The past six months have been a time of exciting activity and rapid growth for The Hague Institute. In a short period, we have launched several major initiatives and brought on board key new staff to join our roster of experts in the fields of peace and justice. It is my pleasure to introduce some new colleagues in this edition of the magazine, and to highlight a range of our ongoing work.

I am particularly proud of the progress that has been made in strengthening the Institute’s convening power. The pursuit of peace and justice is, at its essence, an enterprise which depends on breaking down barriers. In our own work, not only does this mean that our research is interdisciplinary, building on the academic backgrounds of our experts in law, political science, international relations, sociology and natural sciences, it also means that we seek to bring together representatives of different sectors to engage in discussion. Given the global challenges of the 21st century, reaching out to new partners in this way will be crucial to solving collective problems.

The Hague Institute provides a platform for informed analysis to reach a wider audience, and for ideas to be exchanged between policymakers, business leaders, civil society leaders and academics. To this end, we recently launched The Hague Roundtable Series, which seeks to provide an informal off-the-record setting for leading experts to discuss issues of contemporary relevance. Roundtables are not only an opportunity for cross-fertilization of ideas, but they also result in policy-relevant recommendations, presented through The Hague Institute’s new policy brief series.

Good ideas deserve a hearing not only from insiders, but also from the wider public. It is with this core belief in mind that The Hague Institute launched, in Fall 2013, a Distinguished Speaker Series, which provides a platform for world leaders, notable thinkers and other inspirational experts to engage with the community of diplomats, academics, entrepreneurs and international legal experts here in The Hague. Two of our recent speakers, Peter Sutherland and Admiral (ret.) Jim Stavridis, expand on the arguments they offered at the Institute in this edition of Intersections.

The Institute has established itself as an organization which produces ideas and analysis of relevance to the international community, but also seeks to provide support to policymakers here in the Netherlands, an important actor in world affairs. That was the rationale behind the Institute’s recent Inside View Series, which examined the effectiveness of Dutch foreign policy. The dialogue was bipartisan and illuminating. It was another example of the value in convening those who do not always see eye to eye, and opening up debate as widely as possible.

The Hague Institute will continue to bring together ‘thinkers’ and ‘doers’ with the aim of ensuring the best ideas find their way into the policy process. In such a way, we will contribute to strengthening the international framework for preventing conflict and fostering peace.

I look forward to welcoming you to one of our upcoming events and hope you enjoy this edition of Intersections.

Dr. Abiodun Williams
President, The Hague Institute for Global Justice
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About The Hague Institute

The Hague Institute for Global Justice is an independent, nonpartisan organization established to conduct interdisciplinary policy-relevant research, develop practitioner tools, and convene experts, practitioners and policymakers to facilitate knowledge sharing. Through this work the Institute aims to contribute to, and further strengthen, the global framework for preventing and resolving conflict and promoting international peace.

Advisory Council

Comprised of authorities from the world of international relations, the Advisory Council of The Hague Institute for Global Justice acts as a strategic sounding board for the President of the Institute.

Dr. Madeleine K. Albright (Chair)
Chair of Albright Stonebridge Group and former Secretary of State of the United States of America

Mayor Jozias van Aartsen
Mayor of the Municipality of The Hague and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands

Professor Louise O. Fresco
President of Wageningen University Research Center and former Assistant Director-General at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Professor Igor S. Ivanov
Professor at Moscow State Institute for International Relations and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia

Dr. Marwan Muasher
Vice President for Studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and former Minister of Foreign Affairs and former Deputy Prime Minister of Jordan

Dr. Shashi Tharoor
Member of Parliament, and former Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information at the United Nations

H.E. Judge Abdulqawi A. Yusuf
Judge at the International Court of Justice

In this aim, the work of The Hague Institute for Global Justice impresses. Since its establishment in 2011, The Hague Institute has quickly distinguished itself as an intellectual hub for serious interdisciplinary thinking about ways of promoting international peace and justice. To this end, The Hague Institute’s notable projects deserve our praise and support. I thank the Institute for its indefatigable efforts and contributions, and wish its important work longevity and many successes.

Today, the Court stands as the triumph of the hope of “never again” over experience of history marred by atrocities. It is a real, functioning institution with membership of 122 countries and growing. To be sure, the ICC is here to stay and its work is already showing promising signs of changing the strategic calculus of would-be perpetrators, and having a constructive impact on conflicts.

