



ANNUAL REPORT 2012



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Introduction: 2012 – A year of challenges and action

The year 2012 was a challenging one for the European Union. The ongoing financial-economic crisis, severe international conflicts as well as pressure from emerging economies created a strong need for the EU to reassert itself in the global arena.

The financial and sovereign debt crisis had a strong impact on the European Union institutions as well as national governement's budgets. Considering that austerity measures are being taken all over Europe, Official Development Assistance, both at the national and EU level, is likely to face the strongest cuts since the Millenium Development Goals were settled. Many countries, including debt-plagued Spain, Portugal, Greece and Ireland, have drastically cut aid spending and at the same time the latest draft of the Multi-annual Financial Framework (2014-2020) proposes a 10 billion euro cut in the EU Aid budget.

The need for strong and committed EU overseas assistance and diplomacy have never been as strong, with the rise over the year 2012 of several armed conflict, among which Syria, Noth Mali, and the East Democratic Republic of the Congo remain some of the most worrying with respect to political upheaval, human rights and the overall humanitarian situation.

Concerning the long-term vision, global challenges like climate change and biodiverstity preservation will have to be high on the international agenda and will need to be dealt with accordingly. The European Union has a major role to play on the global international scene in mobilising both developed and emerging economies around the values of global public good protection. Although the year 2012 has seen many great challenges, it has also been a year when the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to European Union "for over six decades contributed to the advancement of peace and reconciliation, democracy and human rights in Europe". This major symbol in European construction history has been dedicated, in a spirit of solidarity with those outside the EU who are denied the chance to grow up in peace, to children in situation of conflicts. President Barroso stated "The Nobel Peace Prize stands for reconciliation throughout the world. The Prize money should benefit the first hope for the future, but also the first victims of present and past conflicts: children"

This year, on November 26th, EEPA, along with War child, celebrated the Internatioal Children's day by launching a report about the Implementaion of the the EU guidelines on children in armed conflicts. Though the EU guidelines are a well developed framework for the Children and Armed Conflict issue, the implementation remains poor. At the same time, the European Parliament who is well known for its strong defence of human rights, has no single EP Resolution which deals specifically with this strong human rights and development concern.

Migrants entering the EU clandestinely via land and sea routes, or those who have acquired false travel documents, often put themselves in the hands of criminal organisations. EEPA has been involved in raising awareness about the increasing phenomenon of human trafficking in the Sinai. Over the last four years, an estimated 10,000 mainly Eritrean refugees have been kidnapped by people traffickers, largely based in Egypt's Sinai region. Many are fleeing from desperate circumstances in Eritrea, Ethiopia and Sudan.

The world is changing and and EEPA had to carry on its work toward empowering a socially responsive European Union by doing what is within its means in order to influence European External Policy with respect to development issues.

Founded in 2003, Europe External Policy Advisors is a Brussels-based centre of expertise on the European Union's external policies. EEPA works in a wide variety of areas including the EU's legal framework, annual budget and programming. EEPA promotes a socially responsible European Union, both internally and externally, a Europe based on the values of solidarity and equality with a strong focus on global poverty eradication.

In the context of EU external cooperation, EEPA works in the following areas: EU aid effectiveness, EU budget and laws, human rights (democratisation and good governance), Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), children's rights (including education and child labour), health, gender equality and the empowerment of women, justice, HIV/AIDS, climate change and trade.

The EEPA's objective is to strengthen the participation of actors that can contribute to building a socially responsible Europe. Social actors, including non-government organisations (NGOs), are regarded as an essential force for advancing the objective of a responsible and accountable Europe, and their participation is promoted in EEPA's work. EEPA also works with Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), governmental bodies and multilateral agencies to advance Europe's role in the promotion of peace and development. EEPA explicitly aims to include both governmental and non-governmental actors from the South in its analysis of the impact of EU policies.

Main working modalities

Research and monitoring

One of EEPA's principal areas of work is in the field of research and monitoring. We carry out research on a wide range of topics concerning EU development cooperation including; EU law, budget and aid effectiveness, trade, human rights, gender, health, education and the Millennium Development Goals. On behalf of our clients we also monitor EU activities and EU institutions with regard to specific development related issues. We have been commissioned to conduct research and produce reports and briefing papers for numerous clients including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Save The Children international, War Child Holland, the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development, and UNDP.

For EEPA publications, please visit our website.

Advocacy, consultation and networking

In the field of advocacy, consultation and networking, EEPA is able to provide specialised contributions to public campaigns and advocacy strategies for NGOs, governments and institutions. We offer consultation on questions related to advocacy activities such as whom to contact, when the best timing for an action is, what kind of documents to send, how to publicise an event and which organisations to collaborate with, among other things. One of EEPA's main assets is our strong network of connections with staff from the EU institutions, national governments, EU Member State representations in Brussels, embassies, UN agencies and NGOs, which we have developed through the years and with whom we maintain close relations.

On a number of advocacy issues, EEPA works closely with other organisations. On issues such as the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, reviewing the European Commission's budget, and monitoring the programming of the country strategies and parliamentary elections, we have established a mutual cooperation programme with the European NGO network Eurostep. Since 2003, we have also been assisting the South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE), the Latin American Association of development organisations (ALOP) and network for Least Developed Countries (LDC watch) in their advocacy towards the European Union. We are also closely associated with the international NGO watchdog network, Social Watch, and have provided contributions to numerous Social Watch reports on the EU's development cooperation.

Facilitations of meetings/ conferences

EEPA has the capacity to organise and facilitate various types of meetings, publication launches and seminars, including high-level conferences both in Brussels and across the world. We also organise press releases and produce meeting reports to maximise the impact of meetings.

As part of our daily work, we organise meetings for our clients with Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), officials from the European Commission and the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU, and with representatives from Member States' missions to the EU. We have organised several visits to Brussels by delegations of civil society representatives from across Africa, Asia and Latin America. Prior to each delegation visit, we organise an itinerary of meetings which is specifically designed to serve the needs and objectives of that particular delegation.

Web-design and information dissemination

EEPA is working to ensure that important information on EU development cooperation is accessible in a comprehensive and user-friendly way throughout the world. We also offer web design, consultation and content management services to NGOs, governments and civil society actors.

As part of our work in information dissemination, we regularly update the websites we host with news from our ongoing monitoring of EU development cooperation.

EEPA uses the open source web content management system Joomla. We put our best effort to ensure easy access to information on the European Union's development actions for the South.

Websites developed and hosted by EEPA:



EU Development Portal

The EU Development Portal is an independent portal on the EU

Development Cooperation, launched on 1 September 2007. The portal, a joint project of Concern, Oxfam Novib, Eurostep and EEPA, is developed and hosted by EEPA. It is designed to facilitate better understanding of the policies and practices of EU cooperation with developing countries. One of the key aims of the portal is to encourage civil society actors from Southern countries to share their assessments and perspectives on the role that the EU

should be playing in relation to their countries external policies and practices. In 2007, the 10 different websites that are integrated in the Portal received a total of 547,630 visits. (www.developmentportal.eu)



Lisbon Treaty Website

The Lisbon Treaty website, which went online in February 2007, provides information about the implications of the Lisbon Treaty for the EU's development cooperation policy. The website

includes a consolidated version of the Lisbon Treaty, including expert analysis of the articles which are relevant to the EU's external actions with a special focus on development cooperation. The website was produced by EEPA but comments and analysis are drawn from both EEPA and Eurostep research. In addition to the analysis of various articles in the Lisbon Treaty, the website also provides details on the ongoing ratification process, including a news section with the latest information.

(www.lisbon-treaty.org)

The Marga Klompé website

The Marga Klompé website was created in order to record all activities of EEPA Director Prof.

ENDOWED CHAIR OF MARGA KLOMPÉ INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Mirjam van Reisen as part of her reponsibilities as the Endowed Chair of Social Responsibility in name of Marga Klompé. Besides the activities, the website includes video recordings and summaries of key events, a summary on the position of the endowed chair as well as a biography of Marga Klompé which was created specifically for this website. The website is bilingual and all information is available in English and Dutch.

(http://www.chairmargaklompe.nl)



Expert portal of EEPA Director Prof. Mirjam van Reisen on the Tilburg University website

The website includes most recent publications, CV and activities including teaching by Prof Mirjam van Reisen in the Universitry of Tilburg. (http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/webwijs/show/?uid=m.vanreisen)



Valorisatieproject 'Understanding Society: Religion and Values' (NL)

EEPA Director Prof Mirjam van Reisen is part of the Valorisatieproject on 'Understanding Society: Religion and Values' in the University of Tilburg. The website, which is only availabe in Dutch, describes news

and activities related to the project.

(http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/nl/over-tilburguniversity/schools/geesteswetenschappen/religion-and-values/) 10 2012 Highlights 2012 Highlights 10

2012 Highlights

Report on the future of the ACP group



In 2012, EEPA undertook a study to assist the ACP Group to prepare for the expiry of the Cotonou Agreement in 2020 and its future in the post-2020 era. Based on the findings of the study, recommendations

are outlined for various options and scenarios on the future perspectives of the ACP Group, which has served as the basis for the Working Group's report to the 7th ACP Heads of State Summit in December 2012 in Malabo.

Expert meeting on the impact of the CAP reform on biodiversity

EEPA facilitated an expert meeting entitled "Towards Rio +20, biodiversity and coherence in CAP reform", which was held on 5 June



2012 and was hosted by MEP Birgit Schnieber-Jastram in the European parliament. The meeting focused on the current negotiations of the CAP reform, concerns on its impact on biodiversity and the need for coherence with development objectives (TFEU 208). Experts showcased most recent research findings on the topic and discussed the policy with interested Members of the European parliament.

Liberia honours EEPA Director Prof. Dr. Mirjam van Reisen

On July the 20th, the government of Liberia has honoured EEPA Director Prof. Dr. Mirjam van Reisen with a Golden Image Award for her work to support women during the termination of conflicts in Liberia and other countries.



Left to Right: Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Professor Dr. Philip Eijlander (Tilburg University, NL) and Professor Dr. Mirjam van Reisen

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High-level conference on Human Trafficking in the Sinai

The report *Human Trafficking in the Sinai: Refugees between Life and Death,* published by EEPA and Tilburg University was presented at a high-level conference hosted by MEP Jusith Sargentini in the European Parliament 26 September 2012. The report provides an insight into the processes involved in the trafficking of refugees, many who are fleeing from desperate circumstances in Eritrea, Ethiopia and Sudan.



Left to Right: Professor Dr. Mirjam van Reisen, MEP Judith Sargentini and Allehone Mulugeta Abebe, UNHCR

EEPA Director bestows honorary doctorate on Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf visited Tilburg University as a guest of honour and delivered a lecture on "International Social Responsibility" as the University recognizes the 100th anniversary of the birth of the first female Minister of the Netherlands, Marga Klompé, an



President Sirleaf was awarded an honorary degree, Doctor Honoris Causa, along with two academicians. The president is being recognized for her leadership and interest in both education and social

event co-chaired by the endowed chair and EEPA

director, Prof. Dr. Mirjam van Reisen.

responsibility.

Prof. Mirjam van Reisen bestows honorary doctorate on Liberian President Johnson Sirleaf

Symposium on Globalisation and Care in Tilburg University

Chaired by EEPA Director Prof. Dr. Mirjam van Reisen, on 16 November 2012, an international symposium entitled 'A Bouquet on the Table' was held at Tilburg University, in honour of the 100th anniversary of Marga Klompé, minister of social welfare and first female minister of the Netherlands.

The conference brought together experts from both the relevant sectors and academi a to discuss the impact of rapid demographic change in Europe and the increasing demand and pressure due to the affects of ageing, decreased fertility, a decrease in mortality rate, and a higher life expectancy among Europeans.

The Liberian President then travels to Tilburg University, situated in the south of the Netherlands.

There, as the guest of honor, she will join in the celebration of the university's 85th anniversary, or "Dies"; deliver a lecture on "International Social Responsibility," as the university observes the 100th anniversary of the birth of the first female Minister of the Netherlands, Marga Klompé.



Prof. Dr. Mirjam van Reisen at the Marga Klompé Symposium

Discussing Children in Armed Conflict in the European Parliament

EEPA's report, commissioned by War Child Holland and War Child UK, on the effectiveness of the European Union Guidelines on Children and Armed Conflict was launched during a Policy Forum in the European Parliament on November 28, 2012. The event, hosted by MEP Michael Chasman, was held to mark International Children's Day and to build on the momentum created by the European Commission's decision earlier this year to diver its Nobel Peace Prize money to support projects

targeting conflict affected children.



Policy Forum on Children and Armed Conflict in the European **Parliament**

Main activities per topic

EU external relations

The future of the ACP group



In 2012, EEPA undertook a study to assist the ACP Group to prepare for the expiry of the Cotonou Agreement in 2020 and its future in the post-2020 era. More specifically, the study supported the work of the

Working Group on the Future Perspectives of the ACP Group by examining options and delineating scenarios on the basis of a comprehensive review of the essence and value of the ACP Group.

The assessment on the future of the ACP group is examined from three dimensions: the internal evolution of the ACP group; the external changes that impact on the group; and future scenarios for harmonizing these internal and external challenges.

Based on the findings of the study, recommendations are outlined for various options and scenarios on the future perspectives of the ACP Group, which served as the basis for the Working Group's report to the 7th ACP Heads of State Summit in December 2012.

CAP reform and biodiversity

Commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, EEPA undertook a study examining the EU's CAP reform and its impact on biodiversity in developing countries. The focus of the research was to identify available knowledge related to small holder farmers in developing countries and investigate the impact of the Cap on biodiversity. It also included an examinatin of the



positions of the EU institutions on the necessity to avoid negative impact of the CAP on biodiversity.

In addition, EEPA facilitated an expert meeting entitled "Towards Rio +20, biodiversity and coherence in CAP reform", which was held on 5 June 2012 and was hosted by MEP Birgit Schnieber-Jastram in the European parliament. The meeting focused on the current negotiations of the CAP reform, concerns on its impact on biodiversity and the need for coherence with development objectives (TFEU 208). Experts showcased most recent research findings on the topic and discussed the policy with interested Members of the European parliament.

Human Trafficking



Co-author of report, Meron Estefanos with torture victim

Human Trafficking has many faces. Every day people become trapped into situations of exploitation akin to slavery. They arrive there through deception or force; taken against their will and sold into any and every industry one can think of.

A report on Human Trafficking in the Sinai: Refugees between Life and Death was presented to a public hearing at the European Parliament on 26 September

2012, which was facilitated by EEPA and hosted by MEP Judith Sargentini. Published by EEPA and the University of Tilburg, the report investigates the process involved in the trafficking of refugees, many who are fleeing from desperate circumstances in Eritrea, Ethiopia and Sudan.

The horrors that refugees endure in the hands of traffickers in the Sinai is starkly illustrated by the collection and analysis of interviews with refugees who have been victims of the trade. Held in conditions inhuman and tortured for a ransom; many



Left to Right: Professor Dr. Mirjam van Reisen, MEP Judith Sargentini and Allehone Mulugeta Abebe, UNHCR

are killed even after the ransom is paid.

The report examined the processes involved in the trafficking of the refugees (i.e., how the refugees are recruited, how they are transported to the Sinai, including their routes, and the conditions under which they are being held) and the international legal framework applicable to these practices (i.e., whether or not these practices can be considered 'trafficking in persons', 'torture' or other).

It is with the thorough analysis of this outrageous situation that the authors make recommendations to actors from international organizations to national authorities in order to put an end to this tragedy.

Peace building and Women's leadership

Golden Image Award

On July the 20th, the government of Liberia has honoured EEPA Director Prof. Dr. Mirjam van Reisen with a Golden Image Award for her work to support women during the termination of conflicts in Liberia and other countries.

In particular, the Golden Image Award was given to EEPA Director Prof. Dr. Mirjam van Reisen for her assistance to female leaders in Africa and other conflict regions in order to stand up for their rights on the ground of the United Nations Security Council's Resolution 1325. Adopted by the Security Council in 2000, resolution emphasizes the "important



Left to Right: Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Professor Dr. Philip Eijlander (Tilburg University, NL) and Professor Dr. Mirjam van Reisen

role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building". Hence, Resolution 1325 gives women the right to participate in peace negotiations.

Prof. Dr. Mirjam van Reisen dedicated her Golden Image Award to the victims of armed conflicts who are still hoping for the spiral of violence to end.

The girl child and armed conflict

2012 is an important year for war affected girl children. 11 October marked the first ever International Day of the Girl Child while this year also marks the 15th anniversary of the appointment of the United Nations Secretary General's Special Representative on Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG-CAAC), the tenth anniversary of the Optional Protocol on Children and Armed Conflict coming into force, and half a decade since the Paris Principles. The EU is supportive of landmark resolution 1325, which stresses women and girls' key role in all aspects of the maintenance and promotion of peace and security. In 2012, EEPA undertook several investigations in the EU's external action and development cooperation in particular, which targeted the extremely vulnerable group of war-affected girls as well as girls in general.

Commissioned by the Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development, EEPA investigated the level and efficiency of EU support to young and adolescent girls in developing countries. The final report is expected to be published early 2013.

In addition, EEPA presented its findings on the EU's support towards war-affected children and girls in particular at the Idea Kicker Forum on Gender, Rights and Development, organised by The Social Development and Gender Equity team at the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), on behalf of the Gender Equality Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Children

children.

Investing financial resources to help children survive and develop to their full potential is, first and foremost, a moral imperative. But investing in children is also important on practical grounds. It yields positive benefits to economies and societies. Since the foundation of an individual's health and well-being is laid in early childhood, the most opportune time to break the cycle of poverty, or prevent it from beginning, is during that time. Programmes that invest in early childhood development could generate considerable cost savings for government. Investments in children are increasingly seen as one of best and most valuable long-term investments one can make.

With the above in mind, EEPA helped in the preparation of a brochure for Save The Children International, which outlines why EU aid is crucial for boosting child mortality rates and explains why support has to be maintained despite the difficult economic situation in Europe.

In 2012, EEPA has specially been involved in calling awareness to the issue of Children in

Armed Conflicts. Commissioned by War Child, EEPA produced a report on the EU Guidelines on Children in Armed Conflicts. The report was launched during a Policy Forum in the European parliament, hosted by MEP Michael Chasman, which was held to mark International Children's Day and to build on the momentum created by the European Commission's decision earlier this year to diver its Nobel Peace Prize money to support projects targeting conflict affected



Policy Forum on Children and Armed Conflict in the European Parliament

Commissioned by the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development, EEPA has also investigated the European Union's support for improving the life of young and adolescent girls in development countries. The report, which will be launched in 2013, stated that without gender equality, none of the Millennium Development Goals will be achieved. Girl children and young women are real agents of development.

Health & Care



Demographic changes in Europe are creating important shortages on the labour market. In the healthcare sector the demand and pressures are increasing due to ageing, decrease in fertility, a decrease in mortality rate, and a higher life expectancy among Europeans. Due to the lack of numbers among the younger people to look after the elderly, the European Commission expects that between 1 and 2 million health care workers will be needed from outside the

European Union in 2020.

Under the chairmanship of EEPA Director, Prof. Dr Mirjam van Reisen, who also holds the Marga Kolmpé chair of International Social Responsibility at the University of Tilburg, a conference entitled 'A Bouquet on the Table' was held in the University of Tilburg, discussing the legacy of Marga Klompé, the first female minister of the Netherlands, for an ethical approach to Health Care and Ageing in a globalised world.

The conference brought together experts from both the relevant sectors and academia, including Zimbabwean Co-Minister of State for National Healing, Reconciliation and Integration, Sekai M. Holland, to discuss the impact of rapid demographic change in Europe and the increasing demand and pressure due to the affects of ageing, decreased fertility, a decrease in mortality rate, and a higher life expectancy among Europeans.

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European Institutions

European Parliament

United Nation Funds

UNICEF

UNIFEM

UNFPA United Nations Populations Fund

OHCHR Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

UNDP

Governmental bodies

Development Cooperation Ireland

UK Department for International Development (DFID)

Nederlands Ministerie voor Buitenlandse Zaken (Dutch Ministry for Foreign Affairs)

Non-governmental Organisation

Eurostep Dutch Council for Refugees SNV Action for Global Health

Concern Zimbabwe Watch Hivos Church World Service

Deutsche Welt Hunger Hilfe (DWHH)

Oxfam Novib Education international

ICCO NEWW Polska

Alliance 2015 Bond

Concord Malaria Consortium

CISP IDSN (International Dalit Solidary Network)

NCDO

Terre des Hommes Human Rights Watch
COOPI (Cooperazione internazionale) War Child Holland
ActionAid Save The Children

ActionAid Save The Children
Caritas TNI (Transnational Institute)

FES EPF (European parliamentary Forum on

TroCaire Population and Development)

Wommet - Gender und Globale

Strukturpolitik

WEED

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Borgman, E., van Reisen ,M., & Plessius,I. (2012). *Liefde en Rechtvaardigheid: Het Dagboek van Marga Klompé*, Uitgever Verlooren, Hilversum.

