

Lectoraat United Nations Studies in Peace and Justice

(PER 1 JANUARI 2023 BEHOREND BIJ GIL)

Het lectoraat UN Studies werkt aan het veranderen van het denken over de VN en vraagt aandacht voor de 'lesser-known actors' binnen de Verenigde Naties zoals vrouwen, jongeren en vertegenwoordigers van inheemse minderheden. De onderzoeksgroep streeft ernaar het onderzoek, onderwijs, de internationale instellingen, ngo's en de gemeente Den Haag op het gebied van de VN bij elkaar te brengen. Onderzoekslijnen zijn Vrouwen, Vrede en Veiligheid en de Onzichtbare Geschiedenis van de VN en de Global South.

Reflectie op de resultaten van het lectoraat over 2022 in relatie met onze onderzoekslijnen

De positie van lector was het gehele jaar vacant. De faculteitsdirecteur van BRV heeft het aantal fte van deze positie van 0,3 fte naar 1,0 fte weten uit te breiden. De vacature wordt in 2023 gepubliceerd in samenhang met een positie als universitair docent op hetzelfde onderzoeksthema bij de Universiteit Leiden, faculteit Governance and Global Affairs (FGGA).

De samenwerking tussen docent-onderzoekers van De Haagse Hogeschool en Universiteit Leiden op de UNPJ thematiek is dit jaar voortgezet.

Een selectie uit de diverse soorten output van het lectoraat in 2022:

- Promotieonderzoek over de rol van vrouwen in vredesmissies door Saskia Rademaker (Universiteit Leiden met een PhD voucher). In 2022 een paper gepresenteerd op de universiteit van Ljubljana tijdens de European Conference on Politics and Gender.
- Diverse lezingen, gastcolleges en presentatie van papers (11). Waaronder twee workshops in het kader van Faith in Human Rights die kijken naar de 'Dark side of universality': over de toeslagenaffaire en de strijd om de eigendomsrechten van de Tšilhqot'in uit Canada: **Een inheems verhaal - Het verhaal van de Tšilhqot'in**.
- Organiseren en uitvoeren van de minor 'Making Peace not War'.
- Bijdrage aan curriculum vernieuwing 'Conflict, Peace and Security en Diversity, Equality, Social Justice'.
- Toepassing expertise internationale betrekkingen in de beleidspraktijk van De Haagse Hogeschool.
- Uitvoering van het door de gemeente Den Haag gefinancierde Project: 'The UN & I: What Can the United Nations Mean for My Future? A Multi-generational Approach to UN Studies in The Hague'.

Meer projectinformatie:

'The UN & I' is a multi-generational education project which intends to profile the city of The Hague as the first United Nations (UN) City for Youth. Its central actors are young people, who have been traditionally disenfranchised from the discussions about peace and justice.

The project is running from 1 September 2022 to 1 July 2023. It is being coordinated and carried out by Szilvia Csevár, David den Dunnen and Christine Tremblay, lecturers at the International Bachelor of Law Programme (LAW) of The Hague University of Applied Sciences (THUAS) and researchers in the UN Studies in Peace and Justice (UNPJ) research group.

VOORUITBLIK OP 2023

Project objectives

- To enfranchise young people through active engagement with the UN and its themes, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), both in the classroom and through related outside activities designed to inspire community activism.
- To gather from pupils in secondary education and students at university level how they perceive the UN, and to contrast these views with the ways in which the UN has taken on board the perspectives of young people to date.
- To analyse whether the UN's claim to pay more attention to the agency of young people bears out, and to determine the benefits and the limitations of the functioning of that agency.
- To deepen the relationship between the city of The Hague, local youth and THUAS on the themes of the research group, and to improve coherence between their work by building a network and developing a partnership.

Project components

- The project entails a 12-week lesson series involving pupils from three high schools in The Hague area. Through teaching, discussions, games and external activities, the selected participants will be introduced to the UN system and the SDGs. They will hone and develop the skills that are needed to operate as a global citizen.
- The project will culminate in a book. It will consist of contributions from youth at secondary and university levels. Maximum two students will be able to contribute to the book as their Applied Research Project, the graduation project of LAW. The contributors to the book will reflect on the role of youth actors within the UN and on ways in which young people have realized or can realize UN ideas in building their futures.
- The project is connected to the minor Making Peace Not War (MPNW) of THUAS' Faculty of Public Management, Law and Safety. Students in the minor will be invited to contribute to the book.
- The participants in the high-school lesson series will be invited to produce podcasts, videos for social media and/or similar contemporary forms of communication to enhance their voice on UN themes. This will allow them to demonstrate different ways in which they are active agents within The Hague and beyond on topics such as addressing climate change, justice, and questions of inequality.

The project intends to unpack and understand the relevance of lesser-known actors, such as youth, women, marginalized groups and small states within the global arena. In so doing its aim is to help realize greater inclusion and participation of these actors.

- In het eerste en tweede kwartaal ligt de focus op het implementeren van het UN & I-project.
- Voortzetting promotieonderzoek over de rol van vrouwen in vredesmissies.
- In regards to the book proposal, the project team considers a possible collaboration with the textbook project Global governance in Practice within the Centre of Expertise Global and Inclusive Learning (CoE GIL).
- The members of the project team will contribute to the minor MPNW again this academic year. **Kies op maat - Making Peace not War: Sustainable Peace and Conflict Resolution.**
- The project team will explore possibilities for revival of 'UN Youth Impact' which was an organization set up in connection to the research group of UN Studies and run by students. It is currently inactive. Alternatively, the establishment of a similar body will be considered.
- The project team aims at interaction and collaboration between the various groups of youth involved, i.e. the pupils in the high-school lesson series, the students in the minor, and potentially the members of UN Youth Impact or similar body. The project will contribute to building a sustainable network around UN studies, developing the profile of The Hague as the UN City for Youth.
- Finally, the project team aims at submitting a proposal in the course of 2023 for a follow up project.

Relatie met onze onderzoekslijnen

The PhD research on the role of women in peacekeeping missions and 'The UN & I' connect to the second research theme of the CoE GIL, which is 'Inclusive Participation.' This theme centers on the design, study and enhancement of the participation of students, other youth and other marginalized groups in various professional sectors both in- and outside THUAS, and on the local and global levels. Subthemes include social, ecological and economic justice frameworks, inclusive participation in decision-making, and investigating new forms of democracy with specific attention to questions of responsibility (individual and professional, shared and collective).

'The UN & I' also connects to the third research theme of the CoE GIL, 'Multilevel Governance in Practice'. There is a need for more sustainable and equal ways to address the crises of our times, such as health and climate crises, current and historical injustices rooted in colonialism and racial segregation, as well as the new opportunities emerging from digitalization and economic transformations. Citizens and institutions are able to transform the existing governance models by making them more just, equal, and responsive to societal problems and educational challenges.