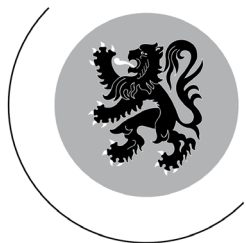


Annual Report 2011



Vlaams
Parlement

stuk **44** (2011-2012) – Nr. 1
ingediend op 15 juni 2012 (2011-2012)

Vlaams Instituut voor Vrede en Geweldpreventie

Jaarverslag 2011

**Flemish Peace Institute
Annual Report 2011**

Table of Contents

Foreword	4
1 Arms Trade and Arms Production	5
1.1 Military equipment	5
1.1.1 Annual report on the Flemish foreign arms trade	5
1.1.2 Investigation into the end-use of Flemish military equipment	6
1.1.3 The European defence market and control of arms trade	8
1.1.4 Dutch-language summary of the SIPRI Yearbook 2011	9
1.2 Firearms	10
1.3 Dual-use items	13
1.3.1 Annual report on the Flemish foreign trade in dual-use items	13
1.3.2 Investigation into the legal framework for trade in dual-use items	14
2 Peace and Society	15
2.1 Peace education	15
2.2 Commemoration and remembrance	16
2.3 Youth and violence	18
3 Support for parliamentary activities	22
3.1 Involvement in parliamentary activities	22
3.2 Advice	24
3.2.1 Advice concerning the annual report of the Flemish Government about Flemish foreign arms trade in 2010	24
3.2.2 Advice concerning the preliminary draft for a Flemish Arms Trade Act	26
3.2.3 Advice concerning the proposal for a Flemish Parliament Act concerning arms trade by Bart Caron, Filip Watteeuw and Mieke Vogels	27
3.3 Documentation centre	29
4 Evaluation report of the Scientific Council	30
5 The Institute	42
5.1 Context	42
5.2 The Board of Directors	43
5.3 The Scientific Council	44
5.4 The Scientific Secretariat	45
5.5 External relations	45
5.5.1 Network	45
5.5.2 Events	48
5.5.3 Communication	49

5.5.4	<i>The Peace Institute in the press</i>	49
5.5.5	<i>Publications in external forums</i>	54
6	Financial Report	54
7	List of Publications 2011	55
7.1	<i>Publications in Dutch</i>	55
7.2	<i>Publications translated into English</i>	56

Foreword

Every year, the Flemish Peace Institute, as an independent institute of the Flemish Parliament for research on peace issues, publishes a report to the Parliament about its activities. As established in the founding Act of the Peace Institute, these activities include conducting scientific research, providing advice, documentation and information.

The present annual report portrays the development of the Peace Institute in 2011 based on an overview of research results, advice notes, and information and communications work. The first chapters (1-4) present the substance of the Peace Institute's activities: research programmes, support for the work of the Flemish Parliament, and the evaluation report of the Peace Institute's Scientific Council. The second part of this annual report (chapters 5-7) provides an overview of the Institute's most significant organizational developments.

1 Arms Trade and Arms Production

The Peace Institute examines legislation and policy concerning the international arms trade and monitors the facts and figures concerning arms production and arms trade in Flanders.

Since 2003, the regions have been responsible in Belgium for imports, exports and transit of strategic goods. This means that Flanders implements its own control policy for the foreign trade in military equipment, firearms and dual-use items. Military equipment comprises arms or parts of arms that are used in a military context. Firearms make up a special category: not only the armed forces and the police, but also civilians can buy, own and use them. Dual-use items are not developed specifically for military purposes but may nevertheless have a military application.

Belgium has its own legislation for foreign trade in these goods. Increasingly, however, regulation is taking on a European and international character. That is why the Peace Institute closely monitors regional (European) as well as international legislation.

Besides legislation, the Peace Institute also monitors the facts and figures concerning trade in military equipment, firearms and dual-use items, with a particular focus on the end-use of these products.

Details about publications, networking and activities within this research programme can be found in the second part of this annual report. The following sections explain the aim and content of the Institute's research activities under each related project.

1.1 *Military equipment*

1.1.1 *Annual report on the Flemish foreign arms trade*

The Flemish Peace Institute continually monitors the licences for import, export and transit of military equipment that are issued and denied by the Flemish authorities. Each spring, the Institute publishes an annual report with figures, analyses and interpretation of developments in the Flemish foreign arms trade. The annual report "Flemish foreign arms trade 2010" was presented in the Flemish Parliament on 30 March 2011.

Imports

In 2010, the Flemish authorities issued a total of 443 import licences for military equipment with a combined value of 18.9 million euro. In 2010, the value of licensed arms imports was significantly lower than in previous years. Imports of military vehicles and vehicle components in 2010 accounted for 55% of the value of licensed imports in Flanders. These vehicles and components were intended for the Flemish defence industry. The level of imports of this equipment mainly accounted for the decline in arms imports: the involvement of several Flemish companies in contracts between the Belgian armed forces and major foreign defence companies for the supply of new military vehicles was coming to an end.

Approximately 90% of all applications for licences for arms imports related to firearms and their accessories. These items thus represented 37% of the value of licensed arms imports in 2010. Primarily dealers and private individuals imported these arms.

Between 2005 and 2009 the value of licensed imports of firearms rose sharply in Flanders. In 2010 a marked decline occurred, as the factors accounting for the previous increase were of a temporary nature.

Exports

In 2010 the Flemish authorities issued 330 arms export licences with a combined value of 320.5 million euro. This represented a 13.5% increase compared with 2009, or a doubling of Flemish arms exports over a five-year period. This sharp increase was not due to a fundamental change in the nature of the defence-related industry in Flanders. The relatively small group of Flemish companies that specialize in the defence market has been performing well in recent years and took part more frequently in military projects.

The three most important defence-related Flemish export products were visualisation screens, military electronic equipment, and (components of) military vehicles. In 2010, export licences were also issued for exports of equipment for military training, aircraft components, imaging equipment, technology and a number of other defence products.

Flemish arms exports were destined for recipient countries worldwide, but mainly for the defence-related industry in Europe (60%) and the United States (28%). Asia was the recipient region for 12% of all licensed arms exports from Flanders.

A resolution was adopted by the Flemish Parliament in March 2011 in which the Flemish Government was asked to treat arms exports to the Middle East and Northern Africa with the utmost caution. A total of 38 licences were issued in 2010 for which the last reported user was situated in the Middle East or North Africa. These two regions accounted for 30.6 million euro, or nearly 10% of all Flemish licensed arms exports, with exports to the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Bahrain, Oman, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

Two-thirds of licences for Flemish arms exports list the (defence-related) industry as the last reported user. This has important implications for Flemish arms exports control policy, as there is a real chance that Flemish military equipment will be re-exported by the foreign industry in recipient countries after its incorporation into larger weapons systems. The ultimate end-user of these weapons systems (and hence also of the Flemish products incorporated in them) is thus not known during the Flemish licensing procedure, and consequently not included in it.

Transit

In 2010 the Flemish authorities issued 18 transit licences with a combined value of 75.8 million euro. The number of transit licences issued in Flanders in recent years has been remarkably low. 2010 confirmed this trend: the Flemish authorities issued the second fewest transit licences since 1999.

For more information see:

Flemish Foreign Arms Trade 2010

Author: Nils Duquet

Brussels, 30 March 2011 - ISBN 9789078864417, 78 p.

1.1.2 Investigation into the end-use of Flemish military equipment

In a 2011 research project, the Peace Institute provided an answer to two questions that have been asked repeatedly in recent years in the Flemish Parliament and in the social debate on arms exports: "Where does exported Flemish military equipment ultimately end up?" and "For what is this equipment used?". The specific nature of the defence-related industry in Flanders makes it difficult to obtain a view of the actual end-use of exported Flemish defence items. Flemish licensed arms exports

are carried out by a relatively small group of high-tech companies (often mainly targeted at the civilian market) and consists primarily of components integrated into larger weapons systems by foreign companies. In recent years, 90-95% of licensed Flemish arms exports have been destined initially for foreign companies (mainly in Europe and the United States). By way of these companies, Flemish items end up in the hands of armed forces around the entire world. An analysis of the Flemish Government's reports reveals that the ultimate end-user is usually not known during the Flemish licensing procedure and this information is therefore not included in the licensing decision.

Based on an analysis of governmental reports, a description of the Flemish defence-related industry, and 15 specific case studies, the research project for the first time sketched a representative image of the end-use of military equipment exported from Flanders between 2006 and 2010. These case studies indicate a wide diversity of end-use of Flemish defence items. The Peace Institute came to the conclusion that exports of Flemish defence items form a small but significant part of the global arms trade. These items are inextricably linked to conflict situations in various ways.

1. Flemish defence items are included in all sorts of weapons systems that find their end-use in ground-force, naval or airborne military applications. A number of exports are related to ground vehicles and vehicle components. They often involve components of caterpillar tracks for military vehicles, but other components (such as, for instance, fire control systems or screens) are also exported with a view toward integration in all manner of military vehicles. Exports of entire vehicles occur less often. Further, a number of Flemish defence items for ground operations are not integrated into vehicles but used directly by soldiers - for example, protective garments. Flemish items also find an end-use in military airborne operations. These are mainly items exported by companies specializing in the production of specific aircraft components, production of radar and communications equipment, maintenance of aircraft motors, or production of visualisation screens. These items have their end-use in various types of airborne vehicles (including combat, transport, surveillance and training aircraft) and various types of helicopters (including combat and multi-role helicopters). Additionally, various Flemish defence items also have an end-use in military marine applications. In general this applies to exports of visualisation screens and radar equipment that have their end-use in various types of military vessels including submarines, destroyers and patrol ships. Flemish defence items are also used for educating and training soldiers – primarily, simulation equipment.

2. Flemish defence items almost always have armed forces as their end-user and find their end-use in a wide variety of countries. After their integration into larger weapons systems, these items are in large part destined for end-use by the armed forces of EU Member States, also including the Belgian Army, but they are also used by the armed forces of - inter alia - the United States, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, India, the Philippines and possibly also Iraq.

3. Defence products exported from Flanders are characterized not only by the diversity of countries of end-use, but also by the wide variety of specific military applications. The end-use of these items is in some instances almost purely defensive, while in other cases a distinctly offensive end-use can be determined. Moreover, Flemish components are also integrated in weapons systems that support military operations in other ways, for instance by radar surveillance or logistical support, or that are used for law enforcement. We can further conclude that in several cases, items were also used for very different applications, for instance in operations targeted against piracy at sea or against illegal trade in narcotics.

4. Arms systems with Flemish components were also used in recent conflict situations. Various case studies from the report refer to the end-use of Flemish defence items in military operations in Afghanistan (for example, Tiger helicopters and the French Army's E-3F aircraft, and CV90 armoured vehicles and fragment protection vests from the Danish Army) and in Libya (for example, British Army Typhoon combat aircraft, French Army Tiger helicopters and E-3F aircraft, and converted Ohio submarines from the US armed forces).

