delays the output with approximately 1 year.

All these initiatives and decisions naturally translate in financial results. In 2012, the IES realised a total of € 3,231,953 income.

The share of government funding in the totality of this revenue remained constant at 60%. The remaining 40% is financed by external research projects (16%), VUB-subsidies (8%) and other revenues (18%). The latter exists of registration fees, conference fees, and training and e-learning revenues. As expected, the proportion of externally funded research projects diminished (from 19% to 16%), among others due to the completion of some major EU projects at the end of 2011.

With 60% of staff costs (previous year 62%), the IES keeps its expenditure well within budget.

The investments in 2012 remained at the same level (8%) of those in 2011. This is logical, since the bulk of the investment costs relate to the depreciation values from previous years. If only the cash expenditures of the current period are taken into account, then the investment is less than 5% of the total expenditure.

The IES ended the year with a loss of € 199,863, which is approx. € 100,000 more than the budgeted loss of € 91,577. This difference is mainly due to a series of one-time expenditures (or minimised revenues), which do not affect the long-term budget and the related future expenses of the IES:

\textit{a. on the income side:}

1. An erroneous statement in relation to the income of the FWO (through the VUB) in 2011 and a correction in 2012 affects the revenue from externally funded projects negatively, amounting to ± € 47,000;
2. The total revenue from sub-letting the conference and lecture rooms of the Institute to other parties for 2012 will only be calculated in 2013 once all contractual formalities have been cleared. This affects the accounts for 2012 negatively, but will give a surplus in 2013;

\textit{b. on the expenses side:}

1. Some externally funded projects have encountered higher expenses than planned. E.g., one of the education-related projects for which the IES obtained funding, foresees in the reimbursement of travel and subsistence of participants. As the bulk of this two-year project was carried out entirely in this year, these costs are to be attributed to 2012;
2. Costs incurred for The EU in International Affairs conference were higher than initially anticipated. The Institute also incurred one-off costs with the organisation of the different activities in the framework of the 10\textsuperscript{th} anniversary of the IES and for the anniversaries of the MA programmes,

One recurring issue remains higher than budgeted: the expenses for the maintenance of the rented premises. To counter these rising costs, the IES is searching for solutions in cooperation with the VUB. A new service contract by open tender for the cleaning
company ranks amongst one of the possibilities.

The loss of € 199,863 should, however, be placed in perspective. As foreseen in the budget, the amortisation of the building costs (for a total of € 150,000) is countered by the use of a building fund, specifically created to this end. Another € 18,966, i.e. the net costs of the organisation of the MA programmes, is further compensated by reserves built up by the programmes in the past. The IES therefore “only” uses € 30,897 from its operating reserves to compensate for the deficit.

In spite of this exceptional deficit, the financial situation of the Institute for European Studies remains healthy.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>2012 Budget</th>
<th>2012 Accounts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Government grant</td>
<td>€ 1,934,000</td>
<td>€ 1,939,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 VUB grant</td>
<td>€ 208,514</td>
<td>€ 202,942</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Externally financed projects</td>
<td>€ 500,000</td>
<td>€ 515,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Scholarships</td>
<td>€ 10,000</td>
<td>€ 12,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Tuition fees PILC and EUROMASTER</td>
<td>€ 332,500</td>
<td>€ 293,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Conference fees</td>
<td>€ 108,000</td>
<td>€ 100,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Interest</td>
<td>€ 50,000</td>
<td>€ 41,312</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Training &amp; E-learning</td>
<td>€ 80,000</td>
<td>€ 80,465</td>
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<td>9 Misc</td>
<td>€ 92,000</td>
<td>€ 41,469</td>
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<td><strong>Equipment</strong></td>
<td>€ 267,990</td>
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<td><strong>Running Costs</strong></td>
<td>€ 967,765</td>
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<td><strong>Personnel</strong></td>
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<td>1 Administrative Personnel</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Senior Academic Personnel</td>
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<td>3 Researchers and Doctoral Students</td>
<td>€ 1,016,380</td>
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<td>5 Pension Fund</td>
<td>€ 49,734</td>
<td>€ 49,059</td>
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<td><strong>Provisions and Funds</strong></td>
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<td>€ (40,936)</td>
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<td>1 Research Enhancement Fund</td>
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<td>€ 30,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Use of the Res. Enh. Fund</td>
<td>€ (48,750)</td>
<td>€ (35,936)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Use of the Relocation Fund</td>
<td>€ -</td>
<td>€ (35,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Totaal Inkomsten:</td>
<td>€ 3,287,014</td>
<td>€ 3,231,953</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Totaal Uitgaven:</td>
<td>€ 3,307,341</td>
<td>€ 3,472,753</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Totaal Voorzieningen 2012</td>
<td>€ (16,750)</td>
<td>€ (40,936)</td>
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<td><strong>Totaal van het boekjaar</strong></td>
<td>€ (91,577)</td>
<td>€ (199,863)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Destination of the Reserves</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Building investment fund</td>
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<td>2 Social fund</td>
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<td>3 Fund Senior Research Fellows</td>
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<td>€ -</td>
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<td>4 Master Programme Fund</td>
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<td>€ (18,966)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Use of / addition to the surplus</td>
<td>€ -</td>
<td>€ -</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Use of / addition to the project reserve</td>
<td>€ 28,684</td>
<td>€ (30,897)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Personnel cost vs. Total cost (%)**  63.98  61.21

**Surplus/Deficit vs. Total income (%)**  -2.79  -6.18
Institute for European Studies
2012 Activity Report

Published by
Prof. Dr. Bart De Schutter
President IES

Compiled and edited by Anthony Antoine, Jacintha Liem, Lynn Tytgat, Marie Tuley and Sebastian Oberthur, with the kind assistance of Bart De Schutter, Alexander Mattelaer, Harri Kalimo, Jamal Shahin, Richard Lewis, Ilke Adam, Hilde Vanderheyden and all researchers at the IES.

This activity report is available on the IES website, at http://www.ies.be/reports/

All pictures courtesy of IES & VUB.