

UNU-CRIS Annual Report

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UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE ON COMPARATIVE

REGIONAL INTEGRATION STUDIES

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Comparative Regional Integration Studies

THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

The **United Nations University** (UNU) is an international community of scholars engaged in research, postgraduate training and dissemination of knowledge in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The University seeks to contribute, through research and capacity development, to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare that are the concern of the United Nations, its Peoples and Member States. UNU generates and transfers knowledge and strengthens capacities relevant to promoting human security and development, in particular in developing countries. Through its post-graduate training programmes, the University assists scholars to participate in research in order to increase their capability to contribute to the extension, application and diffusion of knowledge. The University disseminates the knowledge in its activities to the United Nations and its agencies, to scholars and to the public, in order to increase dynamic interaction in the world-wide community of learning and research. Headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, the UNU operates through a decentralised system of research and training centres and programmes around the world. (www.unu.edu)

THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE ON COMPARATIVE REGIONAL INTEGRATION STUDIES

The **United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies** (UNU-CRIS) is a research and training institute of the United Nations University, a global network engaged in research and capacity development to support the universal goals of the UN and generate new knowledge and ideas. Based in Bruges, UNU-CRIS focuses on studying processes and consequences of regional integration and cooperation. It acts as a resource for the UN system with particular links to the UN bodies dealing with regional integration. It also works in partnership with initiatives and centres throughout the world that are concerned with issues of regional integration and cooperation. (www.cris.unu.edu)

The mission of UNU-CRIS is to contribute to a better understanding of the processes and impact of intra- and inter-regional integration from a multidisciplinary and comparative perspective. The aim is to generate policy-relevant knowledge about new forms of governance and cooperation, with a specific emphasis on developing countries.

UNU-CRIS receives its core funding from the Flemish Government.

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Introductory Remarks by the Director

The activities and projects carried out in **2012** continued to stress the overall perspective of the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS), which is to study the relationship between global and regional governance, to monitor regional integration worldwide and to assess the various dimensions of regional integration, with a focus on its socio-economic and politico-security aspects. UNU-CRIS has endeavoured to undertake comparative and multi-disciplinary research. Through its projects, events and publications, the Institute has strengthened its collaboration and interactions with various institutions and top academics from all over the world.

Based on a selection of research projects and activities carried out by UNU-CRIS in 2012, this report aims to provide an overall picture of last year's academic achievements.

On 24 and 25 January, the EU-GRASP Foresight Workshop and Dissemination Event "Is the EU able to deliver on security and peace" were organised in Brussels. These events marked the end of the three-year FP7 project coordinated by UNU-CRIS. The EU-GRASP project has featured a remarkable academic output, including a final report, 3 books, 13 policy-briefs, 30 working papers and over 30 articles.

In 26 and 27 March, the GR:EEN Workshops on "Quantitative Indicators of European Power" and "Indicators of Regional Influence" were jointly organised with the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) in Bruges. The Workshops contributed to specify the measurable dimensions of power in an interregional and global context. Indicators and other quantitative techniques were used to assess regional leadership worldwide.

On 3 May, the third edition of the European Union in International Affairs (EUIA) Conference took place in Brussels. The co-organisers, UNU-CRIS, the Institute for European Studies at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (IES-VUB), the Institut d'Etudes Européennes at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (IEE-ULB) and the Royal Institute for International Relations, Egmont, welcomed not less than 40 panels for a total of 155 paper presentations and 4 policy-link panels.

In July, the Summer School and Research Symposium on "Analysing Regional Social Cohesion: Theoretical and Methodological Training for Advanced Research" was co-organised with the Consortium for Comparative Research on Regional Integration and Social Cohesion (RISC) in Luxembourg, while the Doctoral School on "Latin American, European and Comparative Regionalism" was jointly organised with the Universidad Andina, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Observatorio de las Relaciones Unión Europea-América Latina (OBREAL) and the Latin America Training Network (LATN) in Quito.

In September, the new Regional Integration and Multi-level Governance (RIMLG) specialisation of the Master in Public Policy and Human Development was officially launched in collaboration with the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (MGSoG) and UNU-MERIT.

On 22 and 23 November, the International Conference “After the Arab Spring: Rethinking the Role of Regional Organisations in Supporting Democratic Governance” was co-organised with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) in Brussels. The two-day Conference brought together academics, practitioners, officials of key regional bodies and civil society representatives to discuss regional strategies to support democratic governance, security and stability.

On 3 and 4 December, the ASEM Outlook Report Workshop was jointly organised with the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in Singapore. The two-day Workshop discussed the findings of the ASEM Outlook Report and analysed the future of Asia-Europe relations and its implications for the ASEM process.

Amongst the many publications released in 2012, the following can be highlighted: *The United Nations and the Regions* (co-edited by Philippe De Lombaerde, Francis Baert and Tânia Felício; published by Springer), *The Ashgate Research Companion to Regionalisms* (co-edited by Timothy Shaw, Andrew Grant and Scarlett Cornelissen; published by Ashgate), *The EU and Multilateral Security Governance* (co-edited by Sonia Lucarelli, Luk Van Langenhove and Jan Wouters; published by Routledge).