It is the companies' responsibility to know the ultimate end-use of their items, so far as possible. This, however, is not always self-evident. Participation in serial production of (new or already existing) weapons systems, Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity contracts, and deliveries to the parent company constitute significant challenges.

In order to allow reliable monitoring of the end-use of Flemish defence items, the Peace Institute concluded that the Flemish Government needs to encourage the companies concerned to ask their customer about the end-use of items as systematically as possible. A number of Flemish component suppliers have an internal policy whereby they systematically ask their customers about this: an important corollary is that implementing such a policy is not a matter of course for every company.

This investigation has in fact shown that, despite the difficulties outlined above, there are real possibilities for the authorities to gain greater insight into the eventual end-use of Flemish defence items than is currently the case. For reliable monitoring of end-use it is of utmost importance that the Flemish authorities not only take this task of information exchange seriously by completing the required information-sharing as thoroughly as possible, but also make sufficient resources available to carry out information exchange and control of end-use efficiently. Finally, the Peace Institute concluded that not only is it becoming harder for the authorities to follow up on the end-use of the trade flows it has licensed, but parliamentary oversight of the role of end-use in the arms export policy will also become significantly more difficult following implementation of the European Directive with regard to intra-Community trade and the new Flemish Arms Trade Act. The challenge will be to report as transparently as possible about licences issued under the new licensing system being introduced. This should help enable the Flemish Parliament to follow-up on and monitor the licensing policy, and in particular the end-use of military equipment made in Flanders.

For more information see:

Made in Flanders: the end-use of Flemish military equipment

Author: Nils Duquet

Brussels, 13 December 2011 - ISBN 9789078864479, 156 p.

1.1.3 The European defence market and control of arms trade

In 2010, the Peace Institute kept close watch on European developments with regard to arms trade and arms production. Initiatives at the European level have, indeed, important consequences for Flemish arms trade policy and for the Flemish defence industry. Follow-up at the European level focuses in particular on the implementation in a new Flemish Arms Trade Act of the European Directive from 2009 on intra-Community trade in arms and military equipment.

Additionally, in 2011 an extensive report was published on the European defence market conference that the Peace Institute had organized during the Belgian EU Presidency. This event enquired into the delicate balance between security-related objectives, and economic ambitions in the arms trade sector. The discussion of arms trade and the European defence market threw up some apparent issues about underlying political choices that will shape the nature of the EU as a global actor.

For more information see:

The EU Defence Market: balancing effectiveness with responsibility

Authors: Alyson JK Bailes & Sara Depauw (eds.)

Brussels, 15 September - ISBN 9789078864455, 92 p.

1.1.4 Dutch-language summary of the SIPRI Yearbook 2011

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's Yearbook (*SIPRI Yearbook*) contains original data from numerous fields such as global military expenditure, international arms trade, arms production, the nuclear powers, major armed conflicts and multilateral peace operations, together with the most recent analyses of important aspects of arms control, peace and international security. The Yearbook is a collaborative effort among SIPRI researchers and external experts.

The SIPRI Yearbook was first published in 1969 and 2011 saw its 42nd edition. Since 2005, the Flemish Peace Institute has undertaken the Dutch translation and publication of a summary version of this Yearbook.

The 2011 edition of the SIPRI Yearbook particularly featured the topics of corruption and arms trade, natural resources and armed conflicts, and the fragile consensus for peace operations.

For more information see:

SIPRI Yearbook 2011 - Summary in Dutch by the Flemish Peace Institute
Brussels, 22 September 2011 - 24 p.

1.2 Firearms

In its annual report on Flemish foreign arms trade in 2008, the Peace Institute noted a significant increase in the value of licensed imports of small arms and light weapons and related equipment in Flanders. Between 2005 and 2008 the value of licensed imports of these items rose from 5.4 to 13.4 million euro. Imports of ammunition also increased dramatically: from 1.7 million euro in 2005 to 9.1 million euro in 2008. Licensed imports of rifles, revolvers, and similar small arms and light weapons in 2008 doubled compared with imports in 2005.

These research findings resulted in a number of questions and a debate in the Flemish Parliament, and in 2009 the Peace Institute launched a research project aimed at supplementing and more thoroughly analysing the relevant data, and illuminating the legal and social context. Despite much lively debate about firearms and over legislation on the matter, there has often been a remarkable dearth of objective data or analyses providing a full picture of the situation. Through its research, the Flemish Peace Institute has been able to fill that gap by illuminating a broad range of aspects of the trade, possession, and use of firearms.

On 15 March 2011, the Peace Institute presented the book ‘Vuurwapens: handel, bezit en gebruik’ (Firearms: Trafficking, Possession and Use - published by Acco) to the Flemish Parliament. This book is a definitive work providing an overview of trafficking, possession and use of firearms in Belgium. The analyses for this study were based not only on an extensive study of the literature on the subject, but also on new data gleaned from the most recent statistics. Further, the Institute conducted a unique survey for the project amongst all stakeholders and addressed a questionnaire to more than 1,000 citizens. This study has, for the first time in Belgium, presented a comprehensive view of all activities involving firearms; evaluated the Weapons Act; investigated the social background, and explored the correlation of firearms possession with mortality rates.

The Belgian Weapons Act

Until 2006, possession of firearms in Belgium was regulated under the 1933 Weapons Act. This was a less than strict regulation: a licence was only required for a limited category of weapons of war, while the rest were freely available to adults. For instance, the latter could simply buy a hunting rifle or revolver by showing their identity card. This regulation came under pressure in the 1980s, among other reasons because of the violent acts of the Nijvel Gang and the CCC (Cellules Communistes Combattantes). The European Union also demanded stricter regulations. Step by step, the old Weapons Act was modified in such a way that it became complex and incoherent. In the early 2000s an entirely new Weapons Act was introduced onto the political agenda. The government and parliament worked on it, but political opinions about a new Weapons Act were extremely divided and consultations with the relevant stakeholders proved to be heavy going.

On 11 May 2006, Belgium was shaken by the murderous attacks by Hans Van Tamsche in Antwerp. Two people lost their lives, including a two-year old child. Van Tamsche committed his crimes with a freely accessible hunting rifle that he had purchased earlier that day. These events acted like an 'electric shock': approval of a new Weapons Act followed soon thereafter. On 9 June 2006, a new Act was published in the Belgian Official Journal, introducing a stricter control regime. The introduction of the new Weapons Act took place so quickly that problems with its practical implementation, and heavy resistance from certain interest groups, were inevitable. In order to solve various problems, a number of points in the Weapons Act were adjusted in 2008. These adjustments, together with major efforts by the authorities to put the Act into practice, have ensured that the Belgian Weapons Act is currently stable and generates few protests.

The most fundamental question when formulating a Weapons Act is: may private citizens possess a firearm? A first option is to entirely forbid possession of firearms. A second option is to allow

everyone to possess a firearm. A third possibility is allowing firearm possession for certain individuals under certain conditions. The pre-2006 Belgian Weapons Act chose the second option: firearms possession was in practice virtually unrestricted. The new Belgian Weapons Act opted for the third option: only those who have a 'legal reason' may own a firearm.

This Belgian Weapons Act establishes three categories of firearms: forbidden firearms, freely available firearms and firearms requiring a licence. Forbidden firearms are firearms that cannot be owned under any circumstances, such as automatic pistols, guns with a silencer or guns with a sawn-off barrel. Freely available firearms are firearms that everyone can possess without a licence, for instance, firearms that have been made definitively inoperable or antique guns with a historical, folkloric or decorative value (HFD firearms). Ammunition for these firearms may not be currently available. Firearms requiring a licence are all those firearms that are neither forbidden nor freely accessible. In order to possess and use these, it is necessary to request a licence and satisfy various preconditions. A person must above all have a 'legal reason' to possess that firearm. Firearms requiring a licence are, for instance, hunting rifles, pistols and carbines. The former Belgian Weapons Act assumed that all firearms that were not on the list of forbidden firearms were freely available. The new Act reverses this logic: all firearms not listed among the forbidden or freely available firearms now require a licence.

The Belgian Weapons Act establishes many preconditions for eligibility for a licence to possess a firearm: one must be of age, have no criminal record, no previous history of psychiatric problems, have a theoretical test diploma, a medical certificate and a 'legal reason'. Belgians can only obtain a firearms licence for: hunting, target shooting, practicing a high-risk occupation, gun collecting, or participation in historical or folkloric activities. The Weapons Act also provides for the possibility of 'passive firearms possession', whereby - for instance - heirs who inherit a legal firearm may keep that firearm on condition that they only retain possession of the firearm itself and not the ammunition for it.

Five years after the new Weapons Act, it appears from a survey of all stakeholders (administrations, police, hunters, marksmen, etc.) and from a survey of 1,000 Belgians that the balance-sheet of the new Weapons Act is positive. The clear legal framework, whereby people can only possess a firearm if they have a legal reason, enjoys wide support (75% of the population). Only a small minority wishes to return to a more flexible system (9%) or would like to see a complete ban on possession of firearms (16%). Furthermore, in recent years there have been fewer fatalities as a result of firearms. The number of suicides by means of a firearm in the period 2006-2008 has declined by more than a third in comparison to the period 2000-2005.

While the balance is generally positive, there are still a number of problems with the current regulations, the most significant relating to historical, folkloric and decorative firearms ('HFD firearms'). Under the new Weapons Act, these are still freely obtainable: no licence is needed to own these firearms. Which firearms belong to the HFD category is determined in a list, which is currently quite extensive: it includes types of widely available firearms that are not really rare or historical. While it is forbidden to own the ammunition for these firearms, sometimes it is still easily found, potentially creating a loophole in the Weapons Act. Furthermore, Belgian regulation in this regard is not consistent with the European Firearms Directive.

Facts and figures about firearms in Belgium

It is often said that there are 1.5 to 2 million firearms in our society. It is not clear where this estimate comes from and on what it is based. It is virtually impossible to make a well-founded estimate of private firearm possession in Belgium. There is uncertainty regarding the scope of the possession of legal as well as illegal firearms.

There is no registration requirement for freely obtainable firearms, mainly antique guns for which no licence is necessary, and thus nobody knows how many of these types of firearms are in circulation.

The number of firearms requiring a licence, for instance for hunting or marksmanship, is in principle kept track of in the Central Weapons Registry (CWR), a database of the federal authorities. The CWR, however, is not always entirely reliable: firearms are sometimes registered late, erroneously or not at all. Still, the CWR is a unique tool with potential to develop into an important source of information about legal and illegal possession of firearms. There are approximately 410,000 people registered in the CFR as currently owning a firearm, which represents 4% of the Belgian population. Collectively they own approximately 740,000 registered firearms. Based upon successive surveys, we also know that the possession of firearms has sharply declined in Belgium in the last decade. In 1989, 17% of families claimed to own a firearm; in 2010 that figure was 5%. In a European perspective, Belgium is around average when it comes to firearm ownership.

