United Nations University

Comparative Regional Integration Studies

(UNU-CRIS)

Annual Report 2002
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Regional integration has become more important in a world increasingly characterised by globalisation, complexity and uncertainty. In the past decade there has been an increase in the number of regional integration agreements, together with a renewal and strengthening of many existing integration arrangements. Regional integration is no longer concerned with trade but also with cooperation along different dimensions such as culture, politics, security and diplomacy. Therefore, we can see that regionalism presents new challenges to governance models all over the world.

UNU/CRIS wants to develop a prospective approach to regional integration that focuses on the multi-level characteristics of regional integration and upon the embedding of any given regional integration scheme in ongoing changes in the world order system. Also, we need to deepen our understanding of how regionalisation can help developing countries to benefit from the processes of globalisation and to protect themselves from the dark sides of globalisation.

This report offers information on the start-up of UNU/CRIS, a research and training programme of the United Nations University focused on comparative regional integration studies. 2002 was an exiting year for UNU/CRIS as the number of researchers and research projects increased and first results became available.

UNU/CRIS in 2002; some facts and figures...

- 14 workshops and conferences were organised;
- 10 projects in collaboration with more than 30 partners started;
- more than 30 papers and publications were produced;
- 16% of the budget came from external contracts.

The mission of UNU/CRIS is to contribute towards achieving the universal goals of the UN through comparative and interdisciplinary research and training for better understanding of the processes and impact of intra- and inter-regional integration. Our aim is to build policy-relevant knowledge about new forms of governance and co-operation, and to contribute to capacity building on issues of integration and co-operation particularly in developing countries. In the pursuit of this aim, we will work in partnership with initiatives and centres throughout the world that are concerned with issues of integration and cooperation, and that share our concerns and values.

In 2002 we have built up the internal capacity and external networks to realise this mission. We also developed a strategic plan for the next two years. I hope this report will demonstrate that UNU/CRIS is well on track.
We look forward to this future phase with enthusiasm and energy, and express the hope that our work will bring benefit to both students and practitioners in the area of regional integration, in every part of the world.

_Luk Van Langenhove, Director_
1. Introduction

Regional integration has become much more important in the contemporary world, as societies face the increasing complexities that are the result of globalisation. Societies all across the globe face uncertainty and insecurity, and have to find ways of coping with the many challenges in a world that has become much more integrated and interdependent. One way of surviving and prospering is by acting collectively at the regional level to initiate policies, programmes and private-sector endeavours across a regional space, with the ultimate objective of raising the level of welfare for all.

The past decade has witnessed a striking increase in the number of regional integration agreements throughout the world. Over the same period, we can see a renewal and strengthening of many existing integration agreements. Not all of these regional integration agreements take the same form nor do these arrangements adopt the same structures to be found in European regional integration. Instead, we can see new forms emerging in some cases, the gradual evolving of existing regional arrangements, and above all a renewed willingness by states and non-state actors to cooperate at the level of the region.

It is clear that forms of regional integration differ with respect to both the institutional structures and the type of cooperative arrangements agreed by the actors involved. While some favour a supranational, institutional structure upon which to organise cooperative activities, other countries prefer a looser, inter-governmental framework that leaves greater scope for decision-making at the national level.

Looking at the diversity of arrangements, it is clear that countries and groups of countries display certain preferences for one form of cooperation over another. What may or may not be so clear is why these preferences prevail over others, and even less obvious is whether the selection of a cooperative arrangement will deliver the maximum benefits for the parties involved.

The renewed interest in regionalism in both advanced and developing countries has not produced similar results as far as regional integration is concerned. Motivations differ among the countries that embark upon regional integration. Some seek limited outcomes in terms of economic integration and trade liberalisation, or even more restricted integration over narrow sectoral areas. Research shows that we cannot judge the level of regional integration by referring to the name by which actors choose to define their agreement. So that what is loosely referred to as a free trade area may in practice be something much narrower than that. Even the prospect of setting up a free trade area will challenge certain interests that may not be able to compete in a liberalised regional trading area. These interests will therefore seek to influence the political decision-makers, in order to restrict the scope of a proposed free-trade area and thus protect their own sectoral interests.

While domestic interests thus help to shape the ultimate form of regional integration, and may also determine the type of cooperative arrangements, effectively setting limitations on what can be created, there may be distinct limits unintentionally created as a result of ambitious plans for regional integration.
If actors decide to press ahead with regional integration covering a large geographic area and a wide arena of activities, of policy areas and policy networks, there may be practical limitations on what can be achieved within a certain timescale. When most African countries made the commitment in 2002 to establish the continent-wide African Union, they were articulating a vision outlined in the late 1950s by Ghana’s first post-colonial leader, Kwame Nkrumah. But many leaders recognise that such a vision cannot be realised without the preliminary steps being taken towards sustained cooperation at local and regional level.

The basis for cooperation exists when individual governments and non-governmental actors recognise that they share common interests and acknowledge the possibility that cooperative activities could offer a way of protecting and advancing those interests. It is not essential to such cooperation that all interests should be held in common, but it is important that individual actors do not regard cooperation as a zero sum game. In other words, regional integration should be able to offer benefits but not at the cost of certain interests within the region.

Political questions therefore lie at the heart of proposals for regional integration, and political choices must be made as the processes of integration develop. These processes are complex, even in the most uncomplicated arrangements for regional integration. The decision by a group of countries to liberalise trade among themselves will of necessity have implications for the rules, procedures, and norms already in place in each country. Rules and procedures that were developed in the social and political context of another time in history may now have to be reviewed, redrafted or even replaced in order to fulfil the new obligations and commitments associated with the agreement to liberalise trade. So rules on tariffs, product standards and design specifications become the subject of examination by those policy-makers who are tasked with the responsibility of enforcing a free trade agreement entered into by the national government.