With the coming into force of the Rome Statute at the dawn of this new century, the treaty-based International Criminal Court (“Court” or “ICC”) was born as the embodiment of humanity’s hope for the international rule of law and for bringing into existence an international criminal justice mechanism with teeth, capable of holding perpetrators of mass atrocities – irrespective of rank or official status – accountable. The Court, in its complementary role to national jurisdictions, plays a most crucial function in the fight against impunity for mass crimes and deterring the commission of such crimes.

The work of the ICC is of course not bereft of challenges. While the nature of the Court’s mandate makes certain challenges unavoidable, other hurdles – from the consistent need for the provision of adequate resources, to witness protection and the execution of warrants of arrest – must be effectively addressed.

States Parties, as custodians of the object and purpose of the Court’s founding treaty, have the primary responsibility of ensuring that the ICC can execute its mandate as intended by the Rome Statute. Civil society, law associations and think tanks, to name but a few, also play an invaluable role in assisting the Court; for instance, by raising awareness on the jurisdiction and work of the ICC, generating ideas on how best the Court’s mandate can be supported, and strengthening the primary of jurisdiction of states to genuinely and capably investigate and prosecute Rome Statute crimes. These efforts are all fundamentally important to our universal aspirations to end impunity for mass atrocities globally, and by extension, promoting stable and peaceful societies.

In this regard, the Court is already showing promising signs of staying and its work is already showing promising signs of changing the strategic calculus of would-be perpetrators, and having a constructive impact on conflicts.

The internal and transnational chaos that mass atrocities create is a direct menace to “the peace, security and well-being of the world.” Moreover, sustainable and durable peace in countries ravaged by mass atrocities and gross human rights violations is seldom achieved without the accountability component implemented in a complementary fashion to efforts aimed at reconciliation and peacebuilding.

I.C.C. Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda

Realizing the Promise of the Rome Statute

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“The ICC is here to stay and its work is already showing promising signs.”
NATO began life as a Cold War western alliance and, since the fall of the Soviet Union, has arguably lost its raison d’etre. How effective has NATO been in adapting to the shifting geopolitical context?

Very effective. It has gone from doing essentially static guard duty across the Fulda Gap to deploying nearly 200,000 professional military personnel in global operations on three continents. It is responding well in Afghanistan, Libya, the Balkans, and defensively protecting Turkey’s border from instability in Syria.

NATO had a robust training mission in Iraq and exchanges with many African and Arab nations via the Mediterranean Dialogue and the Istanbul Cooperative Initiative. There are 22 nations in the Partnership for Peace program, including the Russian Federation.

US leaders traditionally criticize European countries for spending far less than their fair share on defense. To what extent is this criticism justified, and how much longer can European nations rely on an American security umbrella?

It is justified – European nations are failing to meet their self-imposed goal of 2% of GDP devoted to defense, a small and prudent amount. Only a handful of countries today meet this goal – the US, UK, Estonia and Greece come to mind.

Several others are close – France, Turkey and Poland. But the majority are going in the wrong direction. This causes unfair burden sharing in the Alliance and will cause increased friction.

You spoke at The Hague Institute on the Role of NATO in Conflict Prevention. How well equipped is NATO to do this, and what extra resources would enable it to carry out this mission more effectively?

We could be much better and we should work on that – disaster relief; humanitarian operations; crisis response; helping security to enable development – these are things we could improve upon, and things that will ultimately create security. In this turbulent 21st century, we will not deliver security solely from the barrel of a gun.

Should NATO remain the pre-eminent Euro-Atlantic defense mechanism, or ought the European Union begin to assume primary responsibility for security in its neighborhood?

NATO, in my view, is a better instrument because of the cross-Atlantic linkages, which bring an additional 25% of the World’s GDP (US and Canada) into common cause with Europe (roughly 25% of the World’s GDP). Together, the NATO nations have the resources to do enormous good in the world and NATO is additive in that sense.

Given the events in Ukraine over the past month, and looking back to the Georgian war of 2008, has Russia succeeded in protecting its backyard from perceived NATO and wider western encroachment?