Who owns these guns? Traditionally, hunting is one of the most significant activities for which private individuals use firearms. Approximately 12,000 hunting permits are issued in the Flemish region annually; more than 17,000 are issued in the Walloon region. A hunter has on average around four registered firearms. Marksmen may also own and use a gun. In order to practise their hobby, marksmen must be members of a shooting club, which is in turn a member of a recognized shooting sports federation. There are more than 27,000 marksmen in Flanders with a marksmen's licence. Some marksmen do not shoot with firearms for which a licence is required, but with freely obtainable airguns. Finally, there are also the collectors: there are an estimated 900 recognized gun collectors in Belgium. A recognized gun collector owns on average 25 registered firearms. These must fit within a theme, for instance: the same manufacturer, a particular conflict or a historical period.

Private individuals can go to recognized gun dealers to purchase firearms. At present, in Belgium there are approximately 180 retailers trading in weapons and ammunitions. Most businesses focus exclusively on a particular market sector, such as hunting or marksmanship.

Dealers obtain a large proportion of the weapons that they sell in Belgium from abroad. The necessary import licences must be requested from the competent authorities for imports of these weapons. In Flanders this means the Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit. The value of licensed imports of firearms has increased sharply in recent years: from 1.3 million euro in 2005 to 3.4 million euro in 2009. This increase can partly be explained by a rising demand for firearms from the police services, in connection with a drive to harmonize the service weapons of the various Belgian police districts. Another partial explanation for the rise is the growing import of historical, folkloric and decorative firearms. These so-called HFD weapons are freely obtainable and can simply be sold by dealers to private individuals without a licence. Due to a significant expansion of the list of HFD weapons in 2007, the demand for these weapons has risen sharply. A number of dealers reacted to this by purchasing HFD weapons abroad on a large scale in order to then sell them in Belgium to Belgian and foreign individuals.

For more information see:

Vuurwapens: handel, bezit en gebruik (Firearms: trafficking, possession and use)
Authors: Nils Duquet & Maarten Van Alstein
Acco Publishers, Leuven, 15 March 2011 - ISBN 9789033484919, 243 p.

1.3 *Dual-use items*

1.3.1 *Annual report on the Flemish foreign trade in dual-use items*

Together with licensed trade in military equipment, the Flemish Peace Institute also monitors licences issued and denied by the Flemish authorities for imports, exports and transit of dual-use items. Every spring, the Institute publishes an annual report with statistics, analyses and interpretation of developments in trade from and to Flanders. On 31 May 2011, the annual report "Flemish foreign trade in dual-use items 2010" was published and delivered to the Flemish Parliament's Committee for Foreign Policy, European Affairs and International Cooperation.

Dual-use items are items that are not developed specifically for military purposes, but can nonetheless have a military application. Exports of these dual-use items are governed by Regulation (EC) 428/2009, which is directly applicable throughout the European Union. There is an important distinction between the transfer of dual-use items within the EU, exports of these products to 'friendly' countries, and exports to 'other' countries.

Intra-Community transfer

With the exception of a number of nuclear-related items, no licence is required for the transfer of dual-use items to other EU Member States. The total scale of transfers of dual-use items from Flanders thus cannot be estimated on the basis of the licences issued. In 2010, Flanders issued 16 individual licences for the transfer of nuclear materials (CAT0) to seven EU Member States. They mainly concerned the transfer of special fissile materials.

Exports to 'friendly' countries

For exports to seven 'friendly' countries (Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, and the United States), a Community general export licence applies for most dual-use items, which in practice means that no further licence applications need be made in EU Member States for this trade. This means that here also, we are unable to estimate the overall scale of dual-use exports to 'friendly' countries. For the products for which a specific licence is required, 20 individual licences and one global licence were applied for in 2010. Most licence applications related to exports of nuclear materials (CAT0), but some were also submitted for special materials (CAT1).

Exports to 'other' countries

Flanders issued 87 individual licences and 51 global licences in 2010 for exports to 'other' countries outside the EU.

The individual licences related to a specific transaction, in particular to cases where a business wanted to export specific licensable products to one specified recipient in one specified country. Electronics (CAT3) and special materials and related equipment (CAT1) represented respectively half and a third of the value of individually licensed exports of dual-use items in Flanders in 2010. Further, individual licences were also issued for exports of products for information security (CAT5), materials processing (CAT2), sensors and lasers (CAT6), nuclear materials (CAT0) and receiving equipment for Global Navigation Satellite Systems (CAT7). The total value of individual licences issued was 42.7 million euro. This is a significant decline relative to previous years, mainly because applications for exports of special materials and related equipment (CAT1) were increasingly made for global licences instead of individual licences.

Global licences are not issued for a specified individual transaction, but allow a Flemish exporter to export a number of pre-specified items to all countries included in the licence, within the value of the

licence. The combined value of global licences issued in 2010 amounted to 429.3 million euro. However, since Flemish businesses apply for global licences to export their products to a broad range of potential clients, we know that this definitely overestimates the value of actual exports of these products under global licence. While global licences issued in 2010 for exports to ‘other’ countries listed 9.3 recipient countries on average, approximately half of these global licences had only one recipient country. Most global licences are issued for exports of special materials and related equipment (CAT1), but many licences were also issued in 2010 for products for information security (CAT5). A restriction was imposed on end-users under 18 global licences in total.

In order to avoid undesirable end-use, such as the development of weapons of mass destruction, as far as possible, the dual-use regulation includes a catch-all clause enabling exports of ‘free’ products to be made subject to licensing obligation. In 2010, the Flemish authorities issued six individual licences with a combined value of 5.2 million euro on the basis of this catch-all clause.

In 2010, the Flemish authorities denied a total of nine applications for an export licence for dual-use items. This was more than in previous years.

For more information see:

Flemish foreign trade in dual-use items 2010

Author: Nils Duquet

Brussels, 31 May 2011 - ISBN 9789078864424

1.3.2 Investigation into the legal framework for trade in dual-use items

In 2011, together with facts and figures, the Peace Institute also published a comprehensive analysis of the existing legal framework for trade in dual-use items.

As mentioned above, dual-use items are civilian products which can be used in their entirety or in part in military applications (for conventional military purposes as well as for weapons of mass destruction). As a result dual-use items are also considered as strategic goods, trade in which must be controlled by the authorities under international agreements. The trade in dual-use items, unlike that in military products, is subjected to the European Union’s Community legislation as part of the common trade policy. This trade is governed by Council Regulation (EC) 428/2009 for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items, which is directly applicable in all EU Member States. In Belgium, however, the regional authorities are responsible for implementing this policy, and the Flemish Government still needs to take a number of implementing measures for this purpose. In its research, the Peace Institute provided an overview of the applicable legislation for (foreign) trade in dual-use items, the division of competences, control policy as it is presently organized in Flanders, and the implementing measures that the Flemish authorities still must or may take to ensure correct application of the regulation. Given that the legal basis for the current control measures and sanctions relating to dual-use items is the federal Act of 11 September 1962 governing imports, exports and transit of such products, and that all implementing measures are currently reflected in administrative procedures, our research concluded that there is reason to create a Flemish Act or implementing decrees also for trade in dual-use items, which would enshrine (at least) the most essential implementing measures.

For more information see:

The legal framework for the control on trade in dual-use items in Flanders

Author: Sara Depauw

Brussels - 25/05/2011 - ISBN 9789078864448, 40 p.

Since violence is a manifest problem for society, simply stopping or preventing it is an obvious first step in the right direction; but dealing with conflicts demands much more, namely addressing the underlying factors as well.

In its Peace and Society Programme, the Peace Institute focuses on potential sources of violence and looks for their likely causes. Further, the Institute examines social processes that are conducive to conditions for peace, at local and at international level. This research takes its starting point from specific problems or from striking observations that require further analysis. What role does violence play in the lives of young people? How do people deal with the commemoration and the remembrance of conflicts? And what is the impact of democratic political structures on peace?

As the meaning of peace depends on the social, political, economic, and cultural context in which the concept is used, continual reflection is needed on the concepts and definitions employed; and attention is always paid to this during the Institute's research.

Details of publications, networking and activities within this programme can be found in the second part of this annual report. The following sections explain the aim and content of the research activities under each related project.

2.1 *Peace education*

Within the Peace Institute's research programme on Peace and Society, a research project on peace education has been ongoing since 2007. In it, the Peace Institute examines what exactly peace education entails and how it is implemented in practice, inter alia in our educational system. The Peace Institute accordingly seeks insights into peace education in general and the form it takes in Flanders in particular.

In an earlier phase, a survey was carried out charting recent peace education initiatives in the education sector. Further research was undertaken to include a conceptual dimension and an inventory of the existing range of peace education initiatives in Flanders. The research looked at the actual or potential content of the idea of peace education, and at the means of implementation, the characteristics, and the sub-categories attached to it. This analysis resulted in a set of parameters defining peace education, which is being used to map out the range of peace education initiatives on offer in Flanders.

The Peace Institute further pursued this research in 2011, inter alia through continuous updating, dissemination, and the promotion of a web portal about peace-educational projects for the Flemish educational system.

For more information see:

The Peace Education database is accessible at www.vlaamsvredesinstituut.eu/vredesopvoeding (in Dutch)

2.2 *Commemoration and remembrance*

In 2010, the Peace Institute started a new research project on the topic of commemoration and remembrance. War and political violence can cause deep rifts and schisms in societies and among states. In the aftermath of violent conflicts, societies have to find a place for these painful, traumatic events in their collective memory, *inter alia* in the form of commemorations. History shows that commemoration can take place in various ways. Historically speaking, such reminders have often contributed to keeping social and inter-state conflicts and tensions alive. At the same time, commemorations can also provide an incentive and stimulus for movements to prevent and ban wars and violent conflicts, based on the experience and the memory of appalling violence. Commemorations and collective memory then contribute to underpinning the practice of peace, and, by recognising mutual suffering, to bringing about reconciliation. The Peace Institute investigated the role of commemoration and remembrance in general, but also focused on current commemoration practices, *inter alia* in the run-up to the commemoration of the Centenary of the First World War.

An earlier analysis by the Peace Institute of traditional commemorative practices and of literature devoted to commemoration and remembrance has, however, drawn attention to a need to think about the contemporary meaning and relevance of these war commemorative events, particularly in the context of the commemoration of the Centenary of the First World War. A research project concerning this resulted in the 2011 report, "The Great War Remembered: Commemoration and Peace in Flanders Fields".

The Flemish authorities have in fact made it one of the objectives of their project for the WWI Centenary in 2014-2018 that the commemorations should convey a message of peace. The Institute's research project explored how this objective can be achieved. It did so, firstly, by investigating the conditions under which peace-oriented war commemoration can be normatively and historically justified. Secondly, based on a survey of stakeholders and active experts, it examined how contemporary commemorations can be linked to the idea of peace in practice.

