# UNU-CRIS Annual Report 2014



Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies

Bruges

## 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 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 intraand 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



Luk Van Langenhove

**2014** was a busy year for UNU-CRIS! It marked the launch of a number of new research projects, among which the Poverty Reduction and Regional Integration (PRARI) project, focusing on health policies in the SADC and UNASUR regions, but also of new collaborations, such as the one with the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC). Several research projects were successfully concluded, and their findings were published. These include the International IDEA project on "Democracy-building in the regional context", the Scheldemond feasibility study on "Cross-border regional cooperation in higher education" and the exploratory study on "Collaboration between Zeelandic Flanders and Flanders".

Meanwhile, the FP7-funded GR:EEN research project continued at full speed. Besides the classical academic productions, this project devoted particular attention to the conduct of a foresight exercise and the formulation of future-oriented recommendations. The future trends reports and the foresight policy brief, which are available on the GR:EEN website, stand amongst the most consulted pages.

Among the major innovations launched in 2014 is the "UNU-CRIS award for the best thesis on the EU and other world regions", established to the intention of the students of the College of Europe in Bruges or Natolin. The first laureate, Joshua Gartland, received a six-month fellowship at UNU-CRIS.

2014 will also be remembered as the year of the second external evaluation of UNU-CRIS. The results of that evaluation were very positive and are for the whole staff an encouragement to continue to devote themselves to the study of the main facets of regional governance. Equally encouraging was the top position granted to the MSc Public Policy and Human Development, to which UNU-CRIS contributes, in the *Keuzegids Master 2014*, guide to master's programmes in the Netherlands.

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. Indeed, UNU-CRIS has built up a unique expertise and a sound reputation. The ambition should now be to capitalise on those realisations and grow into a leading institute that has a global impact.

We increasingly see a maturation of the field of comparative regionalism. Whereas in 2001 UNU-CRIS was a unique centre with a select group of like-minded centres or groups of scholars, we now witness an increasingly crowded and competitive 'market'. In recent years, there has been a growing interest in publications on comparative regionalism from a wide variety of institutions on all continents. These centres are particularly interested in regionalism within their particular region, but also in comparative research across regions. This provides a lot of new opportunities for the field of comparative regionalism to mature, and for UNU-CRIS to focus even more on its unique mission to conduct comparative and interdisciplinary research in the field of regional integration. The only caveat is that competition for resources is increasing, but UNU-CRIS has the ambition to continue to be one of the leading institutions in the world and is ready to take up the challenge of attracting external funding to meet its objectives.

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 multidisciplinary 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 four research programmes and one capacity-building programme, 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 unidirectional 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 <u>Selection of Research Projects and Activities</u>

## 2.1 Global Re-ordering: Evolution through European Networks



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 was 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 was undertaken. Thirdly, the effects of regional leadership in Africa, Asia-Pacific and the Americas were considered. Fourthly, attention was given to the EU and multipolarity in six issue areas, namely human rights, security, energy, environment, trade and finance. Finally, a foresight exercise has been conducted, which details 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 multipolarity and on foresight.

## 2.2 Transnational Higher Education Collaboration in the Euro-region Scheldemond



Together with University College Roosevelt (Middelburg, The Netherlands), UNU-CRIS conducted a feasibility study in which the possibilities and constraints for new higher educational initiatives in Bruges are explored from a trans-national perspective. The Scheldemond project is a case-study on cross-border regional cooperation. Such cooperation across border regions, through the exchange of knowledge, technical resources, networks and

experience, stimulates innovation. It is also a type of transnational cooperation, which is expected to add value to the region and to strengthen its image in the context of higher education.

The project started on 1 November 2013 and lasted until the end of June 2014. It was concluded by two final reports: "Towards a University College in Bruges?" and "Master of Research in Social Sciences and Global Challenges in Bruges". A local committee was set up in Bruges by RESOC (Regionaal Sociaaleconomisch Overlegcomité) to further discuss the possibilities to take the project to the next level. This endeavour was funded by the Euregion Scheldemond, which is a transnational partnership between the provinces of West Flanders, East Flanders and Zeeland.