NATO has brought in many new members from the end of the Cold War, all of whom are good Allies. Ukraine will ultimately face to the West, in my view, as that is where the best economic future lies. We seek cooperation, not competition, with the Russian Federation.

“Together, the NATO nations have the resources to do enormous good in the world and NATO is additive in that sense.”
You have recently moved from a position of military leadership to stewardship of a pre-eminent school of international affairs. Has your vantage point changed along with your career move? Are there strategic challenges that you would emphasize now as Dean which featured less prominently in your analysis as Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR)?

Like all of us, I take my life’s experiences and try and apply it to new challenges when I take on new responsibility. At the moment, I am interested in the Arctic and the environment; cybersecurity; biology; the role of women; and the use of social networks in diplomacy. I think those will all be key elements of the international world going forward.

Prior to joining the Institute, Mr. Wiemers served as Director of Investment Climate and Promotion at the Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency, an operational unit of the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs. In this role, he was responsible both for business development and policy, with the aim of promoting the Netherlands as a business location.

Mr. Wiemers studied international law and international relations at Leiden University, the Netherlands, the Institut d’Etudes Politiques in Paris, France, and the University of Connecticut School of Law in the United States. He has published books and articles in magazines and newspapers on international politics, international law, human rights, transition economies and China.

Mr. Wiemers will be responsible for operational and development activities at The Hague Institute.

On 1 February, Serv Wiemers joined The Hague Institute for Global Justice as Executive Director. Mr. Wiemers brings a wide-ranging background in both public international law and economic diplomacy.

“Whether working on trade promotion or the promotion of international peace and justice, relevant ideals are deeply rooted in the Netherlands and The Hague more specifically.”

“The Netherlands is among the most globalized countries in the world. It is not a coincidence that this relatively small country can be found in the top 10 of the world’s largest exporters and foreign investors, while at the same time being the champion of international law,” says Mr. Wiemers.

Mr. Wiemers has diplomatic experience and a background in Asia, having served, from 2000 to 2005, as an economic diplomat at the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Beijing, China, promoting bilateral economic relations between the two countries. “Whether working on trade promotion or the promotion of international peace and justice, relevant ideals are deeply rooted in the Netherlands and The Hague more specifically.”

“Cybersecurity; biology; the role of women; and the use of social networks in diplomacy. I think those will all be key elements of the international world going forward.”
The three focus areas of The Hague Institute’s program of work are Conflict Prevention, Rule of Law and Global Governance.

Launched on 28 August 2013 at the centennial celebrations of the Peace Palace, The Hague Approach has been hailed as a groundbreaking initiative in the field of post-conflict peacebuilding. The Hague Approach comprises Six Principles for Achieving Sustainable Peace in Post-Conflict Situations, as well as two empirical studies on rule of law in fragile states from which the Principles are drawn.

There is great alignment between The Hague Approach and the activities the UN promotes. Presented to the King of the Netherlands, as well as the UN Secretary-General, the Principles were launched with the participation of UN Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Judy Cheng-Hopkins, who remarked that “there is great alignment between The Hague Approach and the activities the UN promotes. We hope to continue working with The Hague Institute for Global Justice, especially in light of these relevant principles.”

The value of The Hague Approach to the ongoing work of the United Nations was also highlighted by UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson, who commented that “The Hague Approach is very much in line with United Nations policy in supporting post-conflict transitions. It has the added value of providing practical tools in key areas of this agenda which all stakeholders can apply.”

The Hague Institute will continue its dialogue with leading policymakers in the field of peacebuilding, and intends to develop further trainings and toolkits based on the findings of The Hague Approach with the aim of assisting fragile states in their transition from conflict to sustainable peace.
Rule of Law

The Hague Institute’s Training Modules

The Hague Institute has responded to the increasing demand for knowledge-based programming and policy development by means of high-level training courses. The training modules are based on the expertise and ongoing research projects of the Institute, and aim to stimulate cross-pollination between empirical research and emerging trends in justice sector development and reform.

Transitional Justice

The Hague Institute provided two trainings on transitional justice in 2013: One in The Hague and another conducted in the vicinity of a conflict-affected country.

From 11-13 June 2013, the Institute invited senior judges and prosecutors from Libya for a training on transitional justice and international criminal law. A comprehensive mapping of important justice challenges in Libya served as the basis for the tailor-made training module. The course covered penology and human rights, international criminal procedure and substantive criminal law. Participants had regular exchanges with international experts such as judges and prosecutors working for the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the ad hoc tribunals as well as human rights litigators.

In Johannesburg, South Africa, from 9-11 October 2013, researchers from The Hague Institute trained NGO activists on transitional justice and international criminal law in light of the recently adopted Zimbabwean Constitution’s clause on a National Peace and Reconciliation Commission (NPRC).

The training module focused on capacity building measures for human rights activists and practical tools from The Hague Approach. Particular attention was paid to tools for fostering a rule of law culture, which go beyond the rule of law procedures and institutions like the NPRC, and strategic communication to gain the popular support necessary for the proper functioning of the NPRC.

The training module included information on fact-finding, forensic evidence, domestic investigation and prosecution of international crimes. The Hague Institute will continue with its training modules and expand its program.

Fellowship Program on Transitional Justice in Africa

In collaboration with the South African Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR), The Hague Institute will develop the Fellowship Program on Transitional Justice in Africa. The program will provide a unique opportunity for mid-career scholars, practitioners and researchers from African countries transitioning from periods of mass violence, gross human rights violations and conflict to the rule of law and democracy.

In a period of four weeks, participants will acquire academic, practical and policy-relevant skills to make a meaningful contribution to transitional justice issues in their respective countries. The first three weeks of training take place at IJR, and the final week of training will take place at The Hague Institute.

Quality of Democracy Comparative Case Study

Transitional justice is a core area of research, capacity building and policy advice under the Institute’s Rule of Law Program. Program Head Anja Mihr and her research team, Malini Laxminarayan and Hyemin Kim, will work on a comparative country case study concerning the impact and correlation that transitional justice measures have on the quality of democracy in eight countries around the world.

“...The Hague Institute gave us a very good chance to learn many things especially on international criminal law and the ICC.”

Naima Gebril
Judge, Court of Appeal in Benghazi, Libya
Rule of Law and Transitional Justice in Libya, 11-13 June 2013

Preliminary results show that even in countries as diverse as Hungary, Sierra Leone, Brazil or Japan, the effects of transitional justice measures are often more similar than initially anticipated.

The Open Research Area - the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (ORA-NWO) funded project is in collaboration with the University of East London. Initial publications will be launched during the UN Human Rights Council meetings in Geneva in Fall 2014.

Photo: Judges and prosecutors from Libya during the Rule of Law and Transitional Justice training program at the Institute on 13 June 2013.
November 2013, it provides a platform to discuss pressing global issues with those who have decision-making or debate-shaping power.

Distinguished Speakers typically give lectures linked to The Hague Institute’s own portfolio of activities on conflict prevention, rule of law and global governance. The series opened with Sir John Holmes, Director of The Ditchley Foundation and former UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator. Sir John spoke on the topic of ‘Humanitarians and International Intervention,’ making a forceful case for the importance of civilian protection and arguing that the international community ought not to consider whether to intervene when civilians face humanitarian crises, but rather how to do so most effectively.

“These events will welcome prominent thinkers and practitioners to the Institute for dialogue with a varied community of policymakers, academics, business leaders, and civil society organizations here in The Hague.”

Dr. Abiodun Williams
Distinguished Speaker Series inauguration, 14 November 2013

The Institute aims not only to facilitate high-level dialogue behind closed doors, but also to foster informed debate between leading international thinkers, leaders and international affairs practitioners and the diverse community of policymakers, civil society representatives, students and business leaders based in the city and wider region.

The Distinguished Speaker Series is the centerpiece of The Hague Institute’s public engagement. Launched in November 2013, it provides a platform to discuss pressing global issues with those who have decision-making or debate-shaping power.

A diverse range of speakers have taken part, to date, including leaders from the political, military, business and human rights spheres. They include Peter Sutherland, the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Migration and Development; Admiral (ret.) James Stavridis, the former Supreme Allied Commander of NATO; Joschka Fischer, the former German Foreign Minister and Jan Peter Balkenende, the former Dutch Prime Minister.

Global Governance
The Global Governance Reform Initiative

Globalization and the changing configuration of geopolitical power and responsibility have heightened the need for effective transnational cooperation to resolve pressing governance challenges in a variety of domains, ranging from cyberspace to the high seas.