Historical perspective

A historical perspective on the commemoration of the First World War teaches us that there is a long and many-sided tradition of peace-oriented war commemoration. This has been propagated both by local actors and peace movements and by authorities on different levels. At the same time, an initial historical review reveals a complex diversity of commemoration traditions that invoke history in their various ways. Consequently, peace-oriented forms of commemoration are less self-evident than they may seem at first glance. The question arises, for instance, how peace-oriented war commemoration should relate to commemorative practices that spread messages other than the idea of peace. There is also an issue about the relationship between memory and history.

A critical analysis of commemoration, history and peace

In its research, the Peace Institute sought out the critical conditions under which peace-oriented war commemoration can be normatively and historically justified.

First of all, it examined how war commemorations that want to spread the idea of peace can relate to commemorative traditions that seek to assign a different meaning to the past. Here it became clear that peace-oriented war commemoration should not only convey a message of peace, but should also strive for a peaceful culture of remembrance. This implies that the diversity in war commemoration should be acknowledged and that other forms of remembrance should be approached through open dialogue.

Secondly, the area of tension between history and remembrance – or between historiography and public memory – was examined more closely, and some criticisms by historians regarding

contemporary remembrance practices were discussed. To address this criticism, a distinction was made between two 'remembrance logics'. The first logic starts from a current objective and appeals to the past as a means to achieve that objective. The second logic, on the other hand, starts from the past itself and assumes that the diverse stories that are told about the war create an awareness of the horrors of war as well as of the value of peace. The Peace Institute's study concluded that the second logic offers better guarantees of avoiding the risk of a unilateral, anachronistic and possibly manipulative approach to history.

Peace-oriented war commemoration in practice

A survey was used in order to draw on the expertise of stakeholders and practitioners concerning war commemoration, heritage, remembrance tourism, remembrance education and so forth. Two methods for linking war commemoration to the idea of peace emerged from the survey. An explicit approach opts for formulating the message of peace expressly, for instance on information panels and in brochures. An implicit approach, which was represented most strongly in the survey, lets the idea of peace grow from the bottom up by telling stories about regular soldiers, citizens and children who experienced the destructive impact of the war in their daily lives.

The Peace Institute commended the second approach, on the understanding that the historical framework and the structural mechanisms and dynamics making war possible should not be neglected. Other conclusions were as follows:

>> The international dimension of the commemoration project provides the ideal context in which to look for a balance between the transmission of a message of peace, and the recognition of the diversity of remembrance traditions. This is an exercise in diplomacy which could in itself be a symbol for a peace-oriented approach to commemoration.

>> The architectural heritage of the war (cemeteries, memorials and landscapes) will play an important role in the commemoration project. This heritage originated from a specific historical context. Peace-oriented war commemoration must respect the historical meaning of heritage. On information panels, in brochures and during guided tours, visitors can by all means be encouraged to reflect critically on war and peace.

>> During the 2014-2018 commemoration period, remembrance events will be set up at the local as well as international levels. Cultural war heritage will play a significant role in this. One of the aspects emphasized in the survey is the importance of specific stories of soldiers and citizens, as well as of art and culture. As concerns formal remembrance ceremonies, two options emerged from the survey. One group of respondents argued in favour of the reform of these ceremonies so that they can reach a broader audience. Another group advocated the idea of maintaining these classic forms of commemoration out of respect for the groups who have traditionally played a role in those ceremonies. This does not exclude a certain measure of renewal, on condition that one always looks for a balance between old and new.

>> Remembrance tourism offers possibilities for conveying a message of peace, but as an economic activity it also involves risks, for instance when a commercial logic determines which stories are told about the past. Some respondents were very critical about remembrance tourism, while others tried to find a balance between the characteristics of tourism and those of remembrance. There was unanimity, however, on the point that tourism should always pay attention to the ethical framework of remembrance. This concern is reflected in the concept 'tourism+', which has been proposed by the authorities with a view to the expected increase in tourism in the context of the Centenary.

>> Education is an important component in the remembrance project. The intention is to set up all kinds of remembrance and peace educational projects for all levels and forms of education on the occasion of the Centenary of the First World War. In the survey, respondents underlined the importance of active types of projects, such as exchange programmes, site visits and creative tasks in

which new media are used, as well as telling stories that fit in with young people's worlds. When setting up educational projects it is important that attention be given to finding a balance between knowledge and experience.

The study concluded that the authorities can concretize their commitment to peace-oriented remembrance in three steps. First of all, the authorities can develop a remembrance philosophy in which they indicate how they want to link the commemoration of the First World War to the idea of peace. This philosophy can be communicated by means of a vision document, brochures, speeches, and so on. Secondly, this remembrance philosophy needs to be put into effect wherever possible and insofar as it lies within the authorities' purview. Finally, this peace-oriented remembrance philosophy needs to be disseminated 'at the negotiation table of remembrance and commemoration'.

For more information see:

The Great War Remembered: Commemoration and Peace in Flanders Fields

Author: Maarten Van Alstein

Brussels, 8 November 2011 - ISBN 9789078864486, 88 p.

2.3 *Youth and violence*

'Youth and violence'... the theme not infrequently invokes strong feelings and heated discussions, where young people themselves are seen first and foremost as the problem. The media, politicians, and scientific researchers have been giving serious attention to the phenomenon, and the conviction that youth are becoming increasingly violent is now widely accepted. Policy makers have taken a host of preventative and repressive measures in response to this social concern. The view that youth violence has increased in recent years, however, is rarely founded on a scientific analysis. Furthermore, the perceptions and opinions of young people themselves are hardly ever given proper consideration in the ongoing debate.

From prior research carried out by the Peace Institute ("Peace in Flanders") it appears that young people have an ambivalent attitude towards violence. On the one hand, young people often undertake targeted political action to promote peace or non-violence, such as demonstrations, signing petitions or donating money. On the other hand, youth in general have a higher tendency to use violence themselves. More generally speaking, violence by and against young people has a direct and significant personal and social impact.

Following up on this, in 2009, the Peace Institute started a research project "Youth and Violence" in collaboration with the Leuven Institute for Criminology (LINC) of the Law Faculty at the K.U. Leuven. This study collated recent data available in Flanders about youth violence. Besides taking a critical look at the extant figures, it made a new in-depth analysis of statistics from the YRP or Youth Research Platform and the Safety Monitor. This quantitative section offered an outline of the scope, nature, and development of the problem. The results of new qualitative research into the attitudes and perceptions of young people themselves were also integrated. The results of this research were collated into the book, "Youth and Violence", which was published by the Peace Institute on 26 May 2011 through Acco Publishers.

Figures and trends

In order to determine the scope of youth violence, we need figures about youth as victims and perpetrators of violence. There are two types of figures: official figures and self-reported figures. Both types have their limitations, but together offer the best available picture. Figures about youth violence

must therefore be treated with due caution. By using both types of data and remaining conscious of their limitations, the Peace Institute has mapped the scope of youth violence.

Official figures show that youth violence mainly has to do with 'assault and battery'. This accounts for 80% of the cases concerning acts of violence that are brought before juvenile court. Official figures on the percentage of young people who commit acts of violence, however, do not exist - though a number of self-reporting studies are indeed available. These show that a minority of young people are involved.

The justice system and the police compile various statistics about young people who, either as victim or offender, come into contact with the police or appear before the juvenile court judge. Criminality figures concern actual youth violence, but also reflect the actions and priorities of the police and prosecutors. The figures depend upon reports of violence, which in turn are determined by the social sensitivity of some acts. Policy priorities also play a role. Finally, an (unknown) number of violent offences will not be found in the official statistics because they were not reported to the police. Violent crimes that do not appear on the radars of police and justice are called the 'dark number'. By asking the youth population about their experiences with violence by means of a representative survey, we learned more about youth violence that is not registered by the official authorities. The reliability of self-reporting, however, depends upon, inter alia: the quality of the survey, the extent to which questions are answered honestly, and the effects of memory.

Figures from the Youth Research Platform (YRP)'s Monitor, a 2007 survey of a representative sample of 3,710 Flemish youth, outline the most recent image of the scope of youth violence in Flanders. According to the figures, in the foregoing year an average of 4% of young people had 'assaulted someone such that this person sustained injuries'. Youth violence is indeed closely related to age and there is a major difference between boys and girls: among boys 16 to 21 years of age, the percentage of offenders peaked at around 20%. An international comparison of acts of youth violence in cities showed that the figures for Belgium in 2006 (3.9%) were lower than in our neighbouring countries Germany (8.3%), the Netherlands (6.6%) and France (4.6%).

The most recent YRP figures show that in the foregoing year, 5% of all young people had been threatened with a weapon. Approximately the same percentage of youth (5.5%) was the victim of physical violence in the previous year. Again, this primarily concerns youth from 16 to 21 years of age. An international comparison at the urban level in 2006 showed that the proportion of victims of physical violence in Belgium (2.8%) is lower than in Germany (6.1%), but higher than in, for instance, Finland (2.4%), Sweden (2.3%) or Spain (1.2%). Compared to the rest of the population, young people aged 15-24 are more often the victims of physical violence. These findings contradict the socially dominant image in which youth are seen as potential offenders rather than potential victims of violence.

The question whether violence has become more prevalent among youth in recent years proved more difficult to answer, due to a lack of reliable and comparable figures over the long term. According to the results of the YRP Monitor, it appeared that perpetration of violence in the short period between 2005 and 2008 remained stable. In any case, thus far no scientific evidence has been found to support the oft-heard claim that an increasing number of young people are committing violent acts. The YRP Monitor also showed no shifts between 2005 and 2008 concerning victimhood among youth. The Safety Monitor, a different survey, revealed that between 1998 and 2008 the number of young victims of violence remained stable.

Profile of offenders

Official figures from justice and the police made clear that most registered violent offences were perpetrated by boys. Girls hardly appeared in the criminality statistics as perpetrators. From an investigation into 'steaming', for instance, it appeared that nearly all the perpetrators (94%) were boys. The 'gender gap' was also confirmed by self-reported figures. According to the results of the Youth

Research Platform (YRP) Monitor, for instance, 1.4% of girls perpetrated physical violence, as compared to 7% of boys.

Perpetration of physical violence differs strongly among the various age groups. Youth from 16-21 years of age commit violent acts much more often than other age categories: nearly 20% as opposed to an average of 4% of all youth. The experimental behaviour of boys of this age does not necessarily lead to criminality, but usually disappears once they reach young adulthood. From police and justice figures, it appears that 'real' youth delinquents who commit multiple acts of violence constitute a minority. These form a sub-group that accumulates crimes and convictions. Of the approximately 4% of youth who commit violence, most are only guilty of committing an act of violence on one occasion and most do not get involved in other forms of criminality.

Young peoples' situation at home and the type of education they follow have a limited influence on whether or not they commit acts of violence. What does play a role is in particular how they spend their leisure time. The more often that young people go out with friends, the greater the chance that they will commit violence. Violence is primarily committed in groups and in 'high-risk situations'. Self-esteem also plays a role: young people with lower self-esteem are more often offenders.