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EEPA (2012) Expert meeting: "Towards Rio +20, biodiversity and coherence in CAP reform". Conference Notes. June 2012, Brussels: EEPA

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Letters of Appreciation



Client Reference

Organisation: War Child Holland Contact Name: Julie McBride

Title: Advocacy, Research and Communications Officer

Address: Van Ostadestraat 149

1073 TK Amsterdam

Telephone: +31 (0)20 422 7777

Website: www.warchild.nl / www.warchildholland.org

Client Relation Synopsis:

In 2012 War Child Holland engaged EEPA to complete a study on the EU Guidelines on Children Affected by Armed Conflict (CAAC), and their current state of implementation and application. The report was researched (desk research, plus an online survey and phone interviews with War Child field staff and EU agency employees), written and published by EEPA. In addition, the report was presented by EEPA at War Child Holland's offices in Amsterdam, and at a forum in Brussels organised by War Child Holland and War Child UK, and chaired by MEP Michael Cashman, on 29th November 2012.

With this project EEPA has made an extremely valuable contribution to our burgeoning EU advocacy efforts, and their insights and advice were greatly appreciated during the forum preparations. EEPA demonstrated a deep understanding of what works in the world of EU lobbying, and their expertise in explaining the complex structure of the EU CAAC framework was invaluable. The completed research document was extremely well put together, and illustrated the organisation's highly-tuned analytical skills. Throughout the research project, the EEPA team was highly professional, approachable and accommodating.

We would not hesitate to engage them again in the future.



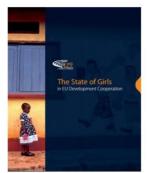


Brussels, 24 January 2013

To Whom it May Concern,

Subject: Letter of Reference: EEPA

I write this letter in support of EEPA, an organisation which recently implemented research and drafted a publication for our organization as part of an important advocacy project related to EU policies and funding for adolescent girls. It is therefore with great pleasure that we recommend EEPA to future partners, based on the positive experience we had in working with them. EEPA processed our collaboration request in a very efficient and timely manner. We trust in EEPA's professionalism and expertise and believe they dealt with our case with efficiency and quality in equal measure.



EPF recognises EEPA's deep understanding of EU external affairs Cooperation with EEPA has allowed us to produce of a powerful publication entitled *The State of Girls in Development Cooperation* (October 2012). From our initial inquiry, it was quickly demonstrated that EEPA was equipped with the necessary skills and qualified staff to offer a tailored response to our needs. Upon delivery of their work, it was evident that EEPA's technical skills were of a high level. This high standard of work is testament to their meticulousness and attention to detail.

At all times in our correspondence; from dealing with the contract throughout the drafting and design processes, partners

of EEPA can feel comfortable expressing any matters or concerns with their employees. Their availability and ability to work through such matters reinforces their reputation of being a client-focused organization with great attention to detail.

EEPA is an organisation that we would certainly work with again. Without EEPA's hard work and dedication to our project, we would have not been able to achieve our project aims and objectives, and we are grateful for the contribution that they have made to the success of our initiative.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Datta EPF Secretary

European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development



Press Release 25 July 2012

Liberia honors Prof. Mirjam van Reisen

President and Nobel Prize winner Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf to be awarded an honorary doctorate in November

The government of Liberia has honored Prof. Mirjam van Reisen, occupant of an endowed chair at Tilburg University, with a Golden Image Award. Prof. van Reisen was presented with the distinction in recognition of her efforts to help women end conflict in Liberia and other countries.

Liberian Vice-President Joseph N. Boakai presented Van Reisen with the award during a ceremony in Monrovia attended by a large gathering of Liberian and international guests, which also included Rector Magnificus and Professor Philip Eijlander of Tilburg University. Following the ceremony, Van Reisen and Eijlander met with the country's president, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf. President – and Nobel Prize winner – Sirleaf accepted the professors' invitation to pay a visit to Tilburg University in November 2012.