## 2.3 A Common Future for the Zeelandic-Flemish Border Region



In the context of the 200th anniversary of Zeelandic Flanders in 2014, the Zeeuws-Vlaanderen 2014 foundation commissioned UNU-CRIS to conduct an exploratory study on possible steps to optimise the cross-border cooperation between Flanders and The Netherlands in the border region. For some time now, the region has been suffering, on both sides of the Dutch-Belgian border, of a number of similar

problems, such as shrinkage, dejuvenation and aging. These issues do not stop at the border, which makes collaboration across borders very beneficial for both parties.

The final report proposes a comparative study of the current cooperation within the Zeelandic-Flemish border region with cooperation schemes between northern France and Belgium, and between other border regions of Flanders and the Netherlands, and finally, policy proposals to optimise cooperation in the border region both for the short and the long term.

## 2.4 European Union in International Affairs Conference



The biennial European Union in International Affairs (EUIA) Conference is the single major stopover of the academic conference circuit in the European capital. Bringing together close to 300 international studies scholars and policy practitioners from over 40 countries, it constitutes a premium venue for debating the role of the EU in the turbulent realm of international affairs.

Jointly organised with the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (IES-VUB), the Université Libre de Bruxelles (IEE-ULB) and Egmont – the Royal Institute for International Relations, the fourth edition of the conference took place in Brussels on 22-24 May. It featured high-level speakers, including UN Under-Secretary-General

and UNU Rector David Malone, EU Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht, Chief Executive of the European Defence Agency Claude-France Arnould and Chairman of the EU Military General Patrick de Rousiers Committee.

## 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 <u>Selection of Research Projects and Activities</u>

## 2.1 The Regional Integration Knowledge System



The Regional Integration Knowledge System (RIKS) aims 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. RIKS functions as a platform with the aim of providing a confluence point where qualitative and quantitative information on various aspects of regional integration processes can be retrieved and exchanged. The information that

is made available in the indicator system and the treaty database are regularly updated and enriched with latest available data, indicators and literatures. The RIKS network is coordinated by UNU-CRIS and is continuously expanded through the conclusion of new partnerships.

## 2.2 United Nations University Series on Regionalism

The United Nations University Series on Regionalism was launched by UNU-CRIS and Springer in 2007. It offers a platform for innovative work on (supra-national) regionalism from a global and interdisciplinary 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.

In 2014, the seventh volume of the Series, "Intersecting Regionalism: Regions, Global Governance and the EU", was published. The edited volume moves beyond narrow understandings of regions and interregionalism that dominate the research field by focusing on the polymorphous nature of the concepts under study, theoretical advances and the empirical challenges ahead. Written by leading experts in the field, the ultimate aim of the book is to contribute to a more relevant and nuanced comparative research agenda on interregionalism in Europe and elsewhere. Francis Baert co-edited this volume with associate research fellow Fredrik Söderbaum and former research assistant Tiziana Scaramagli.

The 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 socioeconomic governance across the globe. It also comprises theoretical, methodological and empirical contributions from academics and policy-makers worldwide.

## 2.3 Poverty Reduction and Regional Integration: A Comparative Analysis



The international research project on "Poverty Reduction and Regional Integration: a Comparative Analysis of SADC and UNASUR Health Policies" aims to establish, in relation to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), what institutional practices and methods of regional

policy formation are conducive to the emergence of embedded pro-poor health strategies, and what national, regional and international actors can do to promote such practices and methods. To this end, the project examines and compares SADC and UNASUR institutional mechanisms and policy development methods and practices; investigates how regional and national levels of authority are co-produced and are connected by these; and develops policy monitoring instruments (Toolkits) to assess regional policy change and success in relation to impoverished populations' access to health care in Zambia and Swaziland in Southern Africa, and Bolivia and Paraguay in South America. A significant feature of the project is its high level of engagement with policy stakeholders throughout the lifetime of the project.

The project is funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) in collaboration with the UK Department for International Development and is led by the Open University. Further project partners include: the University of Southampton, the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), and FLACSO Argentina.