Many of these domains are inherently difficult to regulate. Governance efforts are further complicated by the fact that the governance institutions created in the aftermath of World War II are largely state-centric, and do not adequately represent the range of stakeholders or forms of governance required to tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

The Global Governance Reform Initiative (GGRI) is the flagship project of The Hague Institute’s Global Governance Program. It proposes policy-relevant, multi-stakeholder solutions to the collective-action dilemmas that stymie global governance efforts in select domains, and identifies general lessons for good global governance. This is achieved by bringing together experts from four sectors (government, international organizations, civil society and the private sector) and strategically important countries in the EU, BRICS and North America, to participate in a policy-oriented dialogue and research partnership. The work of the experts is overseen by renowned academics and practitioners.

The pilot project of the GGRI focuses on the global governance of cyberspace. It addresses timely questions such as which form of governance is most appropriate for regulating internet content, and whether it is feasible or desirable to protect internet users’ privacy by enforcing barriers to cross-border data flows. The preliminary results of the pilot project will be presented in Spring 2014.

The Hague Institute undertakes this project in collaboration with the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Observer Research Foundation (New Delhi), and the Netherlands Institute of International Relations – Clingendael.
Conflict Prevention

Facing Challenges of Water Security and Peace

An international conference on Water Security and Peace was held at the Peace Palace in The Hague on 14-15 November 2013. The conference was organized by the Water Diplomacy Consortium, which consists of five partners: The Hague Institute for Global Justice, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, UPEACE Centre The Hague, the Netherlands Institute of International Relations – Clingendael and the Water Governance Centre.

The availability of water resources is a factor in determining the well-being, prosperity and stability of societies worldwide. As freshwater becomes more scarce and is often distributed unevenly, tensions over its use are manifested in daily life.

Water diplomacy can be successful when parties that have conflicting interests recognize that non-collaboration is likely to result in a worse outcome for all. Sharing international waters should be approached from a perspective of shared opportunities that can exceed optimum national benefits. The aim of water diplomacy should therefore be to identify and strengthen such mutual benefits.

The conference on water security and peace created opportunities for dialogue, knowledge exchange and partnership building. Participants explored the role of prevention, negotiation and arbitration in water disputes, with a focus on specific cases in the Middle East, North Africa and Asia. The conference also highlighted the importance of optimizing present arrangements, particularly the need for additional diplomatic tools to overcome political bottlenecks and address recurring conflicts.

An important lesson of the conference is that there is no one size fits all solution to water diplomacy. Diverse processes, involving different stakeholders, can foster cooperation. It was highlighted on several occasions that conflicts over water resources are complex because of the intricate coupling of geographical and social factors. As a result, conflict prevention and resolution must take into account specific socio-economic conditions and political contexts.

Speaking to Al-Jazeera’s Inside Story, Dr. Patrick Huntjens, Head of Water Diplomacy at The Hague Institute, stated:

"Water cooperation is very difficult. It’s not only about finding technical solutions. It is very important to have stakeholders at the table and find consensus building solutions”

Dr. Patrick Huntjens
Water Security and Peace Conference, 14-15 November 2013

The conference was sponsored by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, and the City of The Hague. For more information, visit: www.waterdiplomacyconsortium.org.
Conflict Prevention

Water Conflicts in Yemen

Yemen is one of the poorest countries in the Arab region and is faced with political instability. An acute water crisis looms over the country, as Yemenis are amongst those populations with the lowest water availability per capita in the world.

Despite research and aid work in Yemen in recent years, significant knowledge gaps remain, especially concerning the use of national and local rules and procedures for solving water-related conflicts.

Water Diplomacy team at The Hague Institute, together with its partners in Yemen and in the Netherlands, is conducting a project to better understand the characteristics of the multiple water conflicts in Yemen. This is done through the analysis of three case studies focusing on different areas of Yemen.

The team analyses how water conflicts arise in these cases and the formal and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms to which stakeholders resort. By doing so, the team addresses the role and effectiveness of formal and traditional rules and practices in water related conflicts. Based on this analysis, the team will present recommendations to strengthen the governance framework in Yemen.

The project is supported by the Netherlands Embassy in Yemen. | Read more

Rule of Law

Illicit Financial Flows

The Hague Institute is committed to curtailing illicit financial flows (IFFs) in the context of the post-2015 agenda. IFFs concern money that is illegally earned, transferred, or spent; of which no record is kept; and generally does not return to the country of origin. Such money is usually ‘earned’ through corruption, transactions involving contraband goods, criminal activities, and efforts to shelter wealth from tax authorities.

While the risk of conflict looms over a country, there can be no meaningful and sustainable development. Therefore, the post-2015 agenda has to deal with conflict risk factors, including IFFs. Moreover, narrowing equity deficits is a condition for accelerated progress on the post-2015 goals.

Progress on the proposed goal concerning IFFs requires improved global partnership, renegotiated tax treaties, technical assistance for proper taxation systems, and concerted action at all levels.

On 20 October, Yale University hosted its annual conference on Human Rights and Economic Justice. Researcher Jill Coster van Voorhout participated in the conference and explained the impact of the Institute’s Rule of Law Program. She emphasized that activities that foster a rule of law culture have to take place at the national and international level and must be undertaken by multilateral institutions and regional organizations as well.

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Moreover, a holistic approach to IFFs should not focus solely on tax abuses but ought to encompass efforts to curb corruption, money-laundering and other transnational crimes. Preventive measures on tax abuses are required so that governments can build and use tax revenues to improve infrastructure, public health and education systems.

Finally, effective combat of IFFs is necessary to break the vicious circle of underground economies, which in turn fuel conflict.

In November 2013, at a roundtable hosted by The Hague Institute, policymakers, business and NGO representatives, lawyers and researchers concluded that there is momentum to drive more efforts in curtailing IFFs. Both in developing and developed countries, there has been outrage when multinational corporations or wealthy individuals avoid taxes.

Activities that foster a rule of law culture have to take place at the national and international level and must be undertaken by multilateral institutions and regional organizations as well.

Northern governments are beginning to realize how they can act ‘in their own backyard.’ States, both collectively on the international level and by means of multilateral institutions, can bring about institutional reform for good financial governance.

The Institute will continue to research IFFs in relation to the post-2015 agenda. It will publish a policy brief with recommendations for states, businesses and lawyers to curb IFFs in a way that benefits developing countries, and continue to conduct policy relevant research.
During the Fall of 2013, The Hague Institute convened three panels of high-level policymakers, collectively responsible for the development and implementation of Dutch foreign policy over the past two decades. The series of events, entitled An Inside View: The Effectiveness of Dutch Foreign Policy was designed to look ‘behind the veil’ at the international affairs policymaking process in the Netherlands, asking ‘is Dutch foreign policy as effective as it could be, and if not, what can be done to improve it?’

This unprecedented series began with a panel convening former Political Directors at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who considered issues such as the appropriate balance between idealism and realism in Dutch foreign policy, as well as the state of relations with key external actors, including the European and transatlantic dimensions.

Given the Netherlands’ traditional pedigree as a proponent of multilateralism, the second event in the series brought together (on United Nations Day) former Dutch Permanent Representatives to the UN in New York. The former UN Ambassadors discussed the challenges of Security Council and General Assembly reform, as well as a Dutch agenda for a possible tenure on the UN Security Council in 2017-18.

The Inside View Series culminated in a rare meeting of four former Ministers of Foreign Affairs, who considered the strategic direction of Dutch foreign policy in front of an audience of policymakers, business leaders and members of the diplomatic corps. The Netherlands’ relationship with the European Union, and communication between political leaders and the public on this key issue, was at the heart of the discussion.

The ministers also reflected on the role that economic diplomacy should play in Dutch international engagement, as well as the Dutch role as a security actor, which is particularly germane in light both of the decision to deploy Dutch troops to assist the UN peacekeeping mission in Mali and the Dutch candidacy for the Security Council.

As a think tank that aims to improve international frameworks for conflict prevention, the rule of law and global governance, The Hague Institute is committed to assisting governments with their engagement on these issues. Given the traditional leadership of the Netherlands in these domains, the Institute welcomes the opportunity to provide a forum to discuss the effectiveness of current instruments - and a report which will build on the discussion in the Inside View Series - to propose an agenda for constructive reform.
Dr. Eamon Aloyo is a Senior Researcher in the Institute’s Conflict Prevention Program. Dr. Aloyo is a political scientist working on policy relevant topics at the intersection of political theory and international relations. He has published in Global Constitutionalism, Global Society, International Theory, and a book edited by Rodney Bruce Hall.

Dr. Aloyo will be researching and working on projects regarding conflict prevention, the responsibility to protect (R2P), and related issues. He is interested in and will contribute to research on just war theory and how the just war theory tradition can be used to morally assess the prevention aspect of R2P.

Home to Experts

The Hague Institute for Global Justice is home to a select group of experts from around the world, who are involved in the Institute’s research programs and contribute to the debate on a wide range of aspects of global justice. Three of these experts are Eamon Aloyo, David Connolly and Anja Mihr.

Senior Researcher, Conflict Prevention Program

Dr. Eamon Aloyo

“I’m excited to conduct original research by considering how moral principles should guide policy making regarding conflict prevention and the responsibility to protect in order to promote global justice.”

Dr. Aloyo received his PhD. in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he was awarded one of its highest honors, the Thomas Jefferson Award. Northwestern University, George Washington University, the United States Institute of Peace (USIP), and the Academic Council of the United Nations (ACUNS) have supported his work.

He is additionally a senior analyst in the global justice section at the Global Governance Institute, a senior fellow at the Canadian Center for the Responsibility to Protect, and serves as a board member for International Peace Initiatives, a Kenyan NGO.

Read more
Dr. David Connolly is Head of the Institute’s Conflict Prevention Program. He is formerly a research fellow and lecturer at the University of York, 2005 to 2013, where he was also the Director and co-founder of the MSc program in International Humanitarian Affairs, and Deputy Director of the Education in Conflict and Emergencies research program.

Trained as a Political Scientist, Dr. Connolly specializes in the institutions and processes of local governance during and after conflict. He has conducted research in Afghanistan, Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Nepal, Northern Ireland, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka and Yemen.

Dr. Connolly brings broad expertise in conflict analysis, third-party intervention, peacebuilding and the reconstruction of war-torn states and societies. He has managed a range of applied research projects that have assessed and helped design strategic international programs and interventions. Dr. Connolly has also designed and developed more than 30 capacity building workshops and professional development courses.

The Conflict Prevention Program will focus on four strategic themes: 1) frameworks, principles and norms; 2) natural resources; 3) institutions and governance; and 4) education. In 2014, it will embark on a series of long-term research projects that will engage critically with policy and practice in partnership with other think tanks, agencies and universities. Read more

Dr. Connolly is Head of the Institute’s Conflict Prevention Program. He is formerly a research fellow and lecturer at the University of York, 2005 to 2013, where he was also the Director and co-founder of the MSc program in International Humanitarian Affairs, and Deputy Director of the Education in Conflict and Emergencies research program.

Trained as a Political Scientist, Dr. Connolly specializes in the institutions and processes of local governance during and after conflict. He has conducted research in Afghanistan, Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Nepal, Northern Ireland, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka and Yemen.

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Dr. Mihr has worked for the European Inter-University Center for Human Rights and Democratization in Venice and for the German Institute for Human Rights. She was first an assistant professor with UNESCO Chair in Human Rights at the University in Germany and later a research director at the Humboldt University of Berlin. From 2002 to 2006, Dr. Mihr served as Chair of Amnesty International Germany.

She has published a number of books and articles on international human rights regimes, human rights education, transitional justice, democratization, the European human rights system and NGOs, and has been co-editor of the European Yearbook of Human Rights as well as the German Journal for Human Rights. Read more

“Conflict prevention offers a proactive and integrated response to the phenomenon of violent conflict and war within and between societies. The challenge is to test and establish cyclical approaches to prevention that can tackle not only the initial outbreak but also its escalation and recurrence.”

“Our Rule of Law program focuses on the correlation between actors, agencies and institutions on the local, national and international level. Only if all levels interact transparently and hold each other accountable can the Rule of Law be strengthened.”
Snapshots

The Institute gathered high-level practitioners for a full day conference on stabilization and reconstruction efforts in fragile and conflict-affected situations. The conference, Achieving Sustainably Peacebuilding Retrospect and Prospect, took place on 29 August 2013.

Senior US and European policymakers visited the Institute to discuss Asia’s increased role in global affairs, and its implications for transatlantic partnerships. The conference, The Rise of Asia: Implications for the Transatlantic Agenda took place on 16 October 2013.

The Institute opened its doors to The Hague Institute expert, Patrick Hartjes, interviewed by Inside Story on Al Jazeera during the 24-25 November 2013 conference on Water Security and Peace.

The Hague Institute expert, Peter Balkenende, former Prime Minister of the Netherlands, visited the Institute as part of the Distinguished Speaker Series on 4 February 2014.

On 2 October 2013, Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), and Theodore M. M. M. Mors, President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) discussed Twenty Years of International Criminal Law. From the ICTY to the ICC and Beyond.

The Distinguished Speaker Series commenced on 14 November 2013 with Sir John Holmes. His speech focused on ‘Humanitarianism and International Intervention.’

The Institute's activities included hosting the Migration: A Chance to Re-imagine Our Future Forum on Migration and Development, created in 2006, has helped build trust and a common understanding among migration stakeholders. Last September, the Domestic Workers Convention went into force, offering critical protections to over 50 million of the most vulnerable migrant workers.

The Hague Institute for Global Justice

Migration: A Chance to Re-imagine Our Future

The 21st century is built on mobility. Capital, goods, and information circulate at low cost and lightning speed. Yet, paradoxically, international migration has become more perilous. It is governed by outdated notions about human mobility. It is hampered by inadequate policy frameworks. And it is stifled by overriding security concerns.

While our globalized labor markets seek migrants, and as ever more people seek to move to escape poverty, our patchwork system of international mobility hampers them. Instead, it empowers those who exploit migrants—smugglers and traffickers, crooked recruiters and venal employers.

It has severely compromised the human rights of migrants, too many of whom must travel, live, and work outside the protection of law. It has depleted public trust in the effectiveness of government. And it has undermined our ability to design policies that allow migration to help us achieve our development goals. Simply put, the current system does not work.

It is now time to begin building a system of human mobility that responds to the realities of the 21st century. We need to create an adaptable architecture that allows individuals to develop their full potential, communities to better integrate newcomers, companies to access the workers they need, and governments to regain public trust.

Progress is already evident. The Global Forum on Migration and Development, created in 2006, has helped build trust and a common understanding among migration stakeholders. Last September, the Domestic Workers Convention went into force, offering critical protections to over 50 million of the most vulnerable migrant workers.

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Migration is a pervasive and disruptive force. It is a molecule that attaches itself to our most neuralgic social issues—identity, sovereignty, human rights, the welfare state, community—and can therefore be easily exploited by populists. It accentuates winners and losers. It is a function of our mindset.

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Calendar

Upcoming Events

March

Uncertainty and Disputed Values: The Role of Non-State Actors in Global Nuclear Security
In connection with the Nuclear Knowledge Summit (NKS) event series, and in partnership with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), The Hague Institute organized and convened experts for a roundtable to explore the governance of nuclear security issues. This event was held on 20 March.

Launch of UN Human Rights Report on North Korea with Judge Michael Kirby

April

The ICC and the Yugoslav Tribunal: Upholding International Criminal Law?
This 2 April event, organized at and in association with Chatham House, will address challenges facing the two courts, including the perception of ICC bias against Africa, the recent case law of the ICTY Appeals Chamber and the future of international criminal justice.

A Conversation with International Court of Justice Judges
On 11 April, The Hague Institute will take part in the American Society of International Law (ASIL) 108th annual meeting in Washington, DC. This year’s gathering will be a joint-meeting with the American Branch of the International Law Association (ILA). Dr. Abiodun Williams, President of The Hague Institute, will moderate a plenary conversation with three judges from the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

May

Review Conference of Working Papers on the Governance of Cyberspace
This three day conference from 13-15 May is a platform for 17 selected experts to present draft papers on pressing issues related to the governance of cyberspace.

The Nuclear Deal: US-Iranian Relations, Retrospect and Prospect
This 21 May discussion is part of The Hague Roundtable Series and will bring together policymakers, academics and civil society representatives with key international expertise on Iran.

Distinguished Speaker Series: Miroslav Lajčák
On 22 May, The Hague Institute is honored to host Miroslav Lajčák, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia, as part of its ongoing lecture series. The Minister will speak on the topic of EU enlargement.

For a complete list of upcoming events, please visit: TheHagueInstitute.org

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