Profile of victims

According to figures from the YRP monitor, boys become victims of physical violence and of threats with a weapon approximately 3 times more often than girls. Girls are victims noticeably more often than boys only in the case of sexual violence and feeling threatened for sexual reasons. Girls are also more likely to feel insecure in response to potential threats because for them, the danger of sexual violence is always lurking.

The age group of young people most at risk of violence is the same as that of those who most often perpetrate violence: there is a peak at the age of 18 to 19, particularly among boys. According to YRP figures, one in five boys (20%) within this age group is the victim of physical violence.

Just as with the perpetrators, family and school factors do not play a decisive role as to whether or not one becomes a victim of violence. However, leisure time factors are significant: the more often young people go out and spend time with friends, the greater the chance they will become the victim of violence. Young people with lower self-esteem also run a higher risk.

Connection between offenderhood and victimhood

The Peace Institute re-analyzed the profiles of perpetrators and victims in relation to the same categories of sex, age and use of leisure time. Perpetrators as well as victims of youth violence are primarily boys between the ages of 16 and 21 who spend much time with their friends: i.e., young people of the same age who circulate in the same environment. There is thus a remarkable homogeneity between perpetrators and victims: the same categories of youth who commit violence run a greater risk of becoming the victim of violence. This connection can be explained by their similar lifestyles, which more often bring them into high-risk situations. There is thus an indirect relationship between being a perpetrator and being a victim: perpetrators and victims share the same profile, style of life and activities. However, there is also a direct relationship between being a perpetrator and a victim. Perpetrators of physical violence had a seven times greater chance of also being the victim of physical violence.

Many claims are made about youth violence: youth are said to be increasingly violent, offenders are becoming younger and younger and the violence itself more brutal. The absence of any scientific evidence for these popular myths about youth violence does not mean that we should not be concerned about violence committed by and against youth. There is an urgent need for improved record-keeping and more research in order to gain a better view of the issue. Further, violence plays a real part in young people's lives. While the available data show a relatively small percentage of youth coming into

direct contact with violence, young people have no difficulty describing a relatively recent experience with violence, whether as perpetrator, victim or bystander. Again, the 5% or so of all youth who become the perpetrators and/or victims of violence in reality still amounts to a large number. Hence the importance of paying serious attention to youth violence. Accurate data, correct contextualizing of the problem, and participation by young people themselves can help in this regard.

For more information see:

Jongeren en geweld: dader- en slachtofferschap gemeten en beleefd (Youth and Violence: Offenderhood and Victimhood measured and experienced)

Authors: Evi Verdonck, Diederik Cops, Stefaan Pleysier and Johan Put
Acco Publishers, Leuven, 26 May 2011 - ISBN 9789033484896, 246 p.

3 Support for parliamentary activities

The Peace Institute supports the Flemish Parliament's activities through research (see chapters 1 and 2), publishing advisory notes (see 3.2), developing a documentation centre (see 3.3), and by contributing to meetings and organizing work visits and conferences (see 3.1). In the following sections, the direct support given to the Flemish Parliament is further illustrated by an account of the Peace Institute's involvement in parliamentary work, an overview of the advice issued, and information on the documentation collection of the Parliamentary Information Centre.

3.1 *Involvement in parliamentary activities*

Committee meetings

On 13 January 2011, Director Tomas Baum presented the Peace Institute's annual report to the Flemish Parliament Committee for Education and Equal Opportunities. Discussion mainly concerned the research of the Peace Institute into peace education and preparations for the commemoration of the Centenary of the First World War.

On 10 May 2011, there was an exchange of ideas in the Flemish Parliament Committee for General Policy with the Director and Chairman of the Peace Institute concerning the International Day of Peace on 21 September.

The annual report on the Flemish foreign arms trade in 2010 and the advice of the Flemish Peace Institute informed the debate held in the Committee for Foreign Policy, European Affairs, and International Cooperation about the 2010 Annual Report from the Flemish Government to the Flemish Parliament on licences issued and denied for arms, ammunition, and materials specifically intended for use by the military or law enforcement agencies and their associated technology.

On 25 October, the Peace Institute presented its activities during the last working year in the Flemish Parliament Committee for Foreign Policy, European Affairs and International Cooperation. Attention was drawn in the process to previously published research about Flemish arms trade, a new Flemish Arms Trade Act, possession and use of firearms in our country, and preparations for commemoration of the Centenary of the First World War. The Institute's evaluation by the Parliament and strategic planning for the future were also addressed.

On 13 December 2011, the Peace Institute presented the report "Made in Flanders: the end-use of Flemish military equipment", to the Flemish Parliament Committee for Foreign Policy. Based *inter alia* on 15 specific case studies, the report provided an answer to the questions, 'Where does Flemish military equipment end up?' and 'For what is it used in practice?'. In the run-up to the discussion of a new Flemish Arms Trade Act, this study for the first time gave an insight into the actual end-use of Flemish defence products.

Working visit

From 19 to 21 September 2011, a delegation from the Flemish Parliament and the Flemish Peace Institute paid a working visit to Barcelona with the theme of conflict resolution at school. This working visit took place in collaboration with the Evans Foundation and the International Catalan Institute for Peace (ICIP). The programme included, among other things, a visit to a school where a project from the Escola de Cultura de Pau is ongoing, an exchange seminar with organizations from various European countries working on conflict resolution, and the awarding of the "Evans Prize for Peace Education 2011".

Led by the delegation chairman, members of the Flemish Parliament also paid a visit to the Catalan Parliament where they had a meeting with the Speaker of the Parliament and a working meeting with the Catalan Parliament's Committees for Education and International Relations.

The delegation comprised the following members:

Flemish Members of Parliament:

Boudewijn Bouckaert - Chairman of the Committee for Education and Equal Opportunities

Ann Brusseel

Bart Caron

Frank Creyelman - Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Policy

Tom Dehaene

Marc Hendrickx

Chris Janssens

Fatma Pehlivan

Jan Verfaillie

Members of the Board of Directors

Nelly Maes - Chair

Philip Nauwelaerts - Vice-chairman

Annemie Charlier

Jan Clement

Olivia Rutazibwa

Scientific Secretariat staff

Tomas Baum - Director

Wies De Graeve - Communications Officer

Marjolein Muys - Researcher

Participation by Flemish Members of Parliament

On 10 February 2011, the Peace Institute, together with SIPRI (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute), organized a seminar in the Flemish Parliament to debate recent developments concerning 'nuclear governance'. This seminar was chaired by Flemish Member of Parliament Kris Van Dijck.

On 15 March 2011, Flemish Members of Parliament Fientje Moerman and Jan Roegiers formed a respondent panel for the presentation of the Peace Institute's book, "Firearms: Trafficking, possession and use" in the 'Pillar Hall' of the Flemish Parliament.

The Peace Institute presented its annual report, "Flemish foreign arms trade 2011" in the Rik Wouters Room of the Flemish Parliament on 30 March 2011. This presentation was presided over by Flemish member of Parliament Frank Creyelman, Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Policy, European Affairs and International Cooperation

On 26 May 2011, Flemish member of Parliament Sabine Poleyn responded to the presentation of the book "Jongeren en geweld: dader- en slachtofferschap gemeten en beleefd" (Youth and Violence: Offenderhood and Victimhood measured and experienced) in the Van Eyck Room of the Flemish Parliament.

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the operational start of the Flemish Peace Institute in 2006, the start of Flemish Peace Week, the International Day of Peace and the publication of the Dutch-language summary of the SIPRI Yearbook 2011, on 22 September the Peace Institute organized the colloquium 'Military expenditures under debate' in the Flemish Parliament. Mr. Jan Peumans, President of the Flemish Parliament, delivered the welcome address for this celebratory colloquium.

The Peace Institute's report "The Great War Remembered: Commemoration and Peace in Flanders Fields" was presented in the 'Pillar Hall' of the Flemish Parliament on 8 November 2011. A panel of Flemish members of Parliament with Lieven Dehandschutter, Luckas Van Der Taelen and Johan Verstreken gave an initial reaction to the research results.

The Peace Institute also welcomed members of Parliament and their staff to various events: for instance, the presentation of the Egmont Paper, "Death of an Institution: The End for Western European Union, a Future for European Defence?" on 16 June 2011, and a seminar on small arms and light weapons, fragile states and development on 11 October 2011.

3.2 *Advice*

The Institute's advisory role constitutes its most direct service to Parliament and its political environment. The Peace Institute can formulate advice on the basis of its expertise or the results of the research it has conducted. Advice given on its own initiative may flow from scientific research as well as in response to a political or social stimulus. The other advice functions of the Institute are the giving of advice on request from the Flemish Parliament, and providing advice on the report of the Flemish Government to the Flemish Parliament on implementation of the Act of 5 August 1991 regarding imports, exports and transit of arms, ammunition and materials specifically intended for military use or for law enforcement and associated technology.

All advice from the Peace Institute is issued by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is composed of 19 voting members from different sectors of Flemish civil society. The members hold a 5-year mandate and are appointed by the Flemish Parliament. To guarantee an independent institute with broad support and the required expertise, the Institute's founding Act prescribes a balanced composition of experts and representatives from all Flemish parliamentary parties, universities, socio-economic actors and the peace movement. Playing an advisory role within this broad social platform, the Peace Institute takes its role as a Flemish political-social organization to heart.

In 2011 the Institute published three advisory notes: one prescribed by the founding Act and two at the request of the Flemish Parliament. The 2011 advisory notes were issued unanimously by the Board of Directors. They were sent to the Speaker of the Flemish Parliament, the Flemish Members of Parliament and the competent ministers. The advisory notes were also published on the Institute's website and disseminated by newsletter.

3.2.1 *Advice concerning the annual report of the Flemish Government about Flemish foreign arms trade in 2010*

Context

The Act describing the activities of the Flemish Peace Institute stipulates that the Institute will provide the Flemish Parliament with advice on the annual report from the Flemish Government to the Flemish Parliament concerning licences issued and denied for arms, ammunition, and materials specifically intended for military use or for law enforcement agencies and associated technology. On 13 April 2011, the Flemish Government submitted its seventh annual report to the Flemish Parliament. In its advice on this report, the Peace Institute highlighted a number of important elements in the Flemish Government's report. These points of particular interest and the advice from the Peace Institute were based on prior advice and on the Institute's research under its Arms trade and production research programme. The advice was informed in particular by the study report "Flemish foreign arms trade 2010", presented to the Flemish Parliament on 30 March 2011. It also underlined the importance of the resolution adopted by the plenary meeting of the Flemish Parliament on 16 February 2011 regarding export control and the political unrest in several countries in the Middle East and North Africa. With

this advice, the Peace Institute sought to evaluate the Flemish Government's policy on foreign arms trade and to support and enhance the parliamentary control of that policy.