Prof. van Reisen has been instrumental in helping women leaders in Africa and other conflict regions demand their rights under UN Security Council Resolution 1325. Among other things, the Resolution calls for the institution of legal proceedings against anyone who commits violence against girls and women. As the frequent victims of armed conflicts, women can play an important role in resolving and preventing conflict situations. Resolution 1325 recognizes this, investing women with the right to take part in peace negotiations. Prof. van Reisen dedicated her Golden Image Award to the victims of armed conflicts and their continuing faith that there is a light at the end of the tunnel of violence.

Van Reisen's current research focuses on the impact of UN Resolution 1325. She has authored numerous publications on the role of Europe in the post-Cold War international political arena and is also the founder of the Brussels-based Europe External Policy Advisors (EEPA) knowledge center, bringing together European foreign policy expertise. As professor of International Social Responsibility, she was appointed to the Marga Klompé endowed chair at the Tilburg School of Humanities in October 2010. Working in collaboration with Prof. Ernst Hirsch Ballin and Dr. Conny Rijken of the Tilburg Law School, Van Reisen is also involved in a study on the victims of human

trafficking, which is being commissioned by the inter church organization for development cooperation, ICCO.

Cooperation

Van Reisen and Eijlander were in Monrovia for several days to discuss possibilities for cooperation with the University of Liberia. With its recent history of civil war, Liberia is facing a severe shortage of academic staff. Tilburg University hopes to help alleviate this shortage in fields that are in high demand in Liberia in which the university can provide specialized training, including economics, management and international law. During the Monrovia visit, Prof. Eijlander stressed that rebuilding the country's education infrastructure represents a real linchpin of national reconstruction.

Johnson-Sirleaf

Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf became Africa's first female president in 2006. In 2011 she and two other women, Leymah Gbowee (Liberia) and Tawakkul Karman (Yemen), were honored with the Nobel Peace Prize for their non-violent work championing the safety of women and women's right to full participation in peace-building efforts. Though her political activities in Liberia span back to the 1970s, prosecution and imprisonment ultimately forced Sirleaf to flee the country. In the years that followed she rose to become an influential economist at the World Bank and, subsequently, African director of the United Nations Development Program in the 1990s. President Sirleaf is keenly aware of the role that education can play in rebuilding Liberia after its many years of civil war. On November 9, 2012 she will be presented with an honorary doctorate from Tilburg University.

Marga Klompé

In 2012 it will be 100 years since the birth of Dutch politician and Catholic People's Party (KVP) member Marga Klompé (1912-1986). A dedicated and ardent advocate for the ideals of humanity, justice, peace and women's emancipation, Klompé also took part in the Dutch underground resistance during World War II. Alongside her work as a teacher, Klompé was active at various international organizations, where she worked on human rights and peace issues. In 1948 she was appointed a member of the Dutch House of Representatives. As part of the Dutch delegation to the United Nations, Klompé was involved in negotiations leading to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Later she would go on to become the Netherlands' first female representative to the European Parliament and also the country's first female secretary of state, serving as secretary of Social Affairs from 1956 until 1963 and as secretary of Culture, Recreation and Social Affairs from 1966 until 1971. Marga Klompé is widely renowned for her efforts to promote human rights, peace, public welfare and international social responsibility.

Marga Klompé Foundation

The Marga Klompé Foundation was established to preserve the ideological legacy of this Dutch luminary. Among the Foundation's initiatives has been the designation of the Marga Klompé endowed chair in International Social Responsibility, a chair with an

Marga Klompé's intellectual legacy in the world of today.

Financial Year 2012

Balance sheet	2012	
Assets		
	Fixed assets	- 4.408,93
	Receivables	28.090,96
	Accruals	31.659,47
	Cash in bank & in hand	2.844,88
	Total assets	67.004,24
Liabilities		
	Reserves	34.529,96
	Amounts payable	10.884,51
	Accruals and deferrals	21.589,77
	Total liabilities	67.004,24
Income and over		

Income and expenditure

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income		
	Operating income	213.983,01
	Interest	1.225,47
	Total income	215.208,48
Expenses		
	Trade goods, raw materials, services and other goods	163.247,77
	Human resources	59.856,93
	Depreciation	2.182,68
	Other operating costs	1.146,41
	Financial costs	748,80
	Taxes	85,83
	Total expenses	227.268,42
	Result	- 12.059,94
	Accumulated surplus/deficit from previous year	6.988,27

Retained surplus/deficit - 5.071,67

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