Of course, changing the rules is not sufficient to guarantee that integration will eventually come about. Does integration really work in practice to produce what the actors (governments, policy-makers, and non-state actors) intended? The answer to this question can only be found by looking at the outcomes, and by measuring those outcomes against a set of pre-determined qualitative and quantitative indicators. Even the simplest form of regional integration will be associated with multiple outcomes that extend beyond the goal of trade liberalisation – creating jobs, reducing poverty, raising the quality of life and promoting a balanced economic development are all important goals in the regional integrations schemes in Africa, Latin America, Asia as much as in Europe. Other goals may be given different emphasis depending on individual, regional circumstances. The preservation of security, the restoration of peace and the guarantee of political and social stability can be counted as key priorities for all governments, but these goals take on special significance in those countries and regions of the world that cannot yet take such public goods for granted in the way that Europe managed to do so long before the end of the twentieth century. In Africa, regional integration must therefore deliver many solutions to a range of pressing problems in the economic, political, social and security arenas. Finding the most appropriate model of regional integration (even assuming there is one) may be a question of trial and error. It is most certainly a question of making the political choice that is acceptable to the parties concerned, that maximises the benefits for all
the countries involved while minimising the disruption and costs. There is no model of regional integration with general applicability to all circumstances and all regions. But the challenge for all countries that are involved in regional integration is to find workable solutions to common problems within the context of a regional cooperation framework. UNU/CRIS has set itself the task of assisting the developing countries to meet these challenges.

Regional integration is itself a complex process of interaction at many different levels, encompassing a diverse range of actors across the spectrum from the sub-national to the supra-national level. There is a consensus among many analysts and scholars that regional integration is an outcome or reaction to the complex processes associated with the phenomena of globalisation. But there are other, distinct forces driving regional integration that may emanate from the domestic and regional level. We need to deepen our understanding of these diverse driving forces, in order to be able to explain and to predict where the processes might lead. Moreover, we need to deepen our understanding of how regionalisation can help developing countries to benefit from the processes of globalisation, and to counter the adverse effects of such processes upon the social and political community.

Has globalisation gone too far? The question has been asked by leading scholars, and taken up more recently by a variety of political activists and civil society actors, with an increasing momentum to the debate, and indeed many conflicting viewpoints. Whether one agrees with one or the other viewpoint, what is less in dispute is the claim that some aspects of globalisation cannot be reversed (technological changes, for one thing) while other facets can no doubt be amended or reversed through political dimensions, or indeed simply through inaction or a shift of political will. So far, we have not heard the question ‘has regional integration gone too far?’ And if we wish to avoid the likelihood of the question being raised among civil society actors, governments, economic actors, national and regional policy-makers and bureaucrats then it is imperative to address the difficult questions that will inevitably arise in the context of constructing and developing regional integration – especially where the values of equality, justice, respect from human rights, and democratic representation are held in high regard.

The academic programme of UNU/CRIS, with its focus on research and training for capacity-building, is drawn up with these considerations to the forefront. The research projects described in the following section cover a number of areas and issues within the broad field of regional integration, but they all emphasise key concerns for everybody with an active interest in understanding regional integration, in monitoring the processes of integration and thus furthering regional cooperation through appropriate policy measures and the capacity to implement relevant policies.

During the course of 2002, UNU/CRIS devoted considerable efforts to building up its own internal capacity so as to realise the goals set out in the mission statement, and to establish the core infrastructure needed to pursue the research plans.

The main results of these operational activities can be summarised as follows:

- in the course of 2002, 10 staff members were recruited;
- a website was operational by 25th January 2002;
✓ a presentation leaflet was produced at the beginning of February 2002;
✓ a specialised in-house library is being constituted;
✓ an internal project management and quality control system was operational by 1st October 2002;
✓ an electronic newsletter and list server have been set up to be operational by early 2003;
✓ an evaluation of the start-up activities has been performed by two external evaluators appointed by the Flemish Government.

With the support of a strong external network of leading international researchers we are now well-placed to implement the programme of activities in our strategic plan over the next two years. Also, a network of contacts with researchers from Flemish universities has been established in order to ‘link’ UNU/CRIS with its immediate academic environment. And finally, it is worthwhile to note that notwithstanding that in 2002 efforts were primarily focused on building up our own capacity, UNU/CRIS nevertheless succeeded in attracting external money: about 16% of our own budget was contract-related income.
2. The UNU/CRIS Governance Structure

UNU/CRIS is based in Bruges and has links with UNU Tokyo, with the College of Europe and with the Flemish Government. The core team of researchers and support staff is based in Bruges, and is completed by an international network of scholars and institutions around the globe.

The governance structure of UNU/CRIS is based upon an interlocking network of international and local relationships and can be summarised as follows:

- UNU/CRIS is part of the United Nations University, which is an autonomous organ of the U.N. General Assembly. The headquarters of UNU are in Tokyo.
- UNU/CRIS core operation is funded by the Flemish Government (Kingdom of Belgium).
- UNU and the Flemish Government have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the College of Europe (Bruges) that arranges that UNU/CRIS is hosted by the College.
- UNU/CRIS develops collaboration with Flemish universities and research institutes worldwide.

Official signing of the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) between the Flemish Government, the United Nations University, and the College of Europe.

From left to right: Mr. Otto von der Gablentz, former rector of the College of Europe, Mrs. Marleen Vanderpoorten, Flemish Minister of Education and Training and Dr. Hans van Ginkel, U.N.U. Rector.
3. The academic programme

The most important aspect of 2002 activities has been the development and implementation of different research projects and an overall framework. Today, the ongoing projects can be grouped in four academic programmes:

Programme 1: Monitoring regional integration

With this programme UNU/CRIS wants to develop and maintain different tools that will allow easy access to information about regional integration initiatives as well as ways for assessing the actual and possible impacts of regional integration. This includes constructing an information system on regional integration, developing adequate indicators and impact assessment tools as well as conducting foresight and scenario-workshops in order to map possible futures of regional integration.

Programme 2: Exploring regional integration

Regional integration as a phenomenon can be studied from many different perspectives. Within the overall framework of the UNU/CRIS approach (emphasis on prospective and participative studies) the following themes have been chosen as first priorities: (i) regional integration and governance; (ii) regional integration and identity; (iii) regional integration and trade; (iv) linking peace, security and regional integration; (v) microregions.

Programme 3: Advancing regional integration

Within this programme, UNU/CRIS will build upon the work of the two preceding programmes and the international research networks that have been created to initiate problem-solving and policy-relevant research, directed at institutions, organisations and governments. In this regard, UNU/CRIS will supply its expertise to concrete aspects of policy, institutions, and society upon which the processes of integration can exert impact and/or unintended consequences.

Programme 4: Building capacity for regional integration

UNU/CRIS will pursue an extensive range of training initiatives under this programme, some linked to the existing programmes and activities with others conducted independently. The activities include an internship programme together with PhD studentship, short-course provision and on-line educational modules linked to distance learning networks. Within this area, the general approach of using prospective and participative studies will form the basis for distinct activities to build capacity for regional integration.

In total 10 projects have been started up in 2002. They are described on the following pages.

In October 2002, UNU/CRIS scientific staff members all participated in an internal strategic planning exercise with the aims of clarifying and consolidating the existing
strategic documents, and developing a vision and work plan for the period 2003-2005. This plan will be submitted to the UNU/CRIS Scientific Advisory Board.

In 2002, UNU/CRIS produced two Internet-based tools for studying Regional Integration: an educational module and an information system. See: [www.cris.unu.edu/regintinfsys.htm](http://www.cris.unu.edu/regintinfsys.htm) and [www.cris.unu.edu/whatisregint.htm](http://www.cris.unu.edu/whatisregint.htm)
UNU/CRIS programme 1: Monitoring Regional Integration

Project 1: Regional Integration Information System

(a) Project abstract:
Since the 1980s, there has been a proliferation of regional cooperation agreements among sovereign states in both advanced and developing countries across the globe. Moreover, these agreements have continued to emerge and to co-exist alongside the processes of globalisation, producing a twin-track development that international institutions have come to recognise as producing its own particular synergies. While there is no clear agreement on whether regionalisation is in fact a step towards globalisation, it is clear that regional agreements have their own distinctive motivations and processes. Further, these can vary from region to region. This project is concerned with identifying and describing the variety of regional integration agreements that currently exist across the globe, including a profile of agreements by membership, purpose of establishment, and the legal and institutional arrangements underpinning each agreement. The final database will include the current status of integration achieved for each regional agreement, the governance systems and budgetary powers.

(b) Expected outputs:
- A comprehensive database covering the regional agreements currently existing in the world, detailing the scope and variety of regional integration, and providing comparative data on the processes of integration world-wide.
- The database will form an input for the other areas of research presently conducted or proposed by UNU/CRIS.
- The database will also provide a link to the Regional Integration education module of UNU/CRIS, and provide a resource for researchers generally.
- The database will be presented as a portal on the UNU/CRIS website, with arrangements for regular updating and amendments to take account of future developments of existing regional agreements and the emergence of new agreements.

(c) Participating institutions:
- Development Department of the College of Europe.
**Project 2: Regional Integration Indicators**

(a) **Project abstract:**

A general consensus exists among policy-makers and academics in the fields of regional integration, development, and governance, that there is a great need for 'indicators' of regional integration. A recent illustration of this need is the announcement of DG Development of the European Commission to monitor through a system of indicators the progress of regional integration agreements where ACP countries are involved. Two broad categories of such indicators are needed: (a) indicators that reflect the type and level of actual integration achieved in a region, and (b) indicators of the quality-of-life in a region, which manifest the ultimate aims of regional co-operation/integration regimes.

The indicators will need to be qualitative and quantitative, multi-disciplinary, and as comparable as possible between regions. In addition, they should capture both intended and potential unintended 'spill-over' effects of regionalisation in various sectors and regions of the world. It is also desirable that the indicators should be adapted to and be relevant for different models of regional integration.

(b) **Expected outputs:**

- Contributions to the methodology of setting-up indicator systems for monitoring regional integration processes, in particular, and international cooperation, in general (technical papers/journal articles).
- Set-up and financing of a system of indicators of regional integration, in cooperation with other institutions.
- Analyses of integration processes, using the system of indicators.

(c) **Participating institutions:**

Department of Peace and Development Research (PADGRIGU), Göteborg University, Sweden,

European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA), Maastricht, The Netherlands,

Centro interdipartimentale di Economia Internazionale (CIDEI), University of Rome “La Sapienza”, Italy,

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) – Development Centre
UNU/CRIS Programme 2: Exploring Regional Integration

Project 3: Regional Integration and Governance

(a) **Project abstract:**

Within the broad approach to exploring integration, the study of evolving processes of cooperation between sovereign states highlights how deeper levels of integration are producing new forms of governance within the region, new rules and structures linked to ever more sophisticated institutional arrangements for the regulation of political, economic and social relations. These new arrangements can operate at both formal and informal levels, with the support of legal instruments or without any legal basis, and with a variety of enforcement mechanisms combined with diversity in the regulatory scope. In addition, the regional governance systems sometimes stand in stark contrast to global governance systems, while in other cases regional governance can complement the global system. With the growth of inter-regional collaboration and the emergence of an intricate web of cross-regional alliances, regional governance has entered a new and more complex phase that calls for focused research of the new processes associated with multi-level governance.

The project is intended to build an international network of scholars with the resources and capacity to conduct inter-disciplinary research, and to provide a professional group that can offer policy advice to international/regional actors. Further, the network is constituted with the capacity to monitor and assess the impact of various issues on governance in regional integration.

(b) **Expected outcomes:**

- An international network that will be active in the study of governance issues related to regional integration, responsive to new policy concerns from regional and national authorities, and ready to disseminate research results widely as well as to engage in training and capacity-building.

- Preparation of an extended research programme to be submitted under the EU 6th Framework Programme.

- Elaboration of distinct thematic areas within the broad scope of governance (covering areas such as security, trade, representation of civil society, cultural identity).

(c) **Participating institutions and scholars:**

A network of 15 institutions from Sweden, UK, France, Ethiopia, USA, the Netherlands, Canada, Germany, Ireland and Belgium.
Project 4: Regional Trade Agreements and Governance

(a) Project abstract:

The focus of the debate on globalisation has to date been on the impact of the prevailing liberal paradigm on the role of the state but there has been only limited work done on the role of regional integration in governing the global economy.

There are three ways in which regional integration can be seen as a response to globalisation. First, regional policy co-ordination can be seen as a means of (partial) retention of control over policy preferences in the face of the pressure to more liberal policies. Second, regional integration can be seen as offering a means of regaining some control over policy. Third, regional integration can be seen as the initial renouncing of national policy autonomy, which once renounced in favour of liberal policies opens the path to globalisation.

The main objectives of the research project by the Network (see below) are: (a) to compare regional approaches to regulation under conditions of market integration and assess the degree to which they retain, regain or renounce national regulatory policy autonomy, (b) to consider what role the regional level plays in the multilevel process of regulating markets, (c) to contribute to a better understanding of the role of regional regimes in global economic governance.

The activities of the Network could include a wide range of different policy areas, but the following would be seen as priority areas of work because they are key indicators of how the balance is being struck between local/domestic policy autonomy and global markets or international regulatory norms: (a) the regulation of capital markets, (b) food safety, (c) electronic communications, (d) the professions, (e) sustainable development, (f) competition.

(b) Participating scholars and institutions:

- The London School of Economics (LSE);
- The Kennedy School of Government, Harvard (U.S.);
- Institute of International Studies of the University of Chile;
- Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalism, University of Warwick;
- Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Institute for European Studies (IES) and Political Science Department (POLI).
Project 5: Linking Peace, Security and Regional Integration: Global Comparative Case Studies

(a) Project abstract:

The project is developed as a specific focus linking peace, security, conflict and regional integration in Africa. The innovative focus and potential of the on-going project tested in Africa has led to the expansion and development of the project as a research programme area of UNU/CRIS. The programme is based on different regional project components, focusing on global comparative case studies.

The global comparative case studies will focus on the regions in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe and the Middle East.

(b) Expected outputs:

- Policy-relevant input and impact by mainstreaming the link between peace, security and regional integration into the policy and practice of economic integration and co-operation groupings, the emerging growth triangle economic zones and development co-operation approaches of Western governments;
- Edited book publication output from the international conference in Bradford on Africa;
- Development of course and teaching materials from case studies and curriculum development for an advanced Master’s degree programme on Peace, Security and Regional Integration;
- Edited book publications and working papers on each of the five regional project components.

(c) Participating institutions:

Department of Peace Studies
University of Bradford, United Kingdom.

Department of Peace and Development Research
Göteborg University.

Centre for Conflict Management and Resolution
African Union
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
(a) **Project abstract:**

“Identities” can be understood as discursive constructs that are engendered by actors in specific contexts for various purposes. That is, the use of an identity construct (e.g. categorizing oneself or another) in a given situation always accomplishes social tasks (such as positioning a person as superior or inferior to another). However, the consequences of these tasks may or may not have been intended. Often, identities are presumed to be fixed and inherent entities, and conclusions regarding goals and strategies are drawn based upon this presumption. For example, in 2001, some Danish citizens claimed that maintaining “Danish identity” precluded membership in the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU). However, the insight into the constructed nature of identities opens up the possibility of constructing identities that facilitate the proactive realisation of social goals.

The present project aims to explore processes of identity construction and reconstruction as they relate to issues of regional (dis-)integration. The initial project objectives are twofold: one, to develop a theoretical framework and approach for studying identity-construction and explore its relevance to issues of regional integration; two, to carry out an empirical study of lay-discourses on regional integration issues in different regions. Analyses will examine in what contexts and how the identity concept is employed, the functions it serves, as well as differences between regions.

(b) **Expected outputs:**

- Papers developing a theoretical framework for the study of identity constructs as they relate to regional integration issues.
- An empirical and comparative study on uses of the identity concept in discourse on regional integration.
- Publications to disseminate the results of the empirical study.
Project 7: Methodological Toolkit for Prospective, Participatory Research on Regional Integration

(a) Project abstract:

In the UNU/CRIS definition study it has been stressed that there is a need to ‘re-think’ integration studies in such a way that it becomes more interdisciplinary, more policy-relevant and participatory. Today, a whole set of empirical research tools exist, which have been developed in different social sciences disciplines. This project aims to develop a ‘tool-box’ of prospective and participative research methods for use in integration studies. For this, we should (i) develop adequate methods that enable participative research on integration studies, (ii) select best practices of research projects that can serve as tools and (iii) start a pilot project to ‘test’ the developed approaches. For the latter we are considering to relate this project to the results of the UNU action, ‘Dialogue between civilisations’, and deal with the study of drivers and barriers to integration and collaboration between the major civilisations of the world. More specifically, the focus could be on the impact of inter- and intra-regional (dis-)integration processes on the life of citizens and on various institutions and societal processes of governance.

(b) Expected outputs:

✓ To create a toolkit of participative research methods and apply these to the study of regional integration processes.
✓ Three publications in which the use of prospective, participatory methods is proposed and developed within a theoretical framework.
✓ Host a conference for experts on and users of prospective, participatory methods for studying and building capacity in issues of regional integration.
✓ Publish a book on the use of prospective, participatory methods for studying and building capacity in issues of regional integration.
✓ Host a conference for all UNU Research and Training Centres and Programmes on the use of prospective, participatory methods in social science.
UNU/CRIS Programme 3: Advancing Regional Integration

Project 8: The Zambia-Malawi-Mozambique Growth Triangle (ZMM-GT): A Case of Informal Regional Integration in Southern Africa

(a) Project abstract:

The Zambia-Malawi-Mozambique Growth Triangle is an initiative in contiguous parts of Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique, which aims to “fast track” regional integration by focussing on enabling the private sector, and therefore serve as a catalyst for development in rural areas and so as to alleviate poverty in the neglected region.

With the contributions from the World Bank/IFC Foreign Investment Advisory Services (FIAS), the initiators of the ZMM-GT have developed a ‘Business Plan’ for the ZMM-GT, and UNU/CRIS is supporting the initiative in its path forward. One of the main recommendations of the FIAS report was to develop a set of indicators to monitor and evaluate the progress of integration in the region. UNU/CRIS has offered to help conduct Foresight exercises in the region to build the democratic capacity of various sectors in the region, to improve the quality of decision-making, and to co-develop region-specific indicators. In the immediate term, UNU/CRIS has contributed towards the following:

(b) Expected outputs:

✓ To design a full-programme proposal for the ZMM-GT project, including Foresight activities and the development of indicators for monitoring and assessing the progress of integration in the region.

✓ To produce a chapter on the ZMM-GT, placing it within a broader comparative and critical framework.

✓ To develop training materials and make basic preparations for a regional Foresight exercise to the ZMM-GT region (including methodology, logistics, potential participants and objectives).

(c) Participating institutions:

UNDP, Lusaka
UNECA
Project 9: European Convention. – The Representation of the European Union in external economic relations

(a) **Project abstract:**

The external economic policy of the EU is one important area of study for the European Convention in its task of preparing a new constitution for the Union. The general focus is on how to strengthen the role of the EU in the world and, specifically, how to strengthen the role of the Commission in the global multilateral institutions – the United Nations and its specialised agencies, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The Community’s legal personality in external economic relations has evolved since the 1970s as it has been increasingly accepted as a party to multilateral agreements such as international commodity agreements and multilateral environmental agreements. Since the 1990s it has achieved full membership in international organisations related to its core competencies including the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the WTO: The expanding role of the Community in international relations has led to increasing disputes between the Commission and the Member States about delimitation of powers.

This project is intended to provide an in-depth analysis of the new issues facing the EU in global economic governance. Globalisation has enlarged the external dimension of EU integration and the new linkages between trade and finance and sustainable development call for a re-orientation of the traditional common commercial policy. This analysis will channelled to the European Convention though on-going interaction with the representatives and work groups of the Convention meeting in Brussels.

(b) **Expected output:**

- Policy papers on the role of the EU in global economic governance to be published on the European Convention Forum Website for civil society contributions.
- In-depth analysis on specific aspects of the EU’s external economic relations to be submitted to the Work Group on External Action which has been formed by the Convention.
- Contribute to inter-disciplinary Work Group on European Convention at the College of Europe.
- Article for publication in peer-reviewed academic journal on final outcome of the Convention’s work.
- Develop model of essential features for a generic ‘Constitution’ for regional governance.
Project 10: Educational module ‘Introducing Regional Integration’

(a) **Project abstract:**

This project involves the development of an educational module by UNU/CRIS in conjunction with Allied Consultants. The module will be made available online, and accessible through the UNU/CRIS website. The aim of the module is to provide an introduction to the main issues, concepts and approaches to regional integration around the world. It is intended as a general review for the non-specialist, while also offering a comprehensive overview of historical, theoretical, and political aspects of regional integration. The module is designed so as to offer users the opportunity to engage with the content in an interactive way, and to follow the module programme at their own pace. This introductory module will provide a basis upon which to build further educational units in the future, and it will also be linked to the UNU/CRIS data-base on regional cooperation and integration.

(b) **Expected outcomes:**

- A fully-interactive training module that offers a comprehensive introduction to the key issues and the diversity of processes in regional integration around the world.

- The module will be the building block for further educational modules in the UNU/CRIS long-term plan for training and capacity-building in the field of regional integration.

(c) **Participating Institutions:**

Allied Consultants
In order to jump-start UNU/CRIS a number of activities and events have been organised or hosted with the aim of “promoting” UNU/CRIS in the academic and policy-making world and of building-up networks. Amongst the most important events organised are:

- 23 April 2002: Official Opening Ceremony of UNU/CRIS with guest-speaker Jean-Luc Dehaene, Minister of State and Vice-President of the European Convention on the Future of Europe on ‘Europe: Cornerstone of a Multipolar World’.


- 14 October 2002: First UNU/CRIS Annual Lecture “From Trade-Led to Monetary-Led Regionalism: Why Asia in the 21st Century will be Different to Western Europe in the 20th Century” by Prof. Dr. Richard Higgott, Director and Professor of International Political Economy, Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, University of Warwick.

- 22-23 November 2002: Research Conference on Regional Integration and Global Economic Governance (co-organised with London School of Economics).

- 29-30 November 2002: Research Conference on Regional Integration and Governance.


With the aim of submitting joint proposals for collaborative research activities, a series of different networks have been set up by UNU/CRIS with academic organisations:

- RIGNET: The Regional Integration and Governance Research Network with 16 partners from 9 countries.
- IRINE: The Indicators on Regional Integration Network with 6 partners from 6 countries.
- REMARIN: The Regional (Market) Integration in Global Economic Governance Network with 6 partners from 4 countries.
4. Personnel/Staffing situation

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<td>Luk Van Langenhove (Belgium)</td>
<td>Director</td>
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Professor Luk Van Langenhove (°1957) has been Director since 1 October 2001 of the Comparative Regional Integration Studies Programme of the United Nations University (UNU/CRIS) in Bruges and teaches at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB). He was Deputy Secretary-General of the Belgian Federal Services for Scientific, Technical and Cultural Affairs, post he occupied from May 1995 till September 2001. From 1992 till 1995, he was Deputy Chief of Cabinet of the Belgian Federal Minister of Science Policy. Before that he worked as a researcher and a lecturer at the VUB.

Mary Farrell (Ireland) Senior Researcher

Mary Farrell obtained her doctorate in 1996 from London School of Economics. Before joining UNU/CRIS, she worked at the University of North London in the School of Area and Language Studies (1993-2002), and at the University of Hertfordshire (1990-1993). In 2002, she was a British High Commission Visiting Scholar at the Eastern Mediterranean University in Famagusta, Turkish Republic North Cyprus. In 2000, she was a Visiting Professor at the Institute for International Relations, Hanoi. Her research interests include international political economy; regionalism in Asia, Europe and America; ASEAN-EU relations; and the future of the EU. Recent publications include Spain in the EU (Palgrave, 2001); European Integration in the 21st Century, Unity in Diversity, with S. Fella and M. Newman, (Sage, 2002), and ‘Meeting the conditions of monetary union, the challenge to the Spanish model of regionalization’, Journal of Southern Europe and the Balkans, 4, 2, 2002. Professional association memberships include American Political Science Association, European Union Studies Association, International Studies Association Royal Institute International Affairs, and University Association for Contemporary European Studies.

Nikki Slocum (United States of America) Researcher

Dr. Nikki Slocum brings to UNU/CRIS a background in social-cultural psychology and the philosophy of science. Her main interests include the application of the “new psychology” to conflict resolution/prevention and toward facilitating processes of integration in accordance with the mission goals of the UN, as well as developing a practice-relevant, interdisciplinary, prospective, and participatory approach to social science. Her current work focuses on the following, with regard to their implications and applications to the study of regional integration:

- Discursive construction of identity, power, and other meaning-constructs and paradigms;
Impacts of these social-psychological factors on policy-making and action, particularly with regard to issues of governance, peace and security, social cohesion, and sustainable development;

Development and application of methods consistent with a prospective and participatory approach to social science.

Her credentials include a Ph.D. in psychology from Georgetown University (Washington D.C.), a Diplom (Master’ degree) in psychology from the University of Kiel, Germany, and a Bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University of California at Berkeley.

**Philippe De Lombaerde (Belgium) Researcher**

Philippe De Lombaerde joined UNU/CRIS in August 2002. Before that, he worked as an Associate Professor at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia (Bogotá, since 1997) and as a Lecturer at the University of Antwerp (1999-2002). Mr. De Lombaerde (Lic. Econ., U. Ghent, Drs. Applied Econ., U. Antwerp; Ph.D. Econ., P.W.U.) is an economist whose current research interests include: the economics of regional integration, international trade, FTAA negotiations, CAN, Colombian economy, micro-regions.

He is a co-author of *Las empresas multinacionales latinoamericanas* (Tercer Mundo Editores, Bogotá, 2000) (with A. Franco) and the editor of *Integración asimétrica y convergencia económica en las Américas* (U. Nacional – Antropos, Bogotá, 2002).


**Brigid Gavin (Ireland) Researcher**

Brigid Gavin joined UNU/CRIS in 2002 following varied experience in the academic world and policy-making in international organisations. She worked as Policy Adviser to Greenpeace International, EU Unite in Brussels (2000-2001), Lecturer in European Economic Integration at the Europa Institute of the University of Basle, Switzerland (1993-2000), and for Colgate University, New York, Geneva Programme (1986-1993). She was Media Officer for the Delegation of the European Commission to the International Organisations in Geneva (1981-85). Her areas of interest are focused on European integration – in particular the external relations of the EU, and international trade policy in the World Trade Organisation. During the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations, she coordinated a Ford Foundation programme of conferences in Geneva bringing academics and trade diplomats together on the major
issues under negotiation. She has published on a number of EU policy areas including services, digital broadcasting and investment. Her most recent publication is *The European Union and Globalisation: Towards Global Democratic Governance* (Edward Elgar, 2001). Her university education has been international and interdisciplinary, obtaining a B.Soc.Sc. from University College Dublin, an M.A. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (US) and a Ph.D. from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Aurora Mordonu (Romania)  Research Assistant**

Aurora Maria Mordonu graduated from the College of Europe (Bruges) in 2002 and she holds a Masters of Arts in European Economic Studies. With a previous background in economics, her final dissertation was entitled “The integration of bond markets in the Euro zone- is co-ordination necessary?” She gained valuable practical experience of the structure and formulation of EU policies during her stage at the European Commission, Directorate General Economic and Financial Affairs. Her undergraduate studies were pursued at the Academy of Economic Studies, in Bucharest, Romania.

At UNU/CRIS her current research subject is “ EU-Russia partnership- evolution and prospects”, which is also her PhD topic at the University of Gent, within a UNU/Cris-RUG bilateral programme. Together with Nikki Slocum and Philippe De Lombaerde, she is the author of “The Zambia-Malawi-Mozambique Growth Triangle (ZMM-GT): A Case Study of New Regionalism in Africa”. At the Euro Conference- European Union Evaluation Policy that took place in Barcelona in December 2002, she presented a paper entitled “Evaluation of the EU assistance policy to Russia within the TACIS programme”.

**David Francis (Sierra Leone)  Associated Research Fellow**


His new research and teaching focus is on peace and conflict studies in Africa, and works closely with United Nations University for Peace Africa Programme on strengthening the capacity for Education and Peace.

David’s work with UNU/CRIS as Associate Research Fellow, focuses on a research project that links peace, security and regional integration in Africa.

**Fredrik Söderbaum (Sweden)  Associated Research Fellow**

Fredrik Söderbaum is an associate research fellow at UNU/CRIS and mainly based at Peace and Development Research, Göteborg University (Padrigu). His main research interest is the theory and comparative study of the new regionalism, with a special
focus on Africa. Recent books are *Regionalization in a Globalizing World* (co-editor with Michael Schulz and Joakim Öjendal, 2001); *The Political Economy of New Regionalism in Southern Africa* (PhD dissertation, 2002); *New Regionalism in Africa* (co-editor with Andrew Grant, 2003, in press); and *Reconstructing the Maputo Development Corridor in the Context of Globalization* (co-editor Ian Taylor, 2003, in press). Ongoing research projects, all which involve a number of UNU/CRIS researchers, include *Microregionalism in Africa; Comparative microregionalism; and Policy coordination between EU and the member states.*

*Noël Neven (Belgium)  Finance and Administrative Officer*

Noël Neven, a Belgian national, joined UNU/CRIS on January 1st, 2002. His major responsibility is to manage, in close consultation with the Director, the financial and administrative resources for the effective accomplishment of the work of the programme. Prior to that, he worked as a chief accountant in the private sector.

*Pascale Vantorre (Belgium)  Secretary to the Director*

Pascale Vantorre, a Belgian national, joined after her studies ‘Management Assistant’ the economics department of the College of Europe end of 1991. Since June 2000 she has been seconded to UNU/CRIS where she is assisting the Director and the Senior Researcher. Pascale Vantorre is also webmaster.

*Eveline Snauwaert (Belgium)  Secretary to the Researchers*

Eveline Snauwaert, a Belgian national, joined UNU/CRIS in October 2002 as secretary where she assists the researchers and does supporting work for several research programmes. In 2001, she completed her secretarial studies with languages with distinction at the “Katholieke Hogeschool Brugge-Oostende” in Bruges. Prior to her job at UNU/CRIS, she worked as administrative assistant for an international law firm in Rue de la Loi, Brussels.
5. Accounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Income</strong></th>
<th>Budget 2001</th>
<th>% of 2001 budget</th>
<th>Budget 2002</th>
<th>% of 2002 budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating contribution from the Flemish Government (a)</td>
<td>€ 372.000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>€ 960.000</td>
<td>79,10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific project related income (b)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>€ 191,966</td>
<td>15,80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer (c)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>€ 62,525</td>
<td>5,10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) Annual contribution from the Flemish Government to cover the Core Activities of UNU/CRIS.
(b) Specific income is related to external projects attracted by UNU/CRIS.
(c) Transfer of the outstanding balance (income) of the 2001 budget, to 2002.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Expenditures</strong></th>
<th>Budget 2001</th>
<th>% of 2001 budget</th>
<th>Budget 2002</th>
<th>% of 2002 budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contribution to HQ (Tokyo)</td>
<td>€ 122,000</td>
<td>32,80%</td>
<td>€ 200,000</td>
<td>16,47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel costs</td>
<td>€ 67,691</td>
<td>18,20%</td>
<td>€ 299,884</td>
<td>24,69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic activities</td>
<td>€ 56,825</td>
<td>15,28%</td>
<td>€ 553,530</td>
<td>45,58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working (and installation) costs</td>
<td>€ 62,959</td>
<td>16,92%</td>
<td>€ 161,077</td>
<td>13,26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annexes

1. Publications and Disseminations

Paper presentations:


✓ Mary Farrell: “Governance, Reform, and the Future of the European Union”, paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting, Boston, US (29 Aug.- 1 Sept.)


✓ Luk Van Langenhove: Participation to a panel on “Models and Modes of Analysis” at the workshop “Global and Regional Security Governance”
organised by the Institute on Global Conflict and Co-operation (UCLA) and
the Institute for International Comparative Area Studies (UCSD), San Diego
(3 October 2002).

✓ Luk Van Langenhove: “Connecting Citizens to the Regions”, paper presented
at the Comparative Interdisciplinary Studies Section (CISS) Millennium Series
Workshop “Communication, Technology, and the International System in the
Twenty First Century”, Heidelberg, Germany (10 November 2002).

✓ Mary Farrell: “The European Union’s Trade Policy: Institutional Structures
and Shaping Forces”, paper presented at the Conference “Vietnam and the
European Union: Towards Closer International Relations” (12-13 November
2002)

✓ Luk Van Langenhove: “Strengthening the Generative Power of the Social
Sciences”, keynote paper presented at the Vienna Conference, International
Social Sciences Council (ISSC), December 2002.

Publications in 2002:

✓ David Francis: Uniting Africa: Building Regional Security Systems, Boulder:
Lynne Rienner.

✓ Brigid Gavin: “The Role of the European Union in Global Financial
Governance”, paper published on the official website of the European
Convention in preparation for the Official Session between Civil Society and
the Convention Meeting in the European Parliament.

✓ Brigid Gavin: “The Role of the European Union in Global Trade
Governance”, paper published on the official website of the European
Convention in preparation for the Official Session between Civil Society and
the Convention Meeting in the European Parliament.

✓ Rom Harré and Nikki Slocum: “Disputes as Complex Social Events: On the
Uses of Positioning Theory”, Common Knowledge, vol. 9, issue 1, pp. 100-
118.

✓ Nikki Slocum and Luk Van Langenhove: “Integration Speak: Introducing
Positioning Theory in Regional Integration Studies”, in: R. Harré and F.
Moghaddam (Eds.), The Self and Others: Positioning Individuals and Groups
in Personal Political and Cultural Contexts, Praeger/Greenwood, in press.

✓ Brigid Gavin and Luk Van Langenhove: “Trade in a World of Regions”, in: S.
Woolcock and G. Sampson, Looking at Regional Trade Agreements Afresh,

✓ Hans van Ginkel and Luk Van Langenhove: “Introduction and Context”, in:
Hans van Ginkel, Julius Court and Luk Van Langenhove (Eds.), Integrating
Africa: Perspectives on Regional Integration and Development, Tokyo: UNU
Press.

✓ Nikki Slocum, Aurora Mordonu and Philippe De Lombaerde: “The Zambia-
Malawi-Mozambique Growth Triangle: A Case Study in New Regionalism”,
in: Hans van Ginkel, Julius Court and Luk Van Langenhove (Eds.),
Integrating Africa: Perspectives on Regional Integration and Development, Tokyo: UNU Press.


2. List of Academic Meetings and Events

a. Meetings and events organised by UNU/CRIS

✓ 13-14 April 2002: Seminar on Conflict Prevention and Regional Integration in the Tran Caucasus, UNU/CRIS, Bruges, Belgium (organised by the Peace and Governance Programme).

✓ 23 April 2002: Official Opening Ceremony of UNU/CRIS with guest-speaker Jean-Luc Dehaene, Minister of State and Vice-President of the European Convention on the Future of Europe on “Europe: Cornerstone of a Multipolar World”, Bruges, Belgium.

✓ 2 May 2002: Seminar on “Mapping of Regional Integration”, UNU/CRIS, Bruges, Belgium.

✓ 10 June 2002: Presentation and discussions for the Zambia Mozambique Malawi-Growth Triangle (ZMM-GT) Business Plan designed by the World Bank/IFC Foreign Investment Advisory Services (FIAS), Tete, Mozambique.


✓ 14 October 2002: First UNU/CRIS Annual Lecture “From Trade-Led to Monetary-Led Regionalism: Why Asia in the 21st Century will be Different to Western Europe in the 20th Century” by Prof. Dr. Richard Higgott, College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium.

✓ 22-23 November 2002: Conference on Regional Integration and Global Economic Governance (co-organised with London School of Economics), Bruges, Belgium.

✓ 29-30 November 2002: Conference on Regional Integration and Governance Network, Bruges, Belgium.


b. Meetings and events attended by UNU/CRIS Staff members

✓ 13-14 December 2001: S & T Senior Officials’ Meeting ALC-UE, College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium.


19-20 March 2002: Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology of Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union (WALCUE Meeting), Brasilia.


27-28 May 2002, Assisting Good Governance and Democracy, Berlin, Germany.


29 June 2002: “Hans as an Economic and Cultural Vector of Contemporary Europe” at Jan Tanghe Stichting, Bruges, Belgium.


30 September 2002: Workshop organised by the University of California’s Institute on Global Conflict and Co-operation and the Institute for International Comparative and Area Studies at UCSD on Global and Regional Security Governance, San Diego, United States of America.


26 November 2002: Second International Conference on Globalisation chaired by Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt, University of Leuven, Belgium.
c. **UNU/CRIS Research Seminars**


d. **Meetings with Flemish Universities**

- 27 November 2001: Free University of Brussels (VUB);
- 11 October 2002: University of Antwerp (UA);
- 22 October 2002: Ghent University (RUG);
- 15 November 2002: Catholic University of Louvain (KUL).