Content

The Flemish Peace Institute emphasised five key elements with regard to the Flemish Government's annual report to the Flemish Parliament about licences issued and denied for arms, ammunition and materials specifically intended for military use or law enforcement and the associated technology as submitted to Flemish Parliament on 13 April 2011:

- the share of arms exports for which the industry was the last reported user at the time of issue of the licence remained very high;
- the high value of licensed arms exports to countries from the Middle East and North Africa;
- transparency in the annual reports had improved markedly over the past few years, but there was still room for significant improvement;
- the importance of an unambiguous interpretation of the Munitions List of the Wassenaar Arrangement;
- the number of licences issued for the transit of military equipment had systematically declined since 1999.

With regard to these points of particular interest, the Peace Institute advised the Flemish Parliament:

- to ask the Flemish Government to make an extra effort to collect all available information on the recipient and the actual end-user if the two are different parties; to include this information in the assessment of licence applications, and to inform Parliament accordingly;
- given the high value of the licensed arms export to the Middle East and North Africa in 2010 as well as the resolution of the Flemish Parliament of 16 February 2011, to scrupulously monitor the arms export policy to the Middle East;
- to ask the Flemish Government to maintain the existing transparency in its annual report to the Flemish Parliament and to enhance transparency by including detailed information about the actual foreign trade in military equipment, licence renewals, temporary transactions, licences under the system of European Directive 91/477, as well as an explanation for licences denied;
- to ask the Flemish Government to carry out regular and in-depth screening of the products of the companies involved on the basis of the specifications in the Munitions List of the Wassenaar Arrangement and to clearly communicate the screening results to the companies involved;
- to have an investigation carried out into the systematic decrease in the number of transit licences.

Action taken

The advice accompanying the annual report of the Flemish Government about the arms trade in 2010 was forwarded to the Speaker of the Flemish Parliament and the Chairman and members of the Committee for Foreign Policy, European Affairs, and International Cooperation on 23 May 2011. The advice was included in the discussion of the Annual Report by the Flemish Government to the Flemish Parliament about foreign arms trade on 14 June 2011.

3.2.2 *Advice concerning the preliminary draft for a Flemish Arms Trade Act*

Context

On 4 May 2011, the Flemish Peace Institute received a request from the Speaker of the Flemish Parliament to proffer its advice on the preliminary draft of a Flemish Parliament Act controlling imports, exports and transit of firearms, ammunition, defence-related materials, the associated technology and other equipment specifically intended for military use or for law enforcement purposes.

The advice that the Peace Institute formulated on this question should be read together with the preliminary draft of a Flemish Parliament Act concerning imports, exports and transit of firearms, ammunition, defence-related items, the associated technology and other equipment specifically intended for military use or for law enforcement purposes, as approved in principle by the Flemish Government on 8 April 2011.

Content

On the whole, the Flemish Peace Institute considered the preliminary draft of a Flemish Parliament Act to be a balanced proposal, strongly focused on the implementation of European Directives. It also created a more flexible regime for a significant proportion of Flemish exports. At the same time, it provided for the possibility to tighten controls on sensitive transactions by enabling end-use controls. The evaluation criteria were in line with the European criteria from the Common Position (2008/944/CFSP) and in some cases were even more appropriately detailed. The distinction between the more flexible regime for intra-Community trade (in implementation of the EU directives) and extra-Community trade (trade with countries outside the EU) was clearly identified.

The Flemish Peace Institute advised the Flemish Government to consider the following points when reviewing the text:

1) The difference in scope of application between the control regime for trade in 'civilian firearms' (Title 2) and the control regime for defence-related equipment (Title 3) had not been clearly defined. The Peace Institute recommended that the scope of application of both these titles be distinguished more clearly.

2) The preliminary draft of a Flemish Parliament Act contained an adequate catch-all clause that could be invoked on a case-by-case basis when specific security considerations so require. Combined with the option of adopting an additional list of goods requiring a licence, this catch-all clause could be applied in a 'pure' manner, i.e. avoiding its use to systematically impose a licence requirement for certain products. The planned additional list of products requiring a licence should assume that function instead.

The introduction of general licences for intra-Community trade in defence-related equipment largely implemented the provisions of the ICT Directive. Nevertheless – and contrary to the Directive – the preliminary draft Act did not clearly state that general licences were prescribed for specific (categories of) items, nor did it enumerate the types of items that could be placed under a general licence obligation. A definition of the use of general licences was lacking in the current preliminary proposal.

4) The new licensing system in part shifted the control of trade in defence-related items for intra-Community trade from ex ante to ex post control. Under the new licensing system it would be vital for companies to report to the authorities about their trade transactions. A draft of a Flemish Parliament Act should thus include detailed provisions on companies' reporting obligations vis-a-vis the authorities. The provisions of the ICT Directive could serve as a guideline for this.

5) Transparency by the Flemish Government towards the Flemish Parliament was equally crucial to facilitate parliamentary and public controls of the Government's policies. The preliminary draft of a Flemish Parliament Act missed the opportunity to embed the improvements in transparency made by the Flemish authorities in recent years in a Flemish Parliament Act. Moreover, it was not clear how the reporting on the new licensing system would take shape. The Peace Institute advised against reverting to the provisions of the Belgian law of 1991: rather, this Act should enshrine at least the current practice in terms of transparency.

The preliminary draft of a Flemish Parliament Act included a substantial list of operative provisions for the Flemish Government. Moreover, several articles left the executive power large scope for interpretation. It would therefore be very important to include all implementing provisions in the reporting process to Parliament, and to provide detailed explanations about how the Act was implemented.

6) Further, the text of the Institute's advice formulated a number of rather technical - but nevertheless important – recommendations on a number of articles. Grey boxes in the article-by-article discussion provided more information. Certain elements had not been addressed in the preliminary draft of a Flemish Parliament Act because of ambiguities in the division of competences between the policy levels (such as brokering, third-country production, and checks by customs). These elements were also crucial building blocks of an effective export control policy and thus needed to be taken up with the other competent policy levels.

Action taken

The advice from the Peace Institute accompanying the preliminary draft of the Arms Trade Act was forwarded on 4 June 2011 to the President of the Flemish Parliament, the Chairman and members of the Committee for Foreign Policy, European Affairs, and International Cooperation and the Minister-President of the Flemish Government. This advice was incorporated in the draft of a Flemish Parliament Act that was submitted by the Government to the Flemish Parliament.

3.2.3 Advice concerning the proposal for a Flemish Parliament Act concerning arms trade by Bart Caron, Filip Watteeuw and Mieke Vogels

Context

On 6 June 2011, the Flemish Peace Institute received a request from the President of the Flemish Parliament to formulate advice on the proposal for a Flemish Parliament Act from Messrs Bart Caron and Filip Watteeuw and Mrs. Mieke Vogels concerning the transfer, imports, exports, transit and brokering of firearms for civilian use, defence-related items and other equipment specifically intended for military use or law enforcement purposes and their related technology. The advice that the Peace Institute formulated to this request should be read together with the proposal for a Flemish Parliament Act from Messrs Bart Caron and Filip Watteeuw and Mrs. Mieke Vogels from 4 February 2011.

Content

The advisory note stated that the proposal for a Flemish Parliament Act by Messrs Bart Caron and Filip Watteeuw and Mrs. Mieke Vogels was a comprehensive Act setting forth detailed procedures and conditions to control foreign trade in various categories of items (defence-related items, firearms for civilian use, others for military use or equipment for law enforcement purposes, and dual-use items). The proposal took account of the framing conditions (mostly defined at EU level or as a result of the Belgian State structure) that the legislative authority needed to observe.

The draft Act proposed a number of interesting lines for action - primarily in the areas of reporting, transparency and penalties - that offered clear added value with regard to existing legislation. The draft

also attempted to address ambiguities or hiatuses in the allocation of competences between the federal authorities and the regions by including in the Act a number of aspects of arms trade (for example, brokering) on the basis of the regions' implicit competence.

Nevertheless, the Peace Institute suggested that the text of the proposal for a Flemish Parliament Act could be improved on a number of points.

The Flemish Peace Institute recommended:

- 1) To structure the text of the proposal more clearly.
- 2) To include the provisions concerning dual-use items in a separate Act that would adopt the operative provisions of EU Regulation 428/2009.
- 3) To define the concept 'firearms for civilian use' on the basis of use and not on the basis of the characteristics of the weapon (drafting a list of weapons).
- 4) To formulate the catch-all provision differently and only to apply it if deemed necessary according to specific security considerations. Systematically controlling certain items could better be addressed with a supplementary list of items requiring a licence.
- 5) That the control of end-use for intra-Community traffic should be monitored as far as possible during the licence application before the item leaves Flemish territory. The Peace Institute recommended adjusting the draft Act so that information about the destination and end-use for global as well as individual licences would be demanded in the licence application. Since requesting this information for general licences would not be possible, the use of general licences should be restrictively defined. The use of export restrictions under transfer licences could similarly be applied selectively in sensitive cases.
- 6) The Peace Institute also recommended that the requirements established for the certificate of end-use for trade with countries outside the EU should be differentiated according to the sensitivity of exports or transit, in the interests of effective and decisive control of end-use.

Action taken

The advice from the Peace Institute accompanying the preliminary draft of the Arms Trade Act was forwarded to the President of the Flemish Parliament, the Chairman and members of the Committee for Foreign Policy, European Affairs, and International Cooperation on 6 July 2011. This advice was included in the parliamentary discussion of the proposal for a Flemish Parliament Act in 2012.

3.3 *Documentation centre*

In cooperation with the Flemish Parliamentary Information Centre, in 2011 the Peace Institute has further expanded its documentation centre with a collection of books, journals, and other media publications. This collection is placed at the service of the employees of the Peace Institute but is also accessible to parliamentary personnel, representatives, and the general public.

In the catalogue system of the Parliamentary Information Centre, 'Peace Research' was assigned the number 800. This '800 heading' was further divided into a detailed classification that contains 9 separate sub-headings reflecting the Peace Institute's broad-ranging approach to peace research:

- 810. Theory and Methodology
- 820. International Relations
- 830. Peace and the Economy
- 840. Society and State
- 850. Peace and Conflict studies
- 860. Peace Culture
- 870. Defence and Weapons
- 880. Regions and Countries
- 890. Narrative literature

The materials acquired are made available in the LIBIS network, following the currently valid procedures. LIBIS-Net operates as a cooperative partnership among more than twenty institutions that utilize the same ALEPH 500 installation for the digitalization of their libraries. Aside from the members of the K.U. Leuven Association, a number of government libraries, small scientific libraries, and libraries operated by civil society groups and institutions have also chosen to join the network. With some 3,000,000 bibliographic entries, LIBIS-Net represents the largest library network in Belgium. Via the Peace Institute's website, a search engine is available to search for the desired book or journal in the Institute's collection or the entire LIBIS catalogue.

External researchers or other interested parties cannot directly borrow books or other documentation material from the Peace Institute's library. They must do so through Inter-Library Lending (ILL) whereby they can request the work via their university or town library, which in turn requests the book from the Parliamentary Information Centre. This possibility is more clearly and prominently flagged on the renovated website. 59 requests were submitted through ILL in the period 2010-2011.

Evaluation report of the Scientific Council

In accordance with the Peace Institute's founding Act, the Scientific Council evaluates the performance of the Institute's research assignments. Its assessment is included in this annual report.

The evaluation report was approved unanimously on 23 March 2012 by the members of the Scientific Council.

4.1 Preface

The Scientific Council of the Flemish Peace Institute completed its process of reconstitution during 2011, and in October held its first meeting under a new Chair. It has been an equal pleasure to welcome new members to the team, and to recognize the Council's debt to the excellent work of those colleagues now leaving us and of the first Chair, Professor John Groom of the University of Kent - who happily remains a member of the Council. The full membership is now as follows: Alyson J.K. Bailes, Adjunct Professor at the University of Iceland (Chair); Prof. Dr. Sven Biscop, Director of the Security & Global Governance Programme at the Egmont Institute; Prof. Dr. Mark Duffield, Professor of Development Politics at the University of Bristol; Prof. Dr. Elise Féron, Senior Lecturer in International Conflict Analysis at the University of Kent and the Brussels School of International Studies; Prof. Dr. John Groom, Emeritus Professor of International Relations at the University of Kent; Prof. Dr. Elspeth Guild, Professor of European Immigration Law at the Radboud University Nijmegen and visiting professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE); Prof. Dr. Antoon Vandevelde, Professor at the Centre for Ethics, Social and Political Philosophy and Dean of the Institute of Philosophy at the K.U. Leuven; Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wagner, Professor of International Security at the Department of Political Science at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU).

The Council is thus a mixed and balanced group in national background, research specialization, and not least in gender: but it shares a clear vision of its role and a will to function as a hands-on, hard-working body. Its members are themselves active and interested in the Institute's fields of work, are keen to stay in contact also between the twice-yearly Council meetings, and are ready to experiment with new modes of intellectual exchange. The Council's own evaluation routines are now well established and the previous practice has been followed also in the production of this report, making it very much a collective effort.

The Council recognizes that at the end of its first five years, the Flemish Peace Institute has gone through an important process both of coming-of-age and review. Both its general performance and the performance of its Director have been independently evaluated, leading to the renewal of Director Tomas Baum in his post and the renewed affirmation by the Flemish Parliament of the role of the Flemish Peace Institute as one of its para-parliamentary institutions. We welcome this opportunity to build further on the strong and healthy foundations already laid, and will play our part in supporting the Institute as it follows up the lessons and revised guidelines emerging from the evaluation. The Council should be especially well placed to help with the better balance now sought between the Institute's two major research programmes, and with the renewed effort for dissemination, outreach and impact assessment.

The Flemish Peace Institute has in several ways an unusual position and role, as reflected also in its governance structure. The Scientific Council considers the model that it represents – above all, its function of parliamentary advice – nevertheless to be one of considerable international relevance and appeal, at a time when the importance of representative democracy and transparency in security governance is clearer than ever. To provide its full added value both in its primary role for Flanders and as an international partner and example, however, the Institute needs a constant and self-critical

effort to maintain the quality of its academic output. While the present report focuses on Institute publications as a measure of this quality, the Institute's own seminars and lectures, and contributions by its researchers at other events, are also key elements in its profile; so it is good to see them steadily increasing and broadening in range.

The conditions for maintaining and further developing these high standards are an unquestioned intellectual independence; carefully focussed and meticulous research efforts; proper attention to parliament's requests, to the politico-social environment of Flanders and to the constantly changing international research scene; a good choice of partnerships, and skilful dissemination and outreach. The Scientific Council stands ready both to monitor and support, within its competence, the Institute's future efforts to these ends.

The rest of this report contains an evaluation of the Institute's publications in 2011. In the Scientific Council's opinion it reflects an impressive body of research and publishing for a single year, and underlines the level of competence and professionalism that the Institute and its researchers have attained. It is an achievement for which the Scientific Council would like to thank and congratulate all concerned.

4.2 Reports

4.2.1 Flemish foreign arms trade 2010

This annual report, designed both to support the Flemish Parliament's work of oversight and to inform a broader public, has become one of FPI's flagship products over the years. Its 2010 version appears shorter than usual because of a decision to treat trade in dual-use goods separately – principally because the regulatory framework and issues involved in that field are so different (although this is not explained in the text). Despite the logic of this move, it makes it harder for readers to get a single conspectus view of arms-related issues in Flanders. In future, the Institute could usefully include a brief mention of the rationale of separate treatment for the two issues; and ideally, should add to each report the short abstract of conclusions from its counterpart, together with an online address (URL) for the latter.

Within the new scope of its contents, the 2010 report retains the same structure as usual, with exhaustive coverage of imports to, exports from, and transit of military equipment through Flanders. It is richly illustrated with tables and other graphics, and more of the same are provided as annexes.

The report identifies some interesting trend changes during 2010. Imports of weaponry dropped quite sharply, following a period when purchases were boosted both by official buying (for the armed forces and police) and by developments on the private firearms market. By contrast, exports of military equipment – which in Flanders essentially means components and technology for larger systems - increased by over 13 per cent, following a general trend in the EU. For the most part this involved sales by established firms to established Western partners, but as much as 10% of the total value was accounted for by increased exports to the Middle East and North Africa – an important point to note in view of the Flemish Parliament's resolution in February 2011 urging that exports to these regions be treated 'with the utmost caution'. Some components were also traded with the Israeli industry for re-export to western countries.

More general policy points raised in the report include a familiar concern – the fact that around two thirds of Flemish exports go to manufacturers elsewhere, so that Flanders itself does not control the ultimate destination of the finished products - and the important changes on licensing practice that will shortly flow from implementation of the European Union's 2009 'defence market' directives. Beyond noting the importance of preserving parliamentary accountability and transparency under the new system, the present report does not offer a detailed policy commentary: that is reserved rather for FPI's

advice to Parliament (also reviewed here) on the Flemish authorities' own arms trade report for 2010. However, this document contains all the detailed information needed for any political actor seeking to address the security issues and normative issues arising.

The report is clearly structured and laid out, to the point of being somewhat repetitive with similar points made in its executive summary and conclusions. Despite its technical nature, the language shows signs of careful editing and is clear, consistent and correct throughout. This is a work of precise and committed scholarship that represents one of FPI's most important regular contributions both to research and to public information

4.2.2 Flemish Foreign Trade in Dual-use items 2010

Reporting and analyzing Flemish trade in arms and dual-use items has been a core activity of the Flemish Peace Institute. Until last year, the FPI published one research report covering both trade in arms and trade in dual-use items; in 2010, however, as already noted, the topics were for the first time handled separately. This allows the issue of dual-use items and technology to be addressed in a more specific and comprehensive way.

Trade in dual-use items is highly relevant for the Flemish industry. Given the devolution of Belgian arms control competencies from the federal government to the regions in 2003, the report is highly relevant for Flemish politics. It does an excellent job in providing the Flemish Parliament and the public with a reliable, detailed and accessible account of Flemish trade in dual-use items.

The research report is a well structured, readable and thus accessible compilation of key figures about Flemish trade in dual use items. Accessibility is further ensured by the use of graphs and tables. The report makes good use of previous editions that allow for comparisons with previous years and the identification of trends over time. Ideally, the inclusion of comparisons with other countries and/or general EU trends – on which the parallel report on trade in military equipment does make some comments - would further add to a full assessment of the Flemish trade. Only comparisons with other states would allow conclusions on whether trends in Flemish trade are symptomatic of broader European trends or rather exclusively Flemish developments.

The research report also provides the background information necessary to understand and interpret the figures available. This includes a definition of dual-use items and a brief introduction into the pertinent regulations, mostly on the level of the European Union, which are responsible for distinguishing various categories of states and accompanying licensing regimes. In this context, the use of a category described as 'friendly' states may be problematic as it suggests that other countries would be 'unfriendly', which is clearly not the case at least for those where exports of such sensitive items may be contemplated. The term 'friendly country' is not part of the Regulation (EC) 428/2009 and does therefore not have the character of a 'terminus technicus'. In future English translations (and the original version as necessary) another more neutral term might be sought to denote non-EU countries with this special status.

The report is very reluctant to judge or comment on Flemish policy on dual-use items. Although the introduction talks about an analysis of the licenses granted and denied in 2010 (p.8), the analysis is limited to the description of figures and trends and eschews any assessment, let alone normative judgment. Although it might be tempting to follow the practice of other peace research institutes to publicly monitor and criticize arms control policy, the descriptive focus of this report has the advantage of establishing an uncontested factual foundation on the basis of which everyone can draw his or her own conclusions.

4.2.3 The legal framework for the control on trade in dual-use items in Flanders

The background note outlines the system of control of trade in dual-use items: a “top layer” consists of a number of international regimes that define lists of goods that are considered to fall under the category of dual-use. On a “medium layer”, the European Union is responsible for defining a set of common rules governing the export, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use goods for its common market. The specific legislation implementing the EU regulation is left to the Member States. In the case of Belgium, this responsibility has been transferred to the regions. However, thus far, Flanders has not adopted any implementing legislation even though government and parliament have indicated their willingness to do so.

The pending adoption of implementing measures in Flanders, as well as the European Commission’s current efforts to consult with stakeholders about the functioning of the dual-use regime, make the background note highly relevant. The note suggests that a Flemish Act of Parliament or a set of implementing regulations could be used as a basis for the regime in future; remedying, in the process, disparities that are identified between the EU regulation, and the 1962 Belgian Act that has governed the trade in dual-use items thus far. Most prominently, the EU regulation provides for a much narrower definition of the “catch all clause” that allows for ad hoc restrictions on goods that have not been listed as dual-use goods. An update of the 1962 legislation by way of a Flemish Act of Parliament would thus seem appropriate.

Although the case for a Flemish Act of Parliament seems reasonable and fair, the causes and consequences of not enacting such measures remain vague in this note. This may in part be attributed to the nature of an EU regulation that – in contrast to directives – does not always require implementing legislation but can often be transposed into national law by way of administrative procedures. The advantages of a Flemish Act of Parliament over merely administrative implementation measures could thus be spelled out more systematically, including any relevant considerations of democratic answerability and transparency. The final paragraph of the background note refers to the effective combating of the illegal trade in dual-use items but it remains unclear to what extent and in what specific ways an Act of Parliament would contribute to this, especially since the catch-all clause of the EU regulation is much more restricted than the one in the 1962 Belgian Act.

4.2.4 The EU Defence Market: Balancing Effectiveness with Responsibility

This conference report discusses the recent developments in arms trade and arms production in Europe, and explores the potential contradictions that might arise between on the one hand the strengthening of a European defence market - especially in the current context of the economic crisis - and on the other hand the EU's stated objective to prevent armed conflicts and terrorism. Most of the texts in it were prepared for, and are informed by, discussions that took place at a conference at the Flemish Parliament in Brussels in November 2010. The Conference was organised jointly by the Flemish Peace Institute, the Strategic Goods Control Unit of the Flemish Department of Foreign Affairs, the Groupe de Recherche et d’Information sur la Paix (GRIP) and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), with the support of the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The outcome is a well-structured report that deals with a very pertinent – though under-researched – topic and asks extremely relevant questions. It undoubtedly contributes to a better understanding of the challenges that lie ahead for the development of a European Defence Market.

The report builds on a great variety of contributors, with highly different backgrounds and areas of expertise. Far from impeding the overall consistency of the report, this variety constitutes one of the main explanations for the richness of the work produced. Various theoretical and empirical approaches, as well as diverse points of view, are represented and confronted with each other, ranging from researchers to policy makers and to stakeholders.

The report is divided in three main parts. The first section, called “The rationale for a common defence market revisited: political and economic aspects”, reviews the evolution of arms production in the EU, and discusses the role the European Commission or the European Defence Agency might play in the emergence of a European defence market. The first chapter highlights the extremely interesting debate on the potential merging of the fields of defence and security, and analyzes the role played by the blurring of the boundaries between military and non-military products, in part because of technological dynamics. It also stresses the increasing discrepancy between these rapid advances in technology and the evolution of the legislation on the use of such technological products. The second chapter questions the emergence of a European defence market, stressing the fact that such a field remains largely dominated by national and regional interests, and that the current financial difficulties faced by several EU Member States further impede the development of such a coherent market. The third chapter reviews the tasks and role of the European Defence Agency, and stresses the need for the European defence industry to adapt, specialize, restructure and reduce costs.

The second section of the report, called “Arms export control: European and national policies” focuses on the export control policy developed by the EU, as well as on the attempts to harmonize European policies on exports of military equipment. It pays specific attention to policies aiming at preventing arms transfers that might fuel armed conflicts and facilitate human rights abuses. Chapter 4 describes the recent effort to harmonize arms export policies, as well as the call for more ethical foreign policies. Because these goals might entail a surrendering of State sovereignty, and because officials do not prioritize them, they seem difficult to accomplish. Interestingly, the author also stresses the potential risks that harmonization might entail, such as a reduction of standards to a lowest common denominator. Chapter 5 highlights the tensions between the prevention of irresponsible arms transfers and the promotion of the interests of armament companies. Chapter 6 addresses possible future roles for the EU. It clearly states that if the EU wants to Act as a watchdog in the field of arms export, it should adopt a clear common policy: but so far its Member States do not seem ready to accept any serious constraint on their own export policies.

The third and final section of the report, called “The European directive on intra-EU trade in defence equipment and the challenge of control”, offers an evaluation of the directive on intra-EU trade in defence equipment, aiming at liberalizing trade in military goods within the EU. Chapter 7 describes the history of the adoption of the directive, and discusses its expected consequences as well as its relations to the principle of transparency. Finally, chapter 8 assesses the risks of the directive in terms of transparency and exports controls, and stresses – like several of the foregoing authors - that decisions taken by Member States have so far been informed by national interests. It also highlights the fact that the context of the current economic crisis has heightened the importance of exports, as well as the need to explore new export markets such as the security market. The chapter puts stress on the worrying fact that lower trade barriers for intra-community trade have not been matched - in the process - by stronger rules to prevent destabilizing arms exports to non-EU countries.

By wrapping up the main conclusions reached by the various authors, the conclusion and the afterword shed further light on the existing tensions between the efforts undertaken to control proliferation and the interest that the European companies have in expanding their share of the market. To sum up, the report deals with a highly relevant topic, it is well structured, well referenced and written. Various chapters provide useful recommendations, as well as constructive insights. As pointed out by Alyson Bailes in the afterword, up to now research on this topic has been lagging behind policy and technological developments. This report undoubtedly represents a first significant step towards bridging this gap.

The only remark to be made, it seems, is that inserting a bibliography at the end of the report, as well as a list of treaties and legal documents relevant to the field, would have been useful and would have increased the significance of the report, furthering its status as a reference document.

4.2.5 Made in Flanders: The end-use of Flemish military equipment

This report aims at answering two main questions: “Where does exported Flemish military equipment ultimately end up?” and “For what purpose is this material used?”. It is divided into 4 main parts, aside from the introduction and conclusion. The first section introduces the general context and describes the political and legal framework within which Flemish licensing procedures for arms exports are applied; it also details the latest European developments. The second section offers a general analysis of the issue of end-use for arms exports licensed in Flanders, going through various categories of military equipment. The third main part provides an extremely rich picture of the defence-related industry in Flanders, while the fourth main part presents a series of detailed case studies of end-use, from aircraft components to electronic equipment.

This is a much-needed study, as the final destination of these products, as well as their end-use, is often unclear – as noted by the author, 93% of arms exports are intended for foreign industry (and thus for potential re-export), and only 6% for foreign armed forces. What is more, a majority of Flemish export licences are issued without taking into account who the ultimate end-user will be. The report is very well informed and demonstrates a thorough knowledge of the field, founded upon a systematic collection of data. It is also appropriately structured, with a clear presentation of the issues at stake. It explains, for instance, that control of the trade in military equipment is essential not only for ensuring transparency and accountability, but also for making sure that these products do not endanger world peace and stability.

One of the main strengths of this report is the comprehensive overview it provides of the issue, thanks to the presentation of 15 case studies that together give a full and representative picture of the end-use of Flemish military equipment. Numerous further examples, beyond these case studies, are also cited throughout the report, as well as many very useful tables and figures. The report also provides a clear and well-informed description of the defence-related industry in Flanders. In these regards it is an incredibly rich and well-documented study, which will undoubtedly be used by all those interested in defence-related issues in Flanders.

The report systematically demonstrates that, in spite of their limited size when compared with exports by the major participants in global arms trade, products manufactured in Flanders have a clear impact in various conflict situations around the world: for example in operations against ocean piracy, in Afghanistan, or in Libya. Such an impact cannot be overlooked, especially in view of Flanders’ commitment to a control policy aimed among other things at preserving world peace - as noted above. The report further discusses future trends, and draws attention to the worrying consequences, especially in terms of transparency and accountability, of the ICT Directive that liberalizes the defence market inside the European Union.

Overall, this report thus provides useful and illuminating explanations for the deficit in information on who are the end-users of exported products from Flanders. It illustrates this deficit in the first part by documenting the end-use of Flemish arms exports only with the help of information drawn from government reports, an approach that gives limited results and is likely to be concealing some parts of the picture and distorting others. In the second part, the author demonstrates how these limitations may be overcome and a fuller picture presented with the aid of a wide range of other data sources.

Undertaking a (limited) comparative analysis with other EU regions might also have been helpful, in order to be able to assess more precisely Flanders’ specific features in respect of arms exports, and also to learn from good and bad practices implemented elsewhere. Other EU regions might have experienced a similar lack of visibility with regard to the end-users of their arms exports, and might have implemented measures in order to ensure more transparency. Together with the inclusion of some references to more academic literature on the topic, use of such a comparative approach (notably, for instance, in the introduction and in the conclusion) would have helped to make sense of this situation within a broader IR perspective, and might also allow Flanders’ situation to be characterized in terms of exceptionality or conformity.

To sum up, the work note deals with a highly relevant and sensitive topic, and is well structured, documented and illustrated. Various case studies provide useful insights, and shed light on an under-researched issue.

4.2.6 Research Report: 'The Great War Remembered: Commemoration and Peace in Flanders Fields'

The season of centenary commemorations is almost upon us. The period 2014-2018 will see a rolling panorama of First World War commemorations which will extend its influence to the period 2039-2045. This research paper is therefore particularly timely especially in the context of the Flemish Government's determination to ensure that the activities are normatively and historically correct. This means that there must be an acknowledgment of the diversity and ambiguity of a remembrance that is open to all.

Past practice can offer some lessons but there are a number of other factors that are new. For example, there are now virtually no living witnesses of the Great War, which changes the purpose of commemoration. Moreover there is a significant difference between modes of commemoration not only in Flanders but in Belgium, France, Germany and Britain - to consider only those involved on the Western front, and not forgetting colonial and Dominion participants. Above all, there is the already existing commercialisation of the memory of the Great War and its physical relics in battlefields, museums, memorials, long-standing traditions and the like.

The ambition of the Flemish Government is to avoid pitfalls, build on good practice and work into processes of commemoration the practices of peace, normatively and lastingly. It is for this reason that the FPI has undertaken a major study of commemoration practices and their effects. This study is excellent. It reveals a sure command of the literature in Dutch, English and French. As political science it is sophisticated, sensitive and a real contribution to conflict research; but it is also easily approachable by the practitioner. The arguments are well set out and analysed.

Above all, for the reasons set out above, the report is timely. It asks many tough questions and supplies some good answers. It is an excellent fusion of academic work for a practitioner's purpose, as is appropriate for the FPI. Part of the strength of the study is the major survey it undertook of the stakeholders in Flanders concerned with commemoration. The survey was wide in participation and in substance, and the responses are carefully analysed. But there is one danger that is not really given salience. The survey does not include stakeholders from other countries involved on the Western Front; and there is a certain risk that others could perceive the Government of Flanders as 'nationalising' or poaching 'their' commemoration.

Moreover, even if the Flemish Government is making a big and commendable effort to 'get it right' and to promote innovative peace thinking, other major international players may have a bigger and different agenda.

This report looks carefully at the promises and pitfalls of the commemoration season, its new factors and its capacity to develop a peace culture. It provides an analysis of the existing literature; it treats almost all of the issues in a manner easily accessible to practitioners; it has set out and analysed the views of multiple stakeholders in Flanders, and broached a range of difficult issues. In short, it is a difficult job well done and the text deserves a wide dissemination beyond Flanders itself.

4.3 Books

4.3.1 Firearms: trafficking, possession and use

This study has the ambitious aim to provide a balanced and impartial analysis of the different aspects of firearms in (Belgian) society. According to the authors, such a study is warranted for at least two

reasons: first, in 2006 and 2008 Belgium has changed its firearms law for the first time since 1933 which merits an evaluation of the new law and its support in society. Second, public discussions following incidents of deadly use of firearms seem to follow a standardized pattern of exchanging ever-repeated arguments, often on a dubious factual basis. The study thus aims to enlighten this debate (at the time of writing this review, another such incident had just taken place in the Belgian city of Liège).

The study deserves to be praised on various counts. First of all, it is very well written. Although co-authored texts always face the challenge of integrating different approaches and styles, the text shows no traces of any tensions between its two authors. Even though the text is a scientific one, it remains remarkably accessible and can therefore be useful for a broad audience that includes interested laypersons.

Second, the study is very well structured. Main aspects of the overarