

UNU-CRIS Annual Report

2008



**UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY
COMPARATIVE REGIONAL
INTEGRATION STUDIES**

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**UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY
CRIS**

Comparative Regional Integration Studies

About the United Nations University (UNU)

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, UNU operates through a decentralised system of research and training centres and programmes around the world. (www.unu.edu)

About UNU-CRIS








The **United Nations University programme for Comparative Regional Integration Studies** (UNU-CRIS) is a research and training unit of the United Nations University, a global network of centres engaged in research and capacity development to support the universal goals of the UN and generate new knowledge and ideas. Based in Bruges, Belgium, UNU-CRIS specialises in the 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 and works in partnership with initiatives and centres throughout the world that are concerned with issues of integration and cooperation. (www.cris.unu.edu)

The mission of UNU-CRIS is to contribute towards achieving the universal goals of the UN and UNU through comparative and interdisciplinary research and training for better understanding of the processes and impact of intra- and inter-regional integration. The aim is to act as a think tank that generates policy-relevant knowledge about new forms of governance and cooperation, and to contribute to capacity building on issues of integration and cooperation particularly in developing countries.

UNU-CRIS receives its core funding from the Flemish Government. UNU and the Flemish Government have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the College of Europe that arranges an institutional collaboration between UNU-CRIS and the College of Europe. UNU-CRIS is located at the premises of Grootseminarie, the former Abbey of the Dunes in Bruges, with the support of the Province of West-Flanders.



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FOREWORD FROM UNU-CRIS DIRECTOR

Being part of the United Nations University, the work of UNU-CRIS has been guided by the UNU Strategic Directions 2005-2008, as adopted by the UNU Council. Within that framework, the Council in its 55th Session in December 2008, adopted the UNU-CRIS academic programme and budget for the biennium 2008-2009.

In 2008, following the UNU-CRIS Scientific Advisory Committee, the portfolio of UNU-CRIS activities and projects have been organised into four subprogrammes:

- 1: Studying Regions and Regional Integration from a Comparative and Multi-level Governance Perspective**
- 2: Monitoring and Assessing Regional Integration Worldwide**
- 3: Studying the Global-Regional Peace and Security Complex**
- 4: Assessing the Socio-Economic Dimensions of Regional Integration**

For each of these themes, activities are deployed that stress the overall UNU-CRIS perspective, which is: the study of the relations between micro- and macro-regions and the study of the interlinkages between the different levels of integration.

In 2008, UNU-CRIS has managed to achieve several important objectives in the deepening and promotion of its activities. An important highlight is the creation of a new book series on comparative regional integration studies in Chinese, published by the China University of Political Science and Law Press. This book series is a joint-venture between UNU-CRIS and Renmin University in Beijing. An outstanding international Advisory Board gives intellectual and strategic guidance to this book series.

Also, a new electronic working paper series has been launched: the Bruges Regional Integration and Global Governance (BRIGG) Papers, a joint-venture with the College of Europe.

Amongst the many conferences and workshops organised, the “EU in International Affairs” (Brussels, 24-26 April) deserves special mentioning. More than 200 participants gathered in Brussels to discuss approximately 100 papers and policy-linked panels.

A special highlight was also the Asia-Europe dialogue organised in cooperation with the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF, Beijing, 17-18 October).

Together, these events and publications testify a growing interaction between UNU-CRIS and top academics from all over the world. It also shows a growing collaboration with Chinese institutions.

Institutionally, UNU-CRIS became strengthened by being allowed to open a new UNU post, the UNU-CRIS Associate Director. In September, Dr. Philippe De Lombaerde took up this post.

Finally, it deserves to be mentioned that in 2008 close cooperation was developed with OSAA (UN, New York), ITC-ILO and UNESCO. As such, UNU-CRIS is becoming more and more integrated in the UN system.

Luk Van Langenhove
Director UNU-CRIS

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 multi-disciplinary and comparative perspectives. The goal is to build policy-relevant knowledge about new forms of governance and cooperation and to contribute to capacity development on issues of regional integration and co-operation, particularly in developing countries.

The work of UNU-CRIS focuses on four subprogrammes:

1. Studying Regions and Regional Integration from a Comparative and multi-level Governance Perspective;
2. Monitoring and Assessing Regional Integration Worldwide;
3. Studying the Global-Regional Peace and Security Complex;
4. Assessing the Social and Economic Dimensions of Regional Integration

SUBPROGRAMME 1

Studying Regions and Regional Integration from a Comparative and multi-level Governance Perspective



Regional co-operation 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 co-operative 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.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

1) Theoretical aspects of comparative regional integration studies

In spite of an explosion of literature on regional integration, the “comparative” element remains largely underdeveloped and there is little agreement regarding what constitutes “good” regional integration theory. This results in a fragmented field of study, both in the sense that there is a lack of comparison and cross-fertilisation between scholars using different theoretical perspectives. This research project seeks to contribute to overcoming these two unnecessary divisions by taking part in academic discussions and research networks, and through the publication of a series of journal articles and book chapters.

- An article has been accepted for publication on the *Review of International Studies*
- UNU-CRIS has applied for a Jean Monnet project entitled *Comparing the European Union with other Regional Organisations* together with international scholars of the highest level.

1.1) Global Governance, Regionalisation and Regulation

UNU-CRIS is part of a network of Excellence on “*Global Governance Regionalisation and Regulation: the role of the EU*” (GARNET). GARNET is funded by the European Union’s 6th Framework Programme and it brings together 44 leading institutions from across Europe and aims to enhance interaction and integration among European researchers. GARNET includes three levels of activities: integrating actions, jointly executed research programmes and spreading of excellence activities. In addition the network has the aim to register the activities taking place within GARNET. GARNET also intends to foster a European research space through a mobility programme open to researchers at junior and senior levels. Interaction with the policy community is also enhanced through dissemination activities such as seminars on topical issues aimed at policy-makers and the publication of policy briefs.

- UNU-CRIS hosted several researchers throughout the year 2008 with the Mobility programme, aiming at enhancing cooperation between GARNET partners.
- UNU-CRIS manages the workpackage *Database of Indicators on Regional Integration Processes* (see above, Subprogramme 2)
- UNU-CRIS co-organised the GARNET Ph.D. School seminar 6 on ‘Global Governance, Regionalism and the Role of the EU: the Institutional Dimension’ in Brussels from 9-13 June and seminar 7 on ‘Global Governance, Regionalism and the Role of the EU: the Gender Dimension’ from 1-5 December in Kassel.
- UNU-CRIS worked together with the Institute for European Studies (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), the Institut d’Etudes Européennes (Université Libre de Bruxelles) and the Royal Institute for International Relations (EGMONT) to organise a conference in the framework of “Global Governance, Regionalisation and Regulation: the

Role of the EU” (GARNET, Network of Excellence, 6th EU Framework Programme for Research).

- In its quality of co-ordinator of several core activities, UNU-CRIS is a member of the GARNET Management Committee.

2) Regions and their horizontal and vertical governance linkages

2.1) Comparative study of the linkages between micro- and macro-regionalism

The overall aim of the project is to explore the linkages between micro-regionalism and macro-regionalism. This project seeks to generate theory as well as provide empirical and policy-relevant insights. The linkages between micro-regionalism and macro-regionalism take different forms between (and sometimes within) different macro-regional contexts. This can be seen in Europe as well as in Asia, Africa and North America. A key hypothesis of the project is that cross-border micro-regionalism is linked to macro-regionalism. In Africa, the project will focus on the large number of cross-border “micro-regions” and their links to higher level regional integration on the continent. Under this project, cooperation will be organised with the WABI/Sahel Club at the OECD Development Centre in Paris. The overall project is conceived in collaboration with Gothenburg University.

- A book project by Philippe De Lombaerde and Fredrik Söderbaum is under preparation

2.2) Relations between the EU and the UN

Of all existing regional organisations, the EU is the most present one in the UN system. Not only at the level of financial contributions but also at the level of ideas. Through its “example” of regional governance, its role in international cooperation, the EU promotes itself as a champion of multilateralism and a leading actor in the multilateral institutions.

This project aims to develop a critical analysis of EU actions and interactions with the UN. On the one hand there will be a theoretical focus: what paradigms of international relations can contribute to understand the EU-UN relations? On the other hand the practice of EU/UN relations will be explored as well. Special attention will go to the relationship between the EU and other regional organisation within the context of the UN. This project is part of the GARNET activities and is run in collaboration with the Free University of Brussels (ULB).

- Expected outcome of the project is a book on EU-UN relations to be published in 2009

2.3) Inter-regionalism and the (de)legitimisation of regionalism and multilateralism

This project deals with inter-regionalism in Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America. It seeks to explain variation in the nature and degree of inter-regionalism, and how inter-regionalism is related to and impacts on

multilateralism, regionalism and bilateralism. The intention is to generate new knowledge, but at the same time build on the experiences gained during a recently concluded UNU-CRIS research project, dealing with the role of the EU in inter-regional processes around the world: *EU as a global player. The politics of interregionalism* (edited by Fredrik Söderbaum and Luk Van Langenhove, Routledge, 2006). The project focuses upon the possible roles of inter-regionalism in economic multilateralism and political multilateralism. The project runs in collaboration with the GARNET network.

- A book project edited by Patrik Stålgren, Fredrik Söderbaum “*The European Union and the Global South*” (Lynne Rienner Publishers) has been finalised and will be published in 2009

3) Regionalisms across the world

3.1) Comparative Study of the political economy of Asia-Pacific Regionalism

This research project focuses on Asia-Pacific regionalism. Asian countries started regional cooperation in the 1960s with different motivation and cooperation formats. The regional cooperation institutions in Asia are very different from regional arrangements in Europe, North America, Latin America and Africa. The research project will cover four major contents: (a) main features of Asia-Pacific regional cooperation; (b) comparative studies on different institutional arrangements in the region; (c) comparative studies on Asian regional cooperation with European integration; and (d) Asian regionalism and the Asia-Pacific development.

- UNU-CRIS co-sponsored an International conference on “*Comparative Regionalism: Europe and East Asia*” with Renmin University of China (RUC) and Peking University (PKU).
- UNU-CRIS has created a new book series on comparative regional integration studies in Chinese, published by the China University of Political Science and Law Press. The book series is a joint-venture between UNU-CRIS and Renmin University of China in Beijing (RUC).
- Kennedy Graham edited a new book volume with the title: “*Models of Regional Governance for the Pacific. Sovereignty and the Future Architecture of Regionalism*”, Canterbury University Press.
- Renmin University of China (overall coordination) and UNU-CRIS (European coordination) are rewarded with a Jean Monnet Action from the European Commission (multilateral research group). The project “*European Integration Process and its Implications to East-Asia*” is designed to promote mutual understanding of European and Asian regionalism among scholars from both continents, to provide policy-relevant advice to governmental and societal institutions, to stimulate European studies in Asia and Asian Studies in Europe, and to enhance academic networking between European and Asian institutions.

3.2) Latin American Regionalisms

Latin American regionalisms have gone through different phases over the last decades and they are currently again being re-configured. Due to the

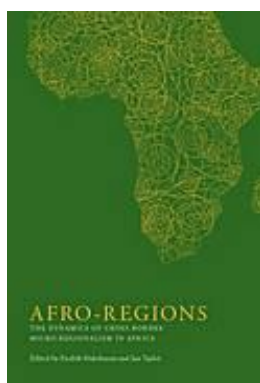
recent avalanche of new events and discourses, academic work seems often to be reduced to commenting on past events and speculating about future events. In addition, inter-disciplinary research is very scarce so that regular academic output does not always address the complexity of the regional integration processes in Latin America. This project seeks to contribute to the academic research on Latin American regionalisms and interpret the developments in the different sub-regions (and in their respective extra-regional relations) in a longer term perspective and from a multidisciplinary angle.

- UNU-CRIS is one of the initiators of the European Union – Latin American Relations Observatory (OBREAL), a network of 25 leading research centres aiming to establish a network of networks among leading academic and policy oriented research institutions in the EU and Latin America, in order to promote a synergistic and policy-oriented work on EU-LA relations.
- Philippe De Lombaerde, Shigeru Kochi and José Briceño Ruiz edited a Spanish book with the title: *Del regionalismo latinoamericano a la integración interregional*, Siglo XXI Editores.
- UNU-CRIS co-organised the Study Day of the Belgian Latin Americanist Association with the University of Leuven (KUL).

3.3) African Regionalisms

Regional integration in Africa is characterised by its diversities. Next to the continent-wide regionalism, there are the many overlapping sub-continental regional organisations as well as micro-regional collaborations. Attention will go primarily to the issue of how African regionalism can best contribute to poverty-reduction. The project is built on case studies of environmental networks, trading networks, peace networks, policy networks and aid networks. It is led by Gothenburg University and expected to be completed in 2009, resulting in an edited volume with an international publisher. Special effort will be made to valorise the Africa-related research from the other subprogrammes in specific publications and dissemination activities.

- Fredrik Söderbaum and Ian Taylor edited a book with the title: *Afro-regions: The Dynamics of Cross-Border Regionalism in Africa*, Uppsala: Nordic Africa Institute.
- Rodrigo Tavares was a member of the consultant group that drafted the UN Secretary General's Report "Africa's Development Needs: State of Implementation of Various Commitments, Challenges and the Way Forward" (requested by the General Assembly resolution 62/242). The Report was used as the background document for the "High Level Meeting on Africa" (held at UN headquarters on 22 September 2008).
- Cornell-UNU Conference, "*The Governance Dimension of the MDGs in Africa*", New York, 21 May. UNU-CRIS, UNU Office at the UN in New York (UNU-ONY), the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies and Institute for African Development at Cornell University jointly organised one of these conferences.
- UNU-CRIS coordinates the "NETRIS" project in the framework of the Edulink programme launched by the ACP Secretariat that aims at improving and strengthening Higher Education in all ACP regions. The goal is to establish a network of seven Universities and other associated partners in the six geographical regions of the ACP.



Afro-regions - The Dynamics of Cross-border Micro-Regionalism in Africa

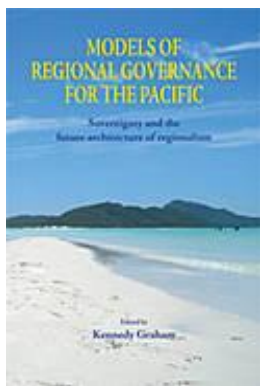
Edited by *Fredrik Söderbaum and Ian Taylor*

ISBN: 978-91-7106-618-3

Paperback

The Nordic Africa Institute

This collection focuses on the making and unmaking of cross-border micro-regions in Africa. Its main emphasis is that micro-regions are not givens, but are constructed and reconstructed through social practice, political economy and, in discourse, by a variety of states, corporations and non-state actors. The region-builders are the focus — that is, those actors that build and make micro-regions and their associated region-building strategies. Key research questions are: for whom, for what purpose and with what consequences are micro-regions being made and unmade? There is also special emphasis on how people on the ground and local communities create their own region-building strategies and how they respond to the region-building strategies of others. The case studies — by leading scholars of African studies and the result of extensive fieldwork — include a wide selection of micro-regions all over Africa, such as the Maputo Development Corridor, the Zambezi Valley region, the Zambia-Malawi-Mozambique Growth Triangle, Walvis Bay, the Sierra Leone-Liberia border zone, cross-border micro-regions on the Horn of Africa, the Great Lakes region, North Africa, and so forth.



Models of Regional Governance for the Pacific

Edited by *Kennedy Graham*

ISBN: 978-1-877257-74-2

Paperback

Canterbury University Press

Arising from proceedings of a 2007 symposium organised by the University of Canterbury's School of Law, the National Centre for Research on Europe and the University of the South Pacific, this book explores the challenges facing the vulnerable small Pacific island countries in the 21st century and the models of regional governance available to them. It reviews the development of Pacific regionalism to date, surveys the 'state of the art' in other regions, especially the EU integration movement in Europe, and considers the merits of the contemporary Pacific Plan. Offering reflections of the nexus between the Pacific Way, based on traditional customs and values of indigenous peoples of the region, and the prevailing values and political methods of the dominant West, it concludes with some insights into how these separate and distinct cultural-political approaches to 21st century

international politics might be synthesised for the common regional interest. It is hoped that this collaborative work will stimulate insightful discussion on the future of Pacific regionalism. The book is a key resource for academic scholars, politicians, national policy-makers, international civil servants, and civil society (NGOs).



Del regionalismo latinoamericano a la integración Interregional

Edited by *Philippe De Lombaerde, Shigeru Kochi and José Briceño Ruíz*

ISBN: 9788432313240

Paperback

Fundación Carolina and Siglo XXI, Madrid

The aims of this innovative book are threefold: Apart from investigating the main factors behind the dynamics of Latin-American regionalism, it examines the growing interactions of these schemes with the European Union, North-America and Asia-Pacific. And it also contributes to the comparative analysis of Latin-American regionalism by contrasting certain aspects of it with European and South-East Asian experiences. The book project was coordinated by Shigeru Kochi (Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan), José Briceño Ruíz (Universidad de Los Andes, Venezuela), and Philippe De Lombaerde (UNU-CRIS). Other experts, from three different continents, contributed to the book: Lincoln Bizzozero (Universidad de la República, Uruguay); Sergio Cesarín (CONITYC, Argentina); Roberto Domínguez (Sulfolk University, US); Luis Jorge Garay (UNU-CRIS); Miriam Gomes Saraiva (University of the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil); Won-Ho Kim (KIEP, South Korea); Andrés Malamud (University of Lisbon, Portugal); Carlos Quenan (Université de Paris III, France); Fernando Rueda Junquera (University of Burgos, Spain); Neantro Saavedra-Rivano (University of Tsukuba, Japan).

SUBPROGRAMME 2

Monitoring and Assessing Regional Integration Worldwide



The world has witnessed a proliferation of regional co-operation agreements among sovereign states in both advanced and developing countries over the recent decade. 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.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

1) Developing methods and indicators for monitoring and analysing regional integration processes

As a complement to Sub-programme 1, this project focuses on the empirical methods that are available for the comparative study of regional integration. It seeks to contribute to the evaluation of existing analytical techniques and the development of new tools for retrospective measurement and prospective foresight and forecasting of regional integration processes. The project also studies the design of monitoring tools and the role that monitoring can play in order to enhance the quality of regional governance.

- UNU-CRIS is part of a research project on flexible software tools for education and training: *Acknowledge: Accessible and Open Knowledge Infrastructure for Flanders*. The project focuses on flexible access to repositories of structured content, with a special emphasis on so-called 'learning objects', and to unstructured content, through information retrieval. This project has been finalised in 2008.
- In the framework of GARNET, a Handbook on qualitative and quantitative methods to monitor and analyse regional integration processes is being prepared. Publication is expected for 2009.

- UNU-CRIS is invited by the Eurasian Development Bank to advise them with the build-up of an indicators database covering all CIS-countries. Philippe De Lombaerde also presented a paper at the 3rd EDB Conference on Eurasian Integration, Almaty, Kazakhstan.

2) The Regional Integration Knowledge System (RIKS)

RIKS is a web-based portal on regional integration on a world-wide level targeting a relatively broad public, students worldwide being the main category. It includes general information about regional arrangements and their members (qualitative information), statistical data in form of different indicators, an overview of academic resources as well as a section where actual news on regional integration processes are presented on a constantly updated basis. The qualitative data section provides a basic description of regional arrangements and their members. RIKS also provides quantitative data on regional arrangements. For over 60 regional arrangements, indicators are available, covering the period 1970-2005 for most of them. In the research section of RIKS links are provided to major journals and research centres dealing with regional integration.

- RIKS has migrated to a new server and has been integrated in the new UNU-CRIS website. Priorities for the future development of RIKS include: implementation of political and governance indicators, integration of a database with treaty texts, implementation of a news section powered by European Media Monitoring, incorporation of maps, transforming RIKS into a collaborative network of information providers.

3) The World Report on Regional Integration and Governance

Recognising the need for pooling the expertise built-up by the UN regional economic and social commissions in their respective regions, UNU-CRIS reached an agreement with UN-ESCWA, UN-ESCAP, UN-ECLAC, UN-ECA, UN-ECE and UNCTAD to launch an Annual World Report on Regional Integration, under the coordination of UNU-CRIS. The World Report contains regional reports, combined with thematic contributions (involving other academic institutions) and a statistical section showing the trends and important events related to the macro-regional level of socio-economic governance in the world.

- UNU-CRIS published in 2007 the first volume of its new series of world reports on regional integration, “*Multilateralism, Regionalism and Bilateralism in Trade and Investment*”. This report was presented at events in New York and Washington DC. The New York event was organised by UNU New York Office and took place at the UN Headquarters. The Washington event was organised by the Woodrow Wilson Center and took place at the Center at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington DC.
- The second volume entitled “*Aid for Trade. Global and Regional Perspectives*” was conceived as a contribution to the UNCTAD XII Conference on “Addressing the Challenges and Opportunities of

Globalization for Development”, held in Accra, Ghana, in April 2008 and will be published at the beginning of 2009.

- The third volume will address the position and importance of regions in the context of the UN, while the fourth volume, in collaboration with UNESCO, will address the issue of regional mobility of persons.

4) Exploring the future of regional governance

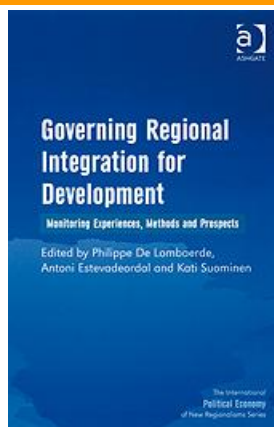
This project uses prospective and participative methodologies to bring together various experts to explore possible scenarios for regional governance in the medium to long term. The purpose is to examine the key factors and driving forces that will influence future developments in regional integration and global governance and how these factors may interact in the long term. In a second phase of the project consequences for certain issues, particularly for development and human security, and their implications for policy decisions will be explored/ prospective approaches will be integrate into other ongoing projects as much as possible.

- In 2008, UNU-CRIS has established a network of several institutions to study the future of the regional aspects of the knowledge society. This network has submitted a proposal to the FP7 of the European Commission.

5) Monitoring Regional Integration in the South

This book project aimed at bringing together experts from regional organisations, universities and independent think tanks in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, the Pacific, North America and Europe to exchange experiences, analytical insights and proposals for monitoring regional integration processes. It provides policy makers and analysts with a toolbox of methods and examples of monitoring tools and their implementation. The project aimed at showing the importance of good governance at the regional level for the effective development of the regional integration processes. This project is a co-operation between UNU-CRIS and the Inter-American Development Bank. This project was finalised in 2008.

- The results of the project have been published as Philippe De Lombaerde, Antoni Estevadeordal and Kati Suominen (Eds.) *Governing Regional Integration for Development. Monitoring Experiences, Methods and Prospects*, London: Ashgate, 2008



Governing Regional Integration for Development
Edited by *Philippe De Lombaerde, Antoni Esteve de Ordal*
Kati Suominen

ISBN 978-0-7546-7263-0

Hardback

Ashgate

Developing countries have joined the rapidly growing global system of regional trade agreements (RTAs) over the past years. The drive towards regional integration has advanced with the formation of new markets and groups in Latin America, Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Oceania with few developing countries remaining outside these regional schemes. This volume looks at how 'getting governance right' is a central element for successful RTA implementation, taking stock of the quality and effectiveness of the monitoring of development country RTAs around the world. Organised by the main world regions and primarily focusing on developing country RTAs, the book also includes two case studies focused on monitoring in developed country regional agreements by way of comparison. The contributors operationalise governance in the context of RTA implementation with a more narrow and technical term of 'monitoring' and provide eight important lessons for assessing monitoring around the world.

"...A unique contribution to the literature on regional economic integration among developing countries. It looks behind the legal texts, communiqués and modelling results to provide a picture of how the machinery of integration is working in practice in developing country initiatives across the continents. The result is a most useful compendium of information that is normally difficult to access. Adding to the fascination of the volume is the opportunity it provides to make comparisons between the different groupings of the experiences, approaches and lessons from their regional economic integration efforts."

Robert Scollay, University of Auckland, New Zealand

"Governing Regional Integration for Development: Monitoring Experience, Methods and Prospects is the premiere book to suggest that member-States of a regional integration bloc do not only commit to the economic programmes of the bloc but, in addition, adhere, collectively, to the sound political, economic and social governance. It does so by providing insights and "best practices" of regional groupings in the various regions around the world. It is a book accessible to all: the academician, the policymaker and the layperson. Contributes significantly to the discourse on regional integration in Africa and therefore strongly recommended."

Robert M. Okello, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Ethiopia

SUBPROGRAMME 3

Studying the Global-Regional Peace and Security Complex



Concomitant to globalisation there has been growing awareness of a need for a more holistic approach to “security” than traditional nation state based conceptions. The emerging concept of *human security* places human beings, rather than national borders, at the centre of focus. It emphasises the multifarious aspects of providing people with security and how these aspects are inter-related. Rather than examining exclusively military responses to violent conflicts, the human security approach advocates exploring diverse ways to prevent them and acknowledges the important role of economic, political, social-psychological, cultural and environmental factors, among others. Not only is the concept of security changing, but so are the optimal ways to address it: global and regional levels of governance are increasingly seen as vital to achieving human security. In a 2003 speech, the UN Secretary General called for a new vision of global security based upon collaborations between the UN and regional organisations.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

1) Cooperation between the UN and regional organisations

The aim of this project is to explore the “regional integration” and “regional cooperation” movements of the major regions of the world and their contribution to the maintenance of peace and security (involving conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peace-building and peace-enforcement). Regarding the relationship between regional agencies and the UN, in 2008-2009 the project will further focus upon the regional security-global governance nexus. In close association with UNDP, studies will be undertaken on the involvement of regional organisations in conflict prevention and management and on the prospects of developing a global-regional security mechanism.

- A UNU-CRIS research team finalised the second version of the *Capacity Survey on Regional and Other Intergovernmental Organisations in the Maintenance of Peace and Security*. This report was submitted to the UN Department of Political Affairs in 2008.
- A book with the title “*Regional Security: The Capacity of International Organizations*” by Rodrigo Tavares will be published with Routledge in 2009. Book launch and press conference at the UN Secretariat are scheduled for May 2009.
- Three of the UNU-CRIS researchers are undertaking a Ph.D. research that is directly pertinent to the work proposed by this project.
- Tânia Felício started working as UN Volunteer for 6 months at the UNMIT mission in East Timor.
- Luk Van Langenhove acted as speaker at the Opening Ceremony of the International Peace Research Association (IPRA) 2008 Global Conference, Leuven, Belgium

2) Case studies of regional approaches

2.1) Why African Regional Organisations Intervene in Conflicts?

Over the last decade the international community has been particularly enthusiastic about the potential of African ROs in handling disputes in the continent. This research project aims to be a solid contributor to the regional peace and security debate in three different ways. First, to fill up a clear void in the literature, we will generate original theory that explains and describes ROs military intervention in conflicts. The study will be inductive and case studies oriented, using a comparative framework. Second, the study will produce thick descriptions and collect empirical data on reasons and types of intervention, which will devise systematisations and causal inferences. Third, by pinpointing the biased and unbiased causes of intervention, we will be able to understand what motivations and conditions will likely generate a future intervention.

- Fredrik Söderbaum and Rodrigo Tavares wrote a report commissioned by the Swedish Armed Forces on possible scenarios for Africa in the period 2018-2028, attending to extra-regional, intra-regional and national factors.
- Rodrigo Tavares wrote a policy brief commissioned by the Office of the President of the Portuguese Republic on the President’s official visit to Ethiopia and the African Union. The document aimed to provide clear recommendations in 4 areas: trade, development aid, diplomacy, and culture/sports.
- Fredrik Söderbaum and Rodrigo Tavares are editing a special issue of *African Security* (Taylor and Francis) dedicated to the role of African regional organisations. Fredrik Söderbaum is member of the Editorial Board of this new Journal.

2.2) Changing Multilateralism: the EU as a global-regional actor in peace and security

As the sovereignty of the state is gradually showing its weaknesses in dealing with security challenges, new forms of governance are emerging that

overcome the traditional state-centric multilateralism. Networks of governments and organisations are developing to tackle security issues. The European Union is the most successful case of a government network, now increasingly engaging in multiple intersecting 'networks of government networks' for security – both horizontal (through inter-regionalism, with other regional entities) and vertical (with other international organisations at the global level). These are new and understudied phenomena. The role of this project will be to study how the EU develops its actorness in these evolving 'networks of networks of governments' and international organisations, so that its power can be better understood, – and its global actorness in security can be recognised and further developed.

- UNU-CRIS coordinates a FP7 project entitled “*Changing Multilateralism. The EU as a Global-Regional Actor in Security and Peace (EU-GRASP)*”. It involves 5 European research institutes (UNU-CRIS, University of Warwick, University of Gothenburg, KULeuven and the Forum on the Problems of Peace and War) and 4 institutes from Canada, China, South-Africa and Israel.

3) Case studies of regional approaches

3.1) Regional Identities and the quest for peace and security

Concomitant to the dissolution and movement of borders that is intrinsic to regional integration are changes in people's identities. While these changes can generate strife, they also present an opportunity for (new) productive and peaceful relations with others. The aim of this project is twofold: first, to explore how regional, national, ethnic and other identities are being formulated and how these promote conflict or peace, and second, to generate identity discourse that promote peace and human security. Thus, the work aims both to illuminate the process of meaning (identity) construction and to provide discursive tools that can be employed to promote respect among all peoples.

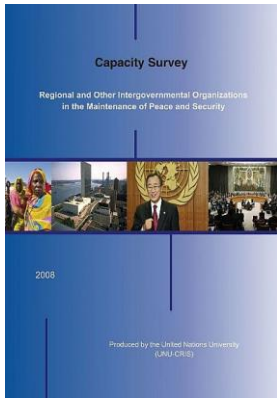
- A new book was published by Nikki Slocum-Bradley titled: *Promoting Conflict or Peace through Identity*, Ashgate
- Nikki Slocum-Bradley wrote a background document on “*La migration dans le contexte de l'intégration régionale: promouvoir les cultures de la paix*”. This document served as input to the ACP Group Brussels Resolution on Migration and Development in May 2008.

3.2) Human Security through multi-level Governance

Delivering Human Security through multi-level Governance is a project resulting of cooperation between staff working in their personal capacity of UNU-CRIS and UNDP in Brussels. Both UN entities share an interest: in contributing to the mutual reinforcement of global and regional governance structures. Hence, the idea emerged to embark upon a joint intellectual exercise to analyse the implications of the concept of human security for interactions between global, regional and local governance actors, in order to offer policy reflections and operational tools to those responsible for putting human security into practice. Human security is such a concept with the power to change approaches to security and it already represents new

shared understanding in International Relations. This project aims to contribute to that analysis through a multi-level, governance-based approach to human security.

- The paper *Delivering Human Security through multi-level governance* will be published in March 2009 and launched at the European Policy Centre (EPC) in Brussels the same month.



Capacity Survey, Regional and Other Intergovernmental Organisations in the Maintenance of Peace and Security
UNU-CRIS

2008

Produced by the United Nations University
(UNU-CRIS)

Over the last decades, regional and other intergovernmental organisations have gradually entered into peace and security sphere and developed their capacities in conflict prevention, peacekeeping, or post-war reconstruction. However, the general optimism of the international community towards these organisations has not been followed by a clear assessment of their capacities. UNU-CRIS has, thereby, decided to construct the first systematic survey of the organisational capacity (legal mandate and organic structure), resource capacity (financial and human assets), and operational experience (ground record) of 21 different organisations. This study - which includes abundant field data - constitutes a precious source of information for practitioners and researchers alike. This is the first ever global survey of the capacities of all regional organisations in the field of peace of security (conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping, enforcement, and peace-building). To carry out this Survey, UNU-CRIS assembled a team of 6 researchers and collected data through the (i) submission of a questionnaire to all regional organisations, (ii) field work, and (iii) desk research.

“The Bruges based UNU Research and Training Programme on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS) has with this new impressive publication, helped to provide a scientific underpinning to the collaboration between the UN and regional and other intergovernmental organisations in the critical area of peace and security. The data collected and the analysis carried out in this publication constitute an important reference document to understand the mandate and capacities of these institutions, at a moment when the opportunities for wider cooperation are multiplying”.

Antonio Vigilante, Head of the UN in Brussels



Promoting Conflict or Peace through Identity

Edited by *Nikki Slocum-Bradley*

ISBN: 978-0-7546-7244-9

Hardback

Ashgate

While many regional integration projects have been founded upon the ideal to prevent wars, integration has both contributed to, and has been inhibited by, identity-based conflicts. Regional integration highlights the constructed nature of identities, as the changing nature of borders puts into question traditional conceptions of identity. Who is identified as a 'migrant' changes depending upon how 'locals' are defined, and in the context of processes of regional integration this is continuously in flux. Attempts to redefine the 'we' encounter fears of identity loss. In pursuing the UNU-CRIS mandate, it is important to include the often neglected social-psychological aspects of regional integration. In other words, an understanding of the people who do – or do not – integrate is essential to true comprehension of broader social and political processes. One strand of UNU-CRIS research has been dedicated to understanding the nature of identity constructions and their role in conflict, peace and processes of regional integration. *Promoting Conflict or Peace through Identity*, edited by UNU-CRIS Research Fellow Dr. Nikki Slocum-Bradley, aims to facilitate peace and mutual understanding between people by addressing a root cause of social conflicts: identity constructions. The volume encompasses eight revealing case studies from regions throughout the world, conducted by experts from diverse disciplinary backgrounds. Each case study examines: i) How identities are being constructed and used in the region; ii) How these identities are related to borders; iii) In what ways identity constructions foment peace or conflict. The concluding chapter summarises insights gleaned and introduces an analytical framework for understanding the role of identity constructions in conflict or peace. This illuminating framework provides a solid basis for future research and training.

"Promoting Conflict or Peace through Identity offers lessons to be learned on addressing physical and psychological space that characterize our being in the concept of identity for which many are willing to lay down their lives to defend."

H.E. Rt. Hon. Don McKinnon, former Commonwealth Secretary-General, and former Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of New Zealand

"This volume is a timely and challenging opportunity for us to explore what is clearly a root cause of global tension and conflict - and that is identity construction."

Glenys Kinnock, Member of the European Parliament, Co-President of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly

"Nothing can be achieved politically until the roots of the transformation of mere diversity into rabid sectarianism have been revealed. The studies have the inestimable value of at least beginning the task of revealing those roots."

Rom Harré, Director, Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science,

London School of Economics; Fellow Emeritus, Linacre College, Oxford University; Distinguished Professor, Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

“The cogent analysis and insights highlighted in this ground-breaking research provide an invaluable framework for preventing conflict in ACP States and worldwide. Policymakers and practitioners alike can greatly benefit from the relevance and high calibre of Slocum-Bradley’s volume.”

Sir John R. Kaputin, KBE, CMG, Secretary General of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States.

SUBPROGRAMME 4

Assessing the Social and Economic Dimensions of Regional Integration



The primary aim of UNU-CRIS is to analyse how the new paradigm of development, which is incorporated in the UN Millennium Development Goals, can be served by regional integration. Developing countries are increasingly turning to regional integration in response to the challenge of globalisation, which has undermined autonomous national development strategies. Another reason is that developing countries have lost confidence in the global multilateral institutions to provide equitable development rules, and to give them ‘ownership’ of development policies.

Therefore, UNU-CRIS aims to analyse the conditions under which the new multi-dimensional regionalism can act as an effective engine of development. In this context our work will focus on existing and newly emerging forms of South-South co-operation, as well as the new North-South inter-regional partnerships that are becoming part of the international landscape. The new role of regional organisations in global governance will also be analysed.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

1) The Political Economy of regional trade and investment agreements

1.1) Asymmetric Trade Relations

This research project analyses the present generation of preferential trade agreements (PTAs), extending their scope well beyond the regional sphere. This proliferation of North-South PTAs and bilateral trade agreements is linked to the slow pace of the Doha Round and the (adaptive) strategies of the EU and US, driven by their strategic interests and the more immediate evolution of the world polity and economy. The objectives of this project are to focus on strategic, design and political economy aspects of North-South trade negotiation processes. The ambition of this project is, on the one hand, to provide negotiators and policy makers in the South with recommendations,

best practices, benchmarks, and, on the other, to contribute to the academic debate and understanding of these recent processes.

- A publication is foreseen for 2009.

1.2) Globalisation, Regionalisation and Socio-Economic Inequality

This project consists of the organisation of a small research network, financed by the Flemish Scientific Research Fund, aiming at a more intensive co-operation between researchers of different disciplines, in order to better understand the linkages between (economic) globalisation and the evolution of socio-economic inequality. Regionalism and inter-regional co-operation are thereby considered as part of the problem as well as part of the answer. On the one hand, regionalism is simply an alternative form of globalisation. On the other hand is regionalism a way to control and regulate the effects of globalisation. The main research topics that will be covered reflect the two main parts of the problem definition. First, the patterns of globalisation and their consequences will be addressed. Second, responses to globalisation, normatively and analytically, will be looked at.

- An international workshop was co-organised by UNU-CRIS on “Globalisation, Global Governance and private standards” in Leuven in November 2008. A special issue is planned for 2009.

1.3) Deep Integration and Regional Trade Agreements. The new EU Strategy for Developing Countries

This project will examine the implications of deep integration for developing countries in North-South Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) In particular, it will analyse the new strategy that has been developed by the EU, to expand its RTAs, following the suspension of multilateral trade negotiations in the WTO. Deep integration is different from traditional trade liberalisation in that it requires the harmonisation of domestic rules and standards, which entails different consequences. The objective of this project is to provide an analytical assessment of deep integration currently advanced by the EU in its RTA negotiations. A comparative approach will be adopted in the analysis of RTAs with developing countries in Asia and Africa. This will help to build consensus for future negotiations in the WTO for a new framework for North-South RTAs.

- Brigid Gavin gave a paper presentation at International Conference ‘Regional Integration – Asia and Europe Compared’, Venice, Italy
- A two-day workshop on this topic was organised in Bruges in June 2008. The results of this workshop are published as a special issue of *Asia Europe Journal*. The president of the European Commission has written the introduction to this Special Issue.

2) Regional Dimensions of Social Policies

2.1) Global Governance, Regional Integration and Social Policy

This project brings together three strands of scholarly analysis concerned with a) globalisation and social policy, b) global social governance reform and c) regional integration studies with the overall aim to better understand in order to strengthen the regional dimensions of social policy and governance. The project also aims to link this *problématique* to the ongoing UN reform process. The project aims to develop the theoretical and policy cases for a focus on regionalism and social policy, as well as to map and analyse the social policy dimensions of regional integration processes worldwide. Attention will go especially to transnational regional social distribution mechanisms and to regional social, health and labour regulation.

- An edited volume *Global Governance, Regional Integration and Social Policy* is also under preparation, edited by Bob Deacon, Luk Van Langenhove and Nicola Yeates.
- The ILO commissioned UNU-CRIS to convey a report on “*Deepening the Social Dimension of Regional Integration. An Overview of Recent Trends and Future Challenges in Light of the Recommendations of the Report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalisation*”, which was converted into ILO Discussion Paper 188.
- In partnership with the ITC-ILO, UNU-CRIS has undertaken an awareness and capacity development project on “*Regional integration, Economic Partnership Agreements and their impact on employment and labour market policies*”.
- Bob Deacon is invited by the African Union to an expert consultative meeting on 24th/25th October. This is a meeting immediately prior to the first ever meeting of Ministers of Social Development of the AU to finalise an African Union Social Policy.

2.2) Regional Integration, Economic Partnership Agreements and their Impact on Employment and Labour Market Policies

Planned over an estimated period of 2 years the project has been conceived as an awareness and capacity development project, focusing mainly on ILO constituents training needs. The present project will specifically address the impact of regional integration processes and open-trading regimes on employment and labour market policies within the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU).

- Stephen Woolcock presented a paper on “*Government Procurement Provisions in CARIFORUM EPA and Lessons for other ACP States*” for the Commonwealth Secretariat/ACP High Level Technical Working Group Meeting the EPAs the way forward for the ACP, Cape Town (7-8 April)

2.3) Free Movement of People within Regional Organisations

UNU-CRIS started a one-year research project on the free movement of people within regional organisations, which will be conducted in cooperation with and financed by UNESCO. The overall objective of the research is to

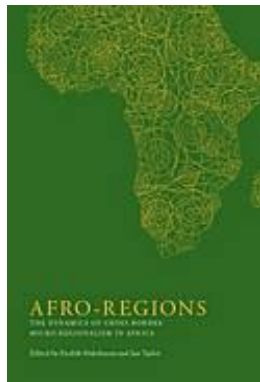
address the role of human mobility within regional integration processes throughout the world. In order to gain insight into the regional organisations' approach to free movement of people, a combination of desk research, interviews and surveys will be applied. On the one hand questionnaires will be sent to over 20 regional organisations covering all world regions, while on the other hand a more in-depth analysis will focus on some particular organisations.

- The first phase started in 2008 with a background report and two questionnaires elaborated by UNU-CRIS

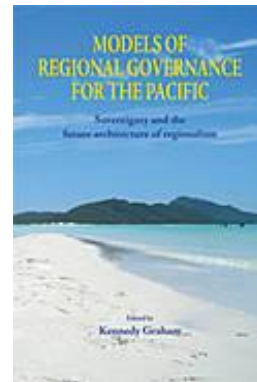
The fruits of UNU-CRIS research are published in books, scholarly journals and policy-briefs, a list of which is available on our website. UNU-CRIS produces its own working paper series and has also contributed to various policy documents.

Complementary downloads of these papers are also available on the UNU-CRIS website.

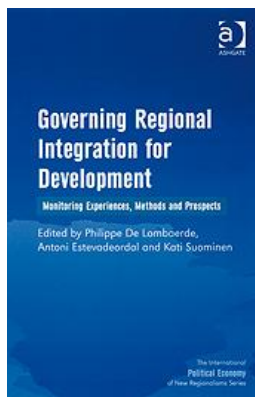
UNU-CRIS Books



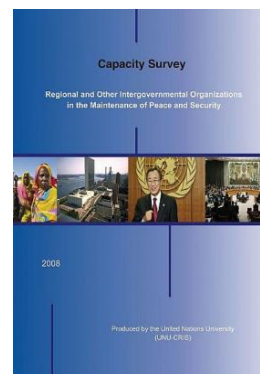
Afro-regions - The Dynamics of Cross-border Micro-Regionalism in Africa
 Edited by Fredrik Söderbaum
 and Ian Taylor
 ISBN: 978-91-7106-618-3
 Paperback
 The Nordic Africa Institute



Models of Regional Governance for the Pacific
 Edited by Kennedy Graham
 ISBN: 978-1-877257-74-2
 Paperback
 Canterbury University Press



Governing Regional Integration for Development
 Edited by Philippe De Lombaerde,
 Antoni Esteveordal and Kati Suominen
 ISBN: 978-0-7546-7263-0
 Hardback
 Ashgate



Capacity Survey – Regional and Other Intergovernmental Organisations in the maintenance of Peace and Security
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Ashgate



*Del Regionalismo
Latinoamericano a la
Integración Interregional*

Edited by Philippe De Lombaerde,
Shigeru Kochi and José Briceño
Ruíz

ISBN: 9788432313240

Paperback

Fundación Carolina and Siglo
XXI, Madrid

UNU-CRIS working papers

The UNU-CRIS Working Papers Series on Comparative Regional Integration Studies is devoted to the study of regional integration from a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective. It covers theory, empirical work and policy analysis, and includes contributions on the political, economic, social and cultural aspects of cooperation at the level of both macro-regions and microregions.

While committed to the highest academic standards, the series aims to be accessible to policy-makers and practitioners and seeks to encourage informed debate on comparative regional integration.

In the 2002-2007 period, 93 working papers have been published. All these papers can be accessed and downloaded via www.cris.unu.edu.

Chinese book series on comparative regional integration studies

UNU-CRIS has launched a book series on comparative regional integration studies in Chinese published by China University of Political Science and Law Press. The book series is a joint-venture between UNU-CRIS and the Centre for European Studies at Renmin University of China in Beijing (RUC). Editors-in-chief are: Prof. Xiaojin Zhang, Director of the Centre for European Studies at RUC, Prof. Luk Van Langenhove, Director of UNU-CRIS and Prof. Xinning Song, Senior Research Fellow at UNU-CRIS and Jean Monnet Professor at RUC. An outstanding International Advisory Board gives intellectual and strategic guidance to this book series. Among its members are many leading experts from China, Europe and the United States including Bingran Dai (Fudan University), Miles Kahler (University of California, San Diego), Peter Katzenstein (Cornell University) and Emil Kirchner (University of Essex). For a full list of members of the International

Advisory Board [click here](#). The book series is designed to promote the publication of new scholarly work on comparative regionalism in China and to translate groundbreaking work from international scholars in Chinese. The idea is to publish several books a year.



Vol. 1: *The EU Constitutional System in Development*

By Xiuyi Han

ISBN: 978-7-5620-3244-1

Paperback

China University of Political Science and Law Press

Bruges Regional Integration & Global Governance Papers (BRIGG)

The BRIGG Paper series is the result of a joint initiative of UNU-CRIS and the EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies Department at the College of Europe. The purpose is to offer a platform for topical contributions by scholars and practitioners on topics such as: the European Union and other forms of regionalism from a comparative perspective; the role of regional organisations (including the EU) in the United Nations; the regions' external relations and diplomacy; the EU as a model for other world regions; the EU in international institutions; regions in global governance and issues of interregionalism. The BRIGG papers are made available worldwide and free of charge through electronic publication on both the College of Europe and the UNU-CRIS website.

Academic Output 2008

Published books	Chapters in Books	Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals	Working Papers	Paper presentations
8	29	15	24	59

In 2008, UNU-CRIS organised several important events, which deserve to be highlighted below.

In February, UN agencies in Belgium organized a UN retreat at the UNU-CRIS premises. 23 agencies were represented at HoA level for a strategic reflection on the work of the UN Belgium team and especially the UN-EU relations.

At the end of the same month, UNU-CRIS co-sponsored a conference with Renmin University of China (RUC) and Peking University (PKU) on *Comparative Regionalism: Europe and East Asia*. Conference papers will be published as an edited volume (China University of Political Science and Law) and some papers will be published in the UK journal *Review of International Studies* (British International Studies Association).

In April, the first volume of its new series of world reports on regional integration report was presented at events in New York and Washington DC. The New York event was organised by UNU New York Office and took place at the UN Headquarters. The Washington event was organised by the Woodrow Wilson Center and took place at the Center at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington DC.

At the end of April, UNU-CRIS worked together with the Institute for European Studies (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), the Institut d'Etudes Européennes (Université Libre de Bruxelles) and the Royal Institute for International Relations (EGMONT) to organise a conference entitled *The European Union in International Affairs* in Brussels in the framework of "Global Governance, Regionalisation and Regulation: the Role of the EU" (GARNET, Network of Excellence, 6th EU Framework Programme for Research). Further support was provided by the Brussels-Capital Region, the Flemish Scientific Research Organisation (FWO), and the University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES). The Conference aimed at strengthening the exchange between academic and policy communities. The Conference represented a real success, with over 200 participants coming from all over the world and approximately 100 scientific papers that were presented. More than seven panels discussed selected research papers on various topics, ranging from the EU's foreign policy and regional integration to challenges to global governance. In four policy-link panels, scholars were confronted with high-level policy makers who gave a state of affairs and shared their views on future policies of the EU.

In May, The United Nations University in collaboration with Cornell University organised 4 major thematic symposia (UNU-Cornell *Africa Series*) in the framework of the Cornell-UNU Conference *The Governance Dimension of the MDGs in Africa*, focused on Africa at the United Nations Headquarters in New York during the 2007-2008 academic year. UNU-CRIS, UNU Office at the UN in New York (UNU-ONY), the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies and Institute for African Development at Cornell University jointly organised one of these conferences.

In October, the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) organised a Connecting Civil Societies III project in partnership with UNU-CRIS, the University College

Cork, the Asia-Europe People's Forum and with the support of the European Commission. The theme of the Conference was *An Asia-Europe Dialogue on Economy and Society*. It covered food security, oil prices & energy security, and the turbulence in financial markets and provides an inclusive and open platform for informal engagement with civil society. It was expected to yield a report with recommendations to ASEM leaders, enhancing multi-stakeholder dialogue on the ASEM process. The conference involved 50 participants from government and civil society (business, academia, media, cultural institutions, research and others), including the Asia-Europe Business Forum and the Asia-Europe People's Forum.

GARNET Network of Excellence



UNU-CRIS has been one of the initiators of a European Commission funded Network of Excellence on “Global Governance, Regionalisation and Regulation: The Role of the EU” (**GARNET**) between 44 leading European research centres. The network started in the spring 2005 and received 5.4 million EUR in funding under the FP6 Programme. The network is coordinated by the University of Warwick. For further information, please consult www.garnet-eu.org.

OBREAL/EULARO



UNU-CRIS has also been one of the initiators of the European Union-Latin America Relations Observatory (**OBREAL**) funded by DG-RELEX. The network links 25 universities from Europe and Latin America and is coordinated by the University of Barcelona. EU funding covered the period 2005-2007 but the network continues to exist and new projects are in the pipeline. For further information, please consult www.obreal.unibo.it.

FWO-WOG

UNU-CRIS became one of the core members of the Scientific Research Group (Wetenschappelijke Onderzoeksgemeenschap) on “Globalisation, Regionalisation and Socio-Economic Inequality”. This network is funded by the Flemish FWO (period 2006-2010) and coordinated by the University of Antwerp. Other members include: the University of Ghent, the University of Leuven (KUL), the University of Lille, and UNU-MERIT.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Finally, UNU-CRIS is a partner in the **Acknowledge** network. Acknowledge stands for ‘Accessible and Open Knowledge Infrastructure for Flanders’ and is an e-learning platform. Partial funding was provided by the Institute for Broadband Technology (IBBT) over the period 2006-2008. Together with the

University of Leuven (KUL), Free University of Brussels (VUB) and i-Know, UNU-CRIS was active in the Information Retrieval Workpackage and developed a Demonstrator based on its Regional Integration Knowledge System (RIKS). Other partners included: Synergetics, EPYC, Custodix, the University of Hasselt, Hogeschool Gent, and VDAB.

For further information, please consult

<http://www.ibbt.be/en/project/acknowledge>.

TWINNINGS

In 2008, the UNU Rector has announced a new policy for the institution: the twinning of existing UNU units with institutions in developing countries. In order to pave the way for setting-up twinning partnerships, UNU-CRIS is now following a dual track. On the one hand, negotiations have been started with Tsinghua University on setting up a Beijing twin of UNU-CRIS. On the other hand, UNU-CRIS is discussing with UNESCO about establishing a twinning arrangement with the West African Institute, a new UNESCO institute in Cape Verde.

The capacity building activities of UNU-CRIS are guided by the overall principle that an understanding of how regional integration processes operate is the first crucial step in formulating an agenda that is directed at facilitating, promoting and fostering regional cooperation and integration. Underpinning this approach is the belief that capacity development should be concerned with enhancing the capabilities for self-sustained learning, and for generating new knowledge, linking all capacity development to normative goals such as human survival, sustainable and equitable development, welfare, and security.

Visitors' Programme

UNU-CRIS hosts every year a number of researchers spending a period of time in Bruges and collaborating with the ongoing projects of the centre. Some researchers come in the framework of the GARNET network of Excellence, provided with a Mobility grant. Visiting researchers within Garnet can stay at UNU-CRIS from a minimum of one month up to a year. UNU-CRIS also offers the opportunity for university professors, researchers and other professionals with background in regional integration to spend research time in Bruges for periods from 3 to 12 months.

UNU-CRIS has the ambition to become a 'pole of attraction' to researchers worldwide who want to participate in our research programme. This will be done by offering more 'associated research fellowship' posts and by bringing in as much as possible top-researchers through the GARNET mobility scheme. Also, UNU-CRIS will try to establish more collaborative links- and possibly staff exchanges- with the other UNU RTC/Ps.

In 2008, UNU-CRIS had the following visiting researchers:

Giovanni Molano Cruz (Colombia),
Lucia Husenicova (Slovakia),
Fahad Alruwaily (Saudi Arabia),
Hanna Lierse (Germany),
Pedro Parreira (Portugal) *with GARNET Grant*,
Gerrit Olivier (South Africa),
Michela Ceccorulli (Italy) *with GARNET Grant*,
Ruilei Xing (China).

Ph.D. Programme

In 2008, the three Ph.D. students enrolled since 2004 have stopped their training at UNU-CRIS. Their Ph.D. research projects covered the following themes:

- Golam Robbani (Bangladesh): *The EU as a model- Implications for regional integration and peace building within SAARC;*

- Robert Yougbaré (Burkina Faso): *Regional Integration: Complementary and alternative frameworks of governance*;
- Aurora Mordonu (Romania): *EU-Russia trade relations - Towards Integration and Trade creation*.

In 2008, Stephen Kingah from Cameroon has successfully defended his Ph.D. on “Access to Affordable HIV/AIDS Medicines in the Southern African Development Community: Coherence of EC Rules and Policies”. This project ran in association with the Institute of European Studies at the Free University of Brussels (VUB).

In 2008, UNU-CRIS Project Researcher Lurong Chen successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis at Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, with a thesis entitled “Production Sharing and Economic Integration”.

Furthermore, three UNU-CRIS researchers are working on a Ph.D. project:

- Tânia Felício (Portugal): *“The European Union as an actor in the developing Regional-global Security Mechanism – Interregionalism and Effective Multilateralism”* (this project runs in association with the Free University of Brussels and the Government of Portugal);
- Francis Baert (Belgium): *“The European Union in the World: Between Bilateralism, Inter-regionalism and Multilateralism”* (this project runs in association with the University of Ghent)
- Emmanuel Fanta (Belgium): *“The Discourses, Actions and Strategies of African States when dealing with the EU on the issue of Human Rights with a special case on Sudan and Chad”* (this project runs in association with the Université Libre de Bruxelles)

A Ph.D. student from India registered with the University of Ghent Law department is doing part of his training at UNU-CRIS.

- Nirman Arora (India): *Regional Human Rights Protection Mechanism in South Asia as a step towards Regional Integration: the Genesis and Lessons to be Learnt from the European Initiative* (this project runs in association with the University of Ghent).

GARNET Ph.D. School

In the framework of the GARNET Network of Excellence, UNU-CRIS is coordinating together with the Free University of Brussels (ULB) the GARNET Network of Ph.D. Schools, which organises international seminars for doctoral student formation. The network provides twice a year intensive one-week programmes of lectures and seminars on Regionalism and Global Governance as well as interaction with the relevant policy community. The Ph.D. seminars aim at creating a network of Ph.D. students and researchers concerned with the analysis of the major European and Global Governance issues. It particularly focuses on theoretical topics and research methodologies and is based upon active student participation. During the five years of the GARNET project, at least 9 Ph.D. seminars will be organised. In 2008, two Ph.D. schools were organised:

Global Governance, Regionalism and The role of the EU: The Institutional Dimension, Brussels (9-13 June)

Global Governance, Regionalism and the Role of the EU: The Gender Dimension, Kassel (1-5 December)

Short-term training and capacity-building courses

UNU-CRIS staff performs a number of short-term training and capacity-building courses (general and customised) in the area of regional integration, mainly aimed at students and administrative personnel in developing countries.

- Lectures at Summer Academy in Comparative Regional Integration, ZEI-University of Bonn, Bonn
- UNU-CRIS has been invited to develop a capacity building/training programme for UNECA staff working in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia).
- Luk Van Langenhove gave a lecture at 12th Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik e.V. (DGAP), International Summer School “Regional Leaders, Global Challenges: Issues, Interests and Strategies”, Berlin (7-9 July)

Traineeships for graduate students

UNU-CRIS has launched at the end of 2004 *unpaid trainee positions* for recent graduates whose background and interests respond to some topic in regional integration that falls within the UNU-CRIS Academic Programme. Duties combine research and administrative tasks based on the needs of the organisation at the time of the internship. The internship could entail flexible hours (full-time or part-time) and is for maximum 6 months.

- In 2008, 4 (post-) graduate students have joined the programme as trainees: Sylvie Capelle (Belgium), Silvio Cordova (Italy), Tiziana Scaramagli (Italy) and Charlotte Vanfraechem (Belgium).

Capacity Development Activities

The capacity building activities of UNU-CRIS are guided by the overall principle that an understanding of how regional integration processes operate is the first crucial step in formulating an agenda that is directed at facilitating, promoting and fostering regional cooperation and integration. Underpinning this approach is the belief that capacity development should be concerned with enhancing the capabilities for self-sustained learning, and for generating new knowledge, linking all capacity development to normative goals such as human survival, sustainable and equitable development, welfare, and security.

- In partnership with the ITC-ILO, UNU-CRIS collaborates in the implementation of the project *Regional Integration, Economic Partnership Agreements and Their Impact on Employment and Labour Market Policies. An Awareness and Capacity Development Project*. The project specifically addresses the impact of regional integration processes and open-trade regimes on employment and labour market policies at the national and regional level, within the Southern African

Development Community (SADC), the Economic Community of Western African States (ECOWAS), and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU). The ITC-ILO in collaboration with UNU-CRIS will deliver the first training during 16-19 of March 2009, in the framework of a Workshop on “Regional integration, Employment and Labor market Policies in West Africa” at the University of Dakar.

- At the end of 2008, UNU-CRIS together with the College of Europe signed a contract with the European Commission, DG Development for a 3-year programme in “*Network for Regional Integration Studies*” (NETRIS). Edulink, the ACP-EU cooperation programme in Higher Education is funding the 'Network for Regional Integration Studies' (NETRIS), a project introduced by the College of Europe and UNU-CRIS along with partner institutions. The project aims to establish and coordinate a network of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) working within the field of (comparative) regional integration.

A general overview of the UNU-CRIS 2008 budget is presented to show how the available money has been spent and what kind of income has been generated in 2008.

Income 2008

Income			1.524.689,77
1. Income via Core Funding			1.151.104,60
a. 2008 Contribution		1.017.000,00	
b. Transfer		134.104,60	
2. Income via External Funding			313.493,56
a. 2008 Funds		241.911,91	
b. Transfer		71.581,65	
3. Income via Other Sources			60.091,61
a. 2008 Funds		8.704,39	
b. Transfer		51.387,22	

Expenditures 2008

Expenditures		1.353.213,21
<i>1. Personnel Costs</i>	721.707,07	
<i>2. Costs via UNU Tokyo</i>	204.026,76	
<i>3. General Operating Costs</i>	86.351,29	
<i>4. Academic Activities</i>	341.128,09	

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Cover Page	Secretary-General Meets European Union Council Chief (UN Photo 235165), UNMIT Peacekeepers Celebrate UN International Day of Peace (UN Photo 194374), Security Council Considers Middle East Situation (UN Photo 236130), UNU-CRIS premises (UNU-CRIS), Let Us Beat Our Swords into Ploughshares (UN Photo 119163), Sculpture Symbolizes Sprits of UN Disarmament Session (UN Photo 123897).
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