## 2.4 Workshop on Multipolarity and Regionalisation in the Global System

On 15 December, the workshop on "Multipolarity and Regionalisation in the Global System: Applications of Network Analysis" was organised in Milan to study the structure and dynamics of the global economy and polity through a Social Network Analysis (SNA) approach. Particular attention went to regional clustering, preferential patterns and the role of regional leaders (incl. Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa – the BRICS) in trade networks, natural resource networks, and political power structures. The event was supported by GR:EEN funding and was jointly organised with IPRI and the Politecnico di Milano.

## 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 Assessing the Role of Regional Organisations under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter in the 21st Century

This strand of research focuses on understanding how various regional organisations implement the provisions of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter being the legal framework on regional peace and security. On the one hand, it intends to comprehensively study the role of the African Union (AU) in maintaining peace and security in Africa. The emergence of the AU in 2001 indeed raised much hope about Africa's ability to break the cycle of violence that continues to rack many of its states. While the AU has traditionally engaged with maintaining peace and security in Africa, the development of its roles currently has serious implication for Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, especially regarding the relationship of regional organisations with the UN Security Council. The research also deals with nascent and more contemporary issues in African peace and security, especially in regards to the relations between peace and justice.

On the other hand, the research focuses on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Although not regarded as a regional organisation in the language of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter nor in its own treaty, NATO has from the 1990s continued to behave as a Chapter VIII regional organisation and has responded to UN Security Council resolutions directed to Chapter VIII organisations. Furthermore, the UN Secretary General had invited NATO to the meetings of the UN with regional organisations. NATO's new strategic development also seems to support that the organisation now has functions beyond its traditional confines. This strand of research therefore focuses on the relations between NATO and the Security Council in order to determine the implications of NATO's actions for Chapter VIII of the UN Charter.

## 2.2 Surveying the Capacity of Selected Regional Organisations in the Field of Peace and Security

Over the last decade, regional organisations have been empowered by the UN and national governments concurrently to maintain peace and security. In 2008, UNU-CRIS published the first ever global survey of the capacities of all regional organisations in the field of peace and security, including in conflict prevention, peace-making, peacekeeping, enforcement, and peace-building. The ambition of this research strand is to push further this exercise while narrowing down the number of regional organisations studied. To carry out this exercise, UNU-CRIS aims to assemble a team of researchers dedicated to the project and to collect data through various channels, including (i) desk research, (ii) submission of a questionnaire to all regional organisations, and (iii) field work.

## **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 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. The objective of the UNESCO-UNU Chair is to address 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 that have to be addressed with regard to free movement of people and the effective responses that may be implemented in different contexts.

The UNESCO-UNU Chair permits to attract external funding, namely through the Migrating for Work Research Consortium (MiWORC), which is partly funded by the European Union, in the framework of the EU-South Africa Dialogue Facility. The research conducted by the consortium focuses on labour migration to South Africa and its impact on the South African labour market with the aim of providing empirical evidence to the EU-SA Dialogue facility.

## 2.2 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 Ghent. The consortium includes: UNU-CRIS, the KULeuven, the University of Antwerp, the Free University of Brussels (VUB) (Belgium), the University of Lille I (France), and UNU-MERIT/University of Maastricht (The Netherlands).

## 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 <u>Selection of Projects and Activities</u>

In line with the United Nations University's strong commitment to research and post-graduate training, and in order to increase dynamic interaction in the worldwide community of learning and research, UNU-CRIS is involved in several post-graduate programmes related to Regional Integration. Nevertheless, the reformulation of the UNU key priorities with the entry in office of the new UNU Rector implies a re-thinking of UNU-CRIS strategic lines. Indeed, clear distance is being taken from the former Rector's focus on postgraduate training, while the new emphasis is placed on the production of policy-relevant knowledge. Pursuant to the UNU vision, study programmes are only pursued if they do not divert the institute from the primary function of think-tank. Accordingly, UNU-CRIS has decided to remain active in, but to limit its involvement to, the following programmes.

## 2.1 Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development



The Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development (MPP) is 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). It 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, it 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.

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 consists of six specialisations, including the specialised course on "Regional Integration and Multi-Level Governance" (RIMLG), which is organised by UNU-CRIS. The UNU-CRIS specialisation has been offered since 2013, with an annual enrolment rate of 10 to 15 students. The students' evaluations are very positive overall. Besides the teaching component, UNU-CRIS also offers MPP students the possibility to undertake an internship and/or write their master's thesis in Bruges. In 2014, four students interned and successfully defended their thesis.

## 2.2 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 programme 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 candidates in their third year the possibility to undertake a short stay with an eye on furthering their research.

In 2014, eleven out of twelve PhD candidates from the first cohort had successfully defended their thesis, while the last cohort of PhD students was welcomed in the GEM programme. A new proposal for the continuation of the doctoral programme was submitted to the EU Marie Skłodowska-Curie funding scheme with the hope of ensuring the continuity of the GEM PhD School.

## 2.3 Doctoral School on Latin American, European and Comparative Regionalism

UNIVERSIDAD ANDINA SIMON BOLIVAR Ecuador

The third edition of the Doctoral Summer School on "Latin American, European and Comparative Regionalism" was held from 14 to 18 July in Quito, Ecuador. This one-week summer school brought together a group of 21 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 was coorganised by UNU-CRIS and the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar (UASB), in collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Latin American Trade Network (LATN), GIGA, and the African Studies Centre of the University of Leiden. The partner institutions intend to repeat this successful undertaking in 2015.

## 2.4 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 RIKS platform, 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. Their duties involve research assignments related to ongoing research projects and activities based on the needs of their supervisor. The latter provide interns with guidance and advice during the internship. Besides, two communication interns supported the development of a communication strategy for UNU-CRIS thanks to financial contributions provided by Flanders Trainee Programme.

Trainees and interns are provided with office space, computer facilities and access to the library and the restaurant of 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 2014, UNU-CRIS hosted five trainees and 26 interns.

## 2.5 Visiting Researchers

UNU-CRIS offers 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 interdisciplinary, 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 2014, UNU-CRIS hosted nine visiting researchers.

## 2.6 Research Brunches



The Research Brunch initiative 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 multidisciplinarity of the research performed thanks to comments from researchers working in other fields and highlight synergies among the various researchers' interests and foci.

## PART TWO: FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The present section aims to provide a general overview of the budget flows of UNU-CRIS in 2014. 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 2014	€1,918,720.60€
<ol> <li>Income via Core Funding         <ul> <li>a. 2014 Contribution</li> <li>b. Transfer</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	1,127,872.98 1,057,000.00 70,872.98
<ul><li>2. Income via External Funding</li><li>a. 2014 Funding</li><li>b. Transfer</li></ul>	739,473.59 364,446.22 375,027.37
<ol> <li>Income via Other Sources         <ul> <li>a. 2014 Funding</li> <li>b. Transfer</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	51,374.03 12,944.03 38,430.00



## 2 <u>Expenditures</u>

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 2014	€1,400,577.57
1. Personnel Costs	262,190.69
2. Costs via UNU Tokyo	578,321.99
3. General Operating Costs	127,162.25
4. Academic Activities	432,902.64



## 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. This section provides a general overview of the academic output of the research Institute in 2014 in terms of publications. The introductory overview is supplemented with a selection of books, peer-reviewed articles, working papers and online articles published in 2014.

#### 1. General Overview

The academic output of 2014 is remarkable. No less than 9 monographs and 18 book chapters were produced. As an indicator of the top-quality of research, 22 articles and 3 special issueswere published in peer-reviewed journals. A total of 49 working papers, policy briefs, reports and other articles were written.



## 2. Selected Books

Abass Ademola and Francesca Ippolito (eds), *Regional Approaches to the Protection of Asylum Seekers: An International Legal Perspective*, Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate.

Baert Francis, Scaramagli Tiziana and Söderbaum Fredrik (eds), Intersecting Interregionalism. Regions, Global Governance and the EU, Dordrecht: Springer.

Van Langenhove Luk, *De Opmars van de Regio's*, Brugge: Die Keure.



#### 3. Selected Peer-reviewed Articles

Baert Francis and Timothy M. Shaw, "Are you willing to be made nothing? Is Commonwealth reform possible?", *International Affairs*, 90: 5 (2014) 1143–1160.

Chen Lurong and Philippe De Lombaerde, "Testing the Relationships between Globalization, Regionalization and the Regional Hubness of the BRICs", *Journal of Policy Modeling*, 36(1): 111-131.

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