In view of its encouraging performance, UNU-CRIS now has the ambition to capitalise on the past achievements and continue to grow as a leading institute with global impact and strong local roots. In this regard, UNU-CRIS contemplates three major challenges ahead. First, it has the ambition to re-think the scope of its research and to identify new areas where its contribution can make the difference, while deepening research and understanding of the topics and areas presently studied. The aim should be to generate policy-relevant knowledge about new forms of governance and cooperation, the provision of regional public goods and the regional dimension of multilateral reform processes. As an interdisciplinary research centre that operates from within the UN system, UNU-CRIS is in a unique position to achieve these objectives. Being located in Bruges and supported by the Flemish regional authorities, it also contributes to position Flanders as a region that aims to develop new thinking on regions, states and local/global governance. Secondly, UNU-CRIS intends to devote efforts to improving both its local anchorages and global presence and visibility. Taking advantage of the vast amount of communication media available today, it is developing its dissemination strategy accordingly. Thirdly, UNU-CRIS has to consolidate its new involvement in two Master programmes by finding an equilibrium between the aim to offer excellent education and the reality of limited scope of UNU-CRIS.

We are convinced that there is a societal need to realise the ambition of UNU-CRIS. As good governance is increasingly a matter of multiple interacting actors at different levels, this calls for new thinking on the place of states and regions in today’s world and on the role of regions in the UN system. The global proliferation of region-building initiatives over the last decades brings new challenges for global and local governance. More interdisciplinary research is therefore needed to better understand the dynamics of regionalisation.

Luk Van Langenhove
Director of UNU-CRIS

Part One

Report on the Academic Activities

UNU-CRIS aims to contribute through research and training to a better understanding of the processes and impacts of intra- and inter-regional integration from a multi-disciplinary and comparative perspective.

The goal is to build policy-relevant knowledge about new forms of governance and cooperation and to support capacity development on the issue of regional integration, particularly in developing countries.

The activities of UNU-CRIS are organised in 4 research and 1 capacity-building programmes, as follows:

- Research Programme 1: Comparative Regional Integration,
- Research Programme 2: Monitoring Regional Integration,
- Research Programme 3: Regional Peace and Security,
- Research Programme 4: Socio-Economic Dimensions of Regional Integration,
- Programme 5: Education, Capacity-Building and Development.

RESEARCH PROGRAMME 1

STUDYING REGIONS AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION FROM A COMPARATIVE AND MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE PERSPECTIVE

1. Aims and Purposes

Regional cooperation and integration can be seen as evolving processes rather than uni-directional movements towards pre-determined outcomes. Through the various regional integration arrangements that operate across the globe, countries are seeking to find new cooperative solutions to existing problems, and to improve collective decision-making to resolve issues that cannot be dealt with by the respective national governments. Globalisation has obviously opened up a space between the national and global levels of decision-making and policy-formulation, within which states and non-state actors can develop the processes and institutions (both formal and informal) that guide and restrain the collective activities of groups. Governance is here understood as a multi-faceted process of regulation, based upon laws, principles and norms, institutions, policies, and voluntary codes of conduct – thereby including both ‘hard’ and ‘soft’ regulation. Nonetheless, the concept of governance extends beyond the action and authority of governments to include actors such as private businesses, non-governmental organisations, civil society, international and regional organisations, and trans-national interest groups. Thus, regional governance can either support or challenge the sovereignty upon which national governments customarily base their authority.

2. Selection of Research Projects and Activities

2.1. *Global Re-ordering: Evolution through European Networks (GR:EEN)*



The research project GR:EEN – *Global Re-ordering: Evolution through European Networks* – is a European Union (EU) funded project under the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) that started in 2011. GR:EEN aims to study the present and future role of the EU in an emerging multipolar world through a programme of stock-taking, multi-disciplinary research. Emphasis is placed on the variety of actors, from the 20th century’s resilient actors to the rising powers of the 21st, the increasingly influential non-state actors and the new transnational regulatory networks created by public and private policy-makers and regional agencies.

The research programme consists of five main components. At a preliminary stage, a theoretical and conceptual background has been developed through an integrated analysis of the theory and practice of international organisations and networks in the emerging multipolar world. Secondly, a study of the evolving EU policy and practice is undertaken. Thirdly, the effects of regional leadership in Africa, Asia-Pacific and the Americas are considered. Fourthly, attention is given to the EU and multipolarity in six issue areas, namely human rights, security, energy, environment, trade and finance. Finally, a foresight exercise is planned, which will detail scenarios for EU policy towards the emerging world order. UNU-CRIS coordinates two work packages, which respectively focus on the role of regional leadership in multi-polarity and on foresight.

GR:EEN brings together a consortium of sixteen partners. The project is coordinated by the University of Warwick (UK) and involves UNU-CRIS (Belgium), Universiteit van Amsterdam (Netherlands), Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium), Copenhagen Business School (Denmark), Central European University (Hungary), Fundación para les Relaciones Internacionales (Spain), Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale (Italy), Norsk Utenrikspolitisk Institutt (Norway), Boston University (USA), University of Cape Town (South Africa) Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (Argentina), Rajaratnam School of International Studies (Singapore), Peking University (China), University of Western Australia (Australia), and Waseda University (Japan).

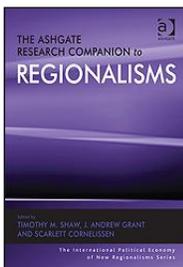
2.2. *ASEM Outlook Report*

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an informal process of dialogue and cooperation bringing together 29 European and 20 Asian countries supported by the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat. The ASEM dialogue addresses political, economic and cultural issues, with the objective of strengthening the relationship between the two regions, in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership.

The ASEM Outlook Report is a project jointly undertaken by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and UNU-CRIS with a view to analyse the future of Asia-Europe relations and its implications for the ASEM process. It consists of an analysis of Asia-Europe relations in a number of selected areas based on future-oriented research, consultations and an analysis of global trends. The contribution of UNU-CRIS to the final report is a chapter entitled *Asia-Europe 2030: Key actors in the Future of the ASEM Process*.

On 3 and 4 December, the ASEM Outlook Report workshop took place in Singapore. The workshop aimed at discussing the findings of the project prior to the formal launch of the report in Bangkok in March 2013.

2.3. *The Ashgate Research Companion to Regionalisms*



The Ashgate Research Companion to Regionalisms is a collection of essays providing a broad overview of regionalism, together with detailed analysis on the construction, activities and implications of both established and emerging examples of formal political and economic organisations as well as informal regional entities and networks. Aimed at scholars and students interested in the continuing growth of regionalism, it is a key resource to understanding the major debates in the field. The volume is co-edited by UNU-CRIS Associate Research Fellow Timothy M. Shaw, J. Andrew Grant and Scarlett Cornelissen, and published by Ashgate.

RESEARCH PROGRAMME 2

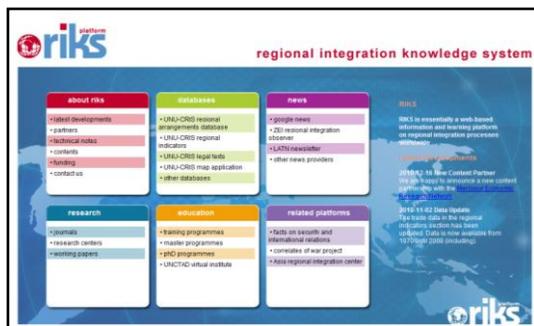
MONITORING AND ASSESSING REGIONAL INTEGRATION WORLDWIDE

1. Aims and Purposes

The world has witnessed a proliferation of regional cooperation agreements among sovereign states. This coincides with a growing consciousness that regional cooperation and integration can deliver added value in a wide range of policy areas. 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, varying from region to region.

2. Selection of Research Projects and Activities

2.1. The Regional Integration Knowledge System (RIKS)



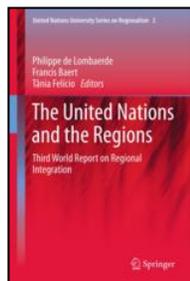
The Regional Integration Knowledge System (RIKS) was developed in the framework of the GARNET Network of Excellence as a joint initiative undertaken by UNU-CRIS and various partner institutes and organisations. It has the objective to provide a central node for information exchange on regional integration processes worldwide and to constitute a ‘missing link’ between the existing regional initiatives for information provision on regional integration and cooperation.

Since 2010, RIKS has been turned into a platform with the aim to create a confluence point where qualitative and quantitative information on various aspects of regional integration processes can be retrieved and exchanged. UNU-CRIS keeps working on enriching RIKS by introducing latest available data, indicators and literatures into the platform. The information that is made available in the indicator system and the treaty database are regularly updated. The RIKS network is continuously expanded through the conclusion of new partnerships. The RIKS website is visited by an average of 2,000 users per month.

2.2. United Nations University Series on Regionalism

The *United Nations University Series on Regionalism* was launched by UNU-CRIS and Springer in 2011. It offers a platform for innovative work on (supra-national) regionalism from a global and inter-disciplinary perspective. It welcomes theoretical, methodological and empirical contributions from academics and policy-makers worldwide related to comparative regionalism, inter-regionalism, the role of regions in a multi-level governance context, the relationship between the UN and regional organisations and the regional dimensions of the reform of multilateral institutions.

This *UNU Series on Regionalism* includes the *World Reports on Regional Integration* that are published by UNU-CRIS in collaboration with UN-ESCWA, UN-ESCAP, UN-ECLAC, UN-ECA, UN-ECE and UNCTAD with a view to pooling the expertise built-up by the various UN regional economic and social commissions in their respective regions. The *World Reports* contain regional reports, combined with thematic contributions and a statistical section that shows supra-regional trends in terms of socio-economic governance across the globe. It also comprises theoretical, methodological and empirical contributions from academics and policy-makers worldwide.



In 2012, the third World Report *The United Nations and the Regions* was published. The edited volume investigates the implications of the rising importance of supra-national regional organisations for global governance in general, and for the United Nations, in particular. It touches upon issues such as regional representation at the UN, high-level dialogues with regional organisations, as well as the coordination of UN member states voting behaviour in the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council. The book further explores the regional dimension and coordination of UN operations in areas such as peace and security, human rights and sustainable development. The contributions to the book are both in-depth chapters and shorter viewpoints, written by a combination of academics, policy-makers at regional organisations, and experts from international think tanks. It is co-edited by Philippe De Lombaerde, Francis Baert and Tânia Felício.

RESEARCH PROGRAMME 3

STUDYING THE GLOBAL-REGIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY COMPLEX

1. Aims and Purposes

There is today a growing worldwide appreciation for a more holistic approach to security than the traditional state-centric notion of security. For instance, the concept of “human security” has replaced the previous notion of security with the idea of the human as the primary referent in peace and security concerns. Similarly, the emergence of the responsibility to protect (R2P) principle has readapted the notion of sovereignty from a solely “state right” notion to a “state duty” concept. Greater emphasis is today placed on the idea on the connection between the enthronement of the rule of law and effective global governance and the protection of the human security and the nation state that previously was the case. Concomitantly with the transformation in the global thinking about peace and security is the emergence of a sea-change in the categories of agents of transformation and the mechanisms for collaboration between the global and regional actors. The nascent concept of security emphasises the full development of the human agenda in all its dimensions: economic, political, to mention but a few. It embeds human beings firmly in the development of security and governance agenda of the state and reinforces the role of individuals, the civil society, faith-based organisations and so on, as indispensable agents of transformation alongside formal national, regional and global institutions. In a 2003 speech, the UN Secretary General called for a new vision of global security based on collaboration between the UN and regional organisations.

2. Selection of Research Projects and Activities

2.1. *Changing Multilateralism: the European Union as a Global and Regional Actor in Security and Peace (2009-2012)*



The research project EU-GRASP – *Changing Multilateralism: the European Union as a Global-Regional Actor in Security and Peace* – is a European Union (EU) funded project under the 7th Framework Programme (FP7).

EU-GRASP aims to contribute to the articulation of the present and future role of the EU as a global and regional actor in security and peace. Thus, the three-year project focuses on the processes, means and opportunities for the EU to achieve effective multilateralism despite myriad challenges.

The research process consists of four main components. At the preliminary stage, the theoretical and conceptual background was developed through an integrated analysis of the evolving concepts of multilateralism and security and of the role of the EU as a security actor. Secondly, a mapping of the EU’s transversal cooperation at different levels – bilateral, regional, interregional and global – was realised. The analytical work is then undertaken, consisting of 23 case-studies of the EU’s approach to six security issues – regional conflicts, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction (traditional issues), and energy security and climate change, severe human rights violations and migration (new concerns). Finally, a foresight exercise led to the design of four scenarios of the possible futures of EU security policies, based on various assumptions concerning the international environment in which it will evolve.

EU-GRASP was composed by a consortium of nine partners. While the project was coordinated by UNU-CRIS (Belgium), the partners were drawn from across the globe. These are: University of Warwick (UK), University of Gothenburg (Sweden), Florence Forum on the Problems of Peace and War (Italy), KULeuven (Belgium), Centre for International Governance Innovation (Canada), Peking University (China), Institute for Security Studies (South Africa) and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Israel).

The academic output of the project is remarkable. No less than 30 EU-GRASP working papers and 13 policy briefs have been published over three years. These are available on the website of the project. Besides, EU-GRASP's research contributed to the publication of several books and edited volumes, special issues in academic journals, peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and PhD theses.

Additional information related to the EU-GRASP project as well as a selection of project-related publications are available online (<http://www.eugrasp.eu/>).

2.2. *The EU and Multilateral Security Governance*



The edited volume *The EU and Multilateral Security Governance* studies the role of the EU in peace and security as a regional actor with global aspirations, in the context of challenged and changing multilateralism. Multilateralism, governance and security are three concepts that have attracted a great deal of attention in the past decade, and attempts to redefine them have produced lively conceptual debates. More recently, different strands of the literature have found common ground in the investigation of the EU's role in what has been labelled "multilateral security governance". Despite being frequently used, the term is yet to be fully clarified and empirically explored. This book presents a conceptual and empirical exploration of multilateral security governance and the EU's role therein with a view to contribute to furthering our understanding of it. Expert contributors in the field analyse both traditional and non-traditional security areas, to investigate if and how multilateral security governance functions, and how the EU contributes (or fails to contribute) to the functioning of multilateral governance. The volume is co-edited by Sonia Lucarelli, Luk Van Langenhove and Jan Wouters, and published by Routledge.

2.3. *After the Arab Spring: The Role of Regional Organisations in Promoting Democratic Governance*

This strand of research aims at closely studying the role played by regional organisations in supporting democratic governance after the Arab Spring. It focuses essentially on regional organisations as actors in democratic governance and draws on comparative analyses of trends, thoughts and processes of regional organisations in dealing with democratic governance. For instance, the role of the African Union and the League of Arab States in supporting democratic governance, where such already exists in those regions, or in promoting such where none exists, is extremely critical to the realisation of the global security agenda as the Arab Spring testified to. The project intends to expand to such areas as the rule of law.

On 22 and 23 November, the programme hosted an international conference organised jointly by UNU-CRIS, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and International IDEA. It invited representatives of several regional organisations to discuss, at a roundtable, what they considered as the key progresses made, and challenged faced, by their organisations before and after the Arab Spring. A Final Report of the Conference will be published in 2013.

RESEARCH PROGRAMME 4

ASSESSING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF REGIONAL INTEGRATION

1. Aims and Purposes

Developing countries are increasingly turning to regional cooperation and integration in response to the challenge of globalisation, which has undermined autonomous national development strategies. The underlying aim of this research programme is to analyse how the new paradigm of development, which is incorporated in the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), can be served by regional organisations. In this context, special attention is devoted to existing and newly emerging forms of South-South and North-South cooperation and inter-regional partnerships that are becoming part of the international landscape, as well as to the relationship between migration flows and regional integration.

2. Selection of Research Projects and Activities

2.1. Globalisation, Regionalisation and Socio-Economic Inequality



“Globalisation, Regionalisation and Socio-Economic Inequality” (GRESI) is a scientific research community supported by the Flemish Fund for Scientific Research (FWO). The research priorities are the quantitative analysis of globalisation and regionalisation processes; globalisation, labour market and income inequality; South-South migration; and inequality in global governance. This network is coordinated by the University of Antwerp and the University of Ghent. The consortium includes: UNU-CRIS (Belgium), the University of Leuven (Belgium), the University of Lille (France), and UNU-MERIT/University of Maastricht (The Netherlands).

2.2. Implications of Circular Migration



In the framework of the newly established United Nations University International Institute on the Alliance of Civilizations (UNU-Barcelona), a pilot project on the *Implication of Circular Migration* was jointly launched by UNU-CRIS and the Center of Studies and Research on Migrations at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (CERM-UAB) to address the implications of circular migration for sending and receiving countries as well as for migrants and their families from a global perspective.

In the past decades, migration flows - international, regional and internal - have not only been increasing quantitatively, but also changing in context, scope and nature. Understood as the back-and-forth movement of people between countries and regions, circular migration processes form part of the changing nature of migration movements worldwide at the beginning of the 21st century. Despite the growing interest in the topic, the scholarly study of circular migration is still in its early stages, and more research is needed to fully grasp its social, economic, political and cultural implications.

The main outcome of the project will be an edited volume entitled “Circular Migration: International trends, impacts and challenges”. This volume will be a comprehensive collection of original contributions

on the overarching topic of circular migration with regard to its multiple dimensions and human, political and civil rights implications from a global perspective, and from key experts covering various disciplines and geographical areas. The volume will be published in 2013.

2.3. *Free Movement of People within Regional Organisations*

This research project on the *Free Movement of People within Regional Organisations* is conducted by UNU-CRIS in cooperation with and financed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The purpose of the project was to perform an in-depth mapping of intra-regional migration policies in around 30 regions worldwide and to assess – with the involvement of selected regional experts – the opportunities and obstacles for their further development.

The final output will be an edited volume comprising the comparative analysis as well as the individual case studies. It will be published in the *UNU Series on Regionalism*, Springer, in 2013.

2.4. *UNESCO-UNU Chair in Regional Integration, Migration and Free Movement*



The *UNESCO-UNU Chair in Regional Integration, Migration and Free Movement of People* was established by UNESCO and UNU-CRIS in November 2010. Based in Bruges and financially supported by the Flemish Government, it collaborates closely with the University of Pretoria, South Africa. It aims at addressing the opportunities and challenges of regional integration, the social dimension of regional integration, migration and in particular free movement of people within South Africa and the Southern African region.

Bringing academics, governments, regional organisations, NGOs and private organisations together, the *UNESCO-UNU Chair* will serve as a think-tank and bridge-builder, sharing its expertise to contribute through research, training and capacity building with the aim of making free movement of people tangible in the Southern African region. The collaboration between the different partners and networks will produce a set of orientation guidelines for local representatives highlighting the main problems to be addressed with regard to free movement of people and effective responses that may be implemented in different contexts.

2.5. *Jean Monnet Project on Constitutional Rights and Free Trade Agreements*



The *Jean Monnet Project on Constitutional Rights and Free Trade Agreements* (CRiFT) was funded by the European Commission under the Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning Programme, DG Education and Culture.

The starting point of this project was the observation of various coinciding trends observed over the last two decades. These include the growing scope of new generation FTAs increasingly covering non-tariff issues; the growing politicisation and contestation of this type of agreements by civil society, interest groups, political movements and sometimes governments; and the growing judicialisation of trade policy due to the rising tensions between the contents of new generation FTAs and constitutional rights and the new instruments to protect individual and collective rights.

The objective of the project was therefore to start a systematic assessment of this *problématique* by analysing how national courts and regional tribunals have been dealing with these potential sources of conflict, especially where activist courts are operating. Through comparative case-studies, the project aimed at producing relevant insights for policy-makers, trade negotiators, and stakeholders in general, and cutting-edge academic publications. The final report was submitted to the EU Commission in 2012.

PROGRAMME 5

EDUCATION, CAPACITY-BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

1. Aims and Purposes

UNU-CRIS capacity-building activities are mainly aimed at enhancing human resources and strengthening institution-building for regional integration in developing countries. This implies human capacity-building, mainly through teaching for higher university programmes that involve students from developing or transition countries, and institutional capacity-building through training of public officials. The aim is to raise awareness of the potential beneficial effects of regional integration with a view to incorporating regional integration in national development strategies of developing countries, but also to warn against the related challenges, such as those linked to policy implementation. All capacity-building oriented activities of UNU-CRIS are based upon the principles and guidelines of the UNU system.

2. Selection of Projects and Activities

2.1. Master Programmes

In December 2009, the UN General Assembly amended the UNU Charter to make it possible for UN Universities to grant and confer master's degrees and doctorates, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions under conditions laid down for that purpose in the statutes by the Council.

In line with the United Nations University's strong engagement in research and post-graduate training, and in order to increase dynamic interaction in the world-wide community of learning and research, UNU-CRIS engaged in the process of elaborating Master's study programmes related to Regionalism and Regional Integration in partnership with two European Universities.

Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development, Maastricht



The first programme is the Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development (MPP), jointly organised by Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (MGSoG) and the United Nations University – Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT). The MSc Public Policy and Human Development aims to prepare its students to actively participate in the policy process, as policy designers or analysts, as civil servants or academics. To achieve this goal, the MPP emphasises the connection between public policy and decision-making processes, or more specifically, the effectiveness and efficiency of governance. Students are equipped with a variety of skills, tools and knowledge, which enable them to work as policy designers and policy analysts. They are capable of working within public and private institutions at local, national and international levels, and the clear majority of students will go on to work in these areas.

The MPP programme combines a joint semester and a specialisation semester with Master's thesis into a one-year full-time study. The first semester consists of six intensive courses that aim to bring all students to the same high level of knowledge and skills, the focus being on theories and practices of governance and policy analysis. As for the second semester, it presently consists of six specialisations, including the

specialised course on “Regional Integration and Multi-Level Governance” (RIMLG), which is organised by UNU-CRIS. Besides the teaching component, UNU-CRIS offers MPP students the possibility to be supervised by UNU-CRIS researchers and associate research fellows, undertake an internship and/or write their master’s thesis in Bruges. The UNU-CRIS specialisation was offered for the first time in the academic year 2012-2013

Master of Arts in Comparative Regional Integration, Bonn



The second programme is a Master of Arts in Comparative Regional Integration, offered by the Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI), Bonn, Germany, in collaboration with UNU-CRIS. The MA Comparative Regional Integration will contribute to excellent education on sustainable regional integration from a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective through the dissemination of knowledge gained in UNU-CRIS and ZEI research activities. The different modules of the programmes will be taught by internationally renowned academics from across the EU and other parts of the world. The teaching programme will take place in the international setting of Bonn, and students will be offered the opportunity to undertake an internship or write their Master thesis at UNU-CRIS. It will lead to a MA degree conferred by the University of Bonn and a Certificate awarded by UNU. The MA Comparative Regional Integration will start in October 2014.

2.2. Doctoral Programme

GEM PhD School



The Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate on “Globalisation, the EU, and Multilateralism” (EMJD-GEM) is a doctoral programme funded by the European Commission. The GEM PhD School aims to foster first-rate interdisciplinary doctoral research in Europe on common policy and societal challenges facing the current global system, and seeks to answer a growing call for international doctoral programmes characterised by excellence, interdisciplinarity and a global reach. This integrated transnational doctoral research and training program leads to a double degree upon completion of a jointly supervised doctoral dissertation.

The GEM PhD School brings together a unique set of nine leading research institutions from across the globe. Under the stewardship of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), the programme involves the Fudan University, LUISS, University of Genève, the University of Warwick and Waseda University. The consortium is supported by three distinguished associated institutions, namely Boston University, ITAM and UNU-CRIS. Being an associated institution, UNU-CRIS offers GEM PhD School’s students in their third year the possibility to undertake a short stay with an eye on furthering their research.

2.3. *Traineeship and Internship Programme*

UNU-CRIS offers students with an interest and background in regional integration studies the opportunity to take part in the activities of the Institute. The research traineeship and internship programme is intended for undergraduate and graduate students, respectively.

Trainees contribute to the activities undertaken under the research programme *Monitoring and Assessing Regional Integration* and are supervised by the head of this programme. Their research project consists in updating the Regional Integration Knowledge System (RIKS), which provides direct access to information and data on regional integration processes worldwide. They may also be requested to assist in administrative or organisational tasks.

Research interns take part in the activities of the research programme for which they applied and are supervised by the head of this research programme. Their duties involve research assignments related to ongoing research projects and activities and based on the needs of their supervisor. The latter provide interns with guidance and advice during the internship.

Trainees and interns are provided with office space, computer facilities and access to the libraries of UNU-CRIS and the College of Europe. They are also welcome to take part in seminars, workshops, conferences and other events organised by UNU-CRIS, including informal briefings and roundtable discussions. In 2012, 4 trainees and 17 interns visited UNU-CRIS.

2.4. *Visiting Researchers*

UNU-CRIS offers to doctoral researchers, academics, professors and other professionals with a background in regional integration the opportunity to undertake a research period in Bruges. Visiting researchers are “scholars in residence”. They conduct their own research projects on topics related to the research programmes of the Institute. These projects are selected for their inter-disciplinary, comparative and future-oriented approach, and for their relevance in terms of policy-making in regional integration. Visiting researchers finally are expected to contribute to the research activities of UNU-CRIS and to take part in seminars, workshops, conferences and other events, including informal briefings and roundtable discussions. In 2012, UNU-CRIS hosted 9 visiting researchers.

2.5. *Research Brunch*

The Research Brunch is an initiative that was launched in November 2010. These seminars, which are held once a month, provide a platform for informal dialogue among UNU-CRIS permanent researchers, trainees, interns and visiting scholars. Young researchers are invited to present their incipient research for early guidance or the final findings of their project before the submission of their work. They thereby test their ideas in front of an audience and receive feedback and advice from their peers.

These brunches importantly contribute to fostering the internal dynamics of the Institute, be it from an academic or a social point of view. They strengthen the multi-disciplinarity of the research performed thanks to comments from researchers working in other fields and highlight synergies among the various researchers’ interests and foci.

2.6. Summer Schools

Doctoral School on Latin American, European and Comparative Regionalism



The Doctoral Summer School on “Latin American, European and Comparative Regionalism” is a one-week summer school that brings together a group of PhD students and young researchers for a series of lectures held by leading senior academics in the field of Latin American, European and Comparative Regionalism and to discuss their research projects in tutorial sessions. The target audience is doctoral students dealing with Latin American Regionalism or Comparative Regionalism from different social science sub-disciplines and at various stages of their research projects. The school is co-organised by UNU-CRIS, the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar (UASB), the Inter-American Development Bank, OBREAL and LATN. It took place from 30 July to 3 August in Quito, Ecuador. The partner institutions intend to repeat this successful undertaking in 2013.

Summer School and Research Symposium on Analysing Regional Social Cohesion



The Summer School and Research Symposium on “Analysing Regional Social Cohesion: Theoretical and Methodological Training for Advanced Research” is a one-week summer school that aims to provide training on theoretical and methodological aspects of research related to social cohesion to PhD candidates, postdoctoral researchers and research-oriented practitioners.

Given the increasing interest in the issue of cohesion in regional integration debates, the lectures and discussions are framed in regional terms. They focus on cohesion-related issues such as migration, social policy, social integration, security, environmental management, ethnic conflict, development or social risk. The Summer School is co-organised by UNU-CRIS and the Consortium for Comparative Research on Regional Integration and Social Cohesion (RISC). It took place from 2 to 7 July at the University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg.

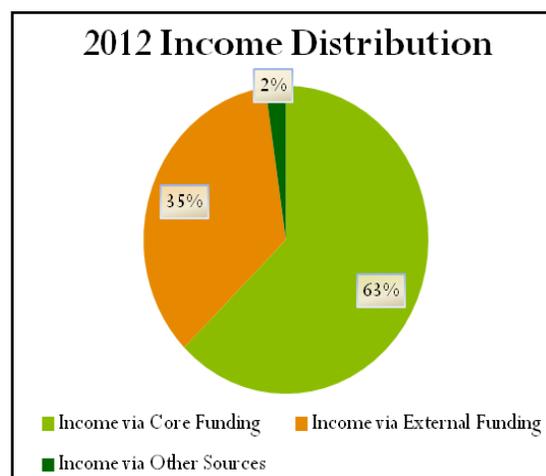
Part Two

Financial Overview

The present section aims to provide a general overview of the budget flows of UNU-CRIS in 2012. Beside the annual *Core Funding* granted by the Flemish Community, UNU-CRIS generated *External Funding* – namely resulting from projects financially supported by the European Commission – amounting to 34% of the Core Budget.

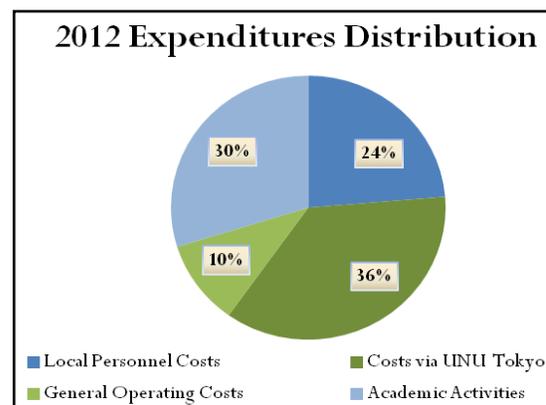
1. Income

Total Income	1,620,248.48
1. Core Funding	1,015,450.61
a. Contribution for 2012	1,065,000.00
b. Transfer	-49,549.39
2. External Funding	567,392.30
a. Contribution for 2012	359,084.88
b. Transfer	208,307.42
3. Other Sources	37,405.57
a. Contribution for 2012	2,042.33
b. Transfer	35,363.24



2. Expenditures

Total Expenditure	1,311,738.32
1. Local Personnel Costs	310,447.44
2. Costs via UNU Tokyo	474,176.32
3. General Operating Costs	136,061.00
4. Academic Activities	391,053.56



Part Three

Selection of Publications

Since its inception in 2001, UNU-CRIS has generated a steady output and impact and has become recognised as a major player in the field of comparative regional integration studies. It has built up a unique expertise and a sound reputation. The present section provides a general overview of the academic output of the research Institute in 2012 in terms of publications. The introductory overview is supplemented with a selection of books, peer-reviewed articles, working papers and online articles published in 2012.

1. General Overview

The academic output of 2012 is remarkable. No less than 15 monographs and 26 book chapters were produced. As an indicator of the top-quality of research, 19 articles and 3 special issues were published in peer-reviewed journals. A total of 50 working papers, policy briefs, reports and other articles were written.



2. Selected Books

De Lombaerde Philippe, Francis Baert and Tânia Felício, *The United Nations and the Regions*, United Nations University Series on Regionalism, Dordrecht: Springer.

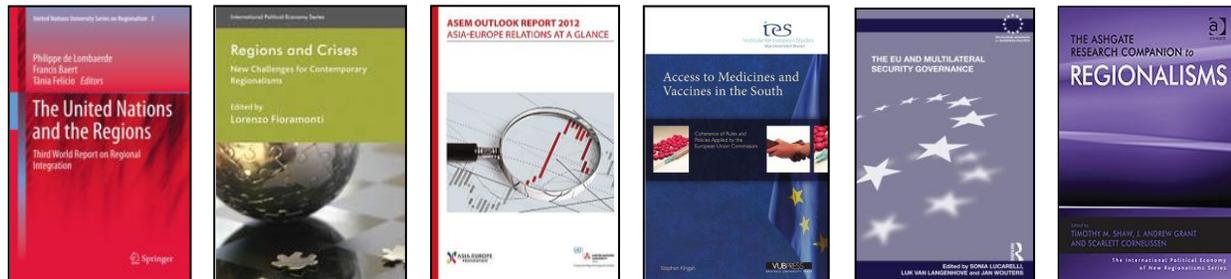
Fioramonti Lorenzo (ed.), *Regionalism in a Changing World: Comparative Perspectives in the New Global Order*, London: Routledge.

Iglesias Sol and Luk Van Langenhove (eds.), *ASEM Outlook Report 2012*, Singapore: Asia-Europe Foundation.

Kingah Stephen, *Access to Medicines and Vaccines in the South: Coherence of Rules and Policies Applied by the European Union Commission*, Brussels: VUB Press.

Lucarelli Sonia, Luk Van Langenhove and Jan Wouters (eds.), *The EU and multilateral security governance*, London: Routledge ECPR Series.

Shaw Timothy, Andrew Grant and Scarlett Cornelissen (eds.), *The Ashgate Research Companion to Regionalisms*, Farnham: Ashgate.



3. Selected Peer-reviewed Articles

Acharya Amitav, “Comparative Regionalism: A Field Whose Time has Come?”, *The International Spectator*, 47(1): 3-15.

Chen Lurong, “The BRICs in the Global Value Chains: An Empirical Note”, *Cuadernos de Economía*, Special Issue, 31(57): 221-239.

De Lombaerde Philippe (ed.), “Structure and Dynamics of the World Economy: New Quantitative Approaches”, *Cuadernos de Economía*, Special Issue, 31(57).

De Lombaerde Philippe and Lelio Iapadre, “Indicadores de la globalización”, *Cuadernos de Economía*, Special Issue, 31(57): 1-20.

Fioramonti Lorenzo, “Building Regions from Below: Has Time Come for Regionalism 2.0?”, *The International Spectator*, 47(1): 151-160.

Fioramonti Lorenzo (ed.), “Regionalism in a Changing World: Perspectives from Africa, Europe, Asia and Latin America”, *The International Spectator*, Special Issue, 47(1): 176 p.

Murray Philomena and Gabriele Orcalli, “Deepening Regionalism in Europe and ASEAN: The Role of an Economic Constitution”, *Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy*, 17(3):426-445.

Kingah Stephen and Luk Van Langenhove, “Determinants of a Regional Organization’s Role in Peace and Security: Comparing the African Union and the European Union”, *South African Journal of International Affairs*, 19(2): 197-218.

Van Langenhove Luk, “Make Social Sciences Relevant”, *Nature*, 484(7395): 442.

Van Langenhove Luk, “Why We need to ‘unpack’ Regions to compare them more effectively”, *The International Spectator*, 47(1): 16-29.

Zwartjes Marieke, Luk Van Langenhove, Stephen Kingah and Léonie Maes, “Determinants of regional leadership: is the European Union a leading regional actor in peace and security?”, *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, 12(3): 393-405.



4. Publications available online

- UNU-CRIS Policy Briefs:
<http://www.cris.unu.edu/Policy-Briefs.508.0.html>
- UNU-CRIS Working Papers:
<http://www.cris.unu.edu/UNU-CRIS-Working-Papers.19.0.html>
- Bruges Regional Integration & Global Governance (BRIGG) Working Papers:
<http://www.cris.unu.edu/BRIGG-Working-Papers.159.0.html>
- EU-GRASP Articles:
<http://www.eugrasp.eu/articles>
- EU-GRASP Policy Briefs:
<http://www.eugrasp.eu/policy-briefs>
- EU-GRASP Working Papers:
<http://www.eugrasp.eu/working-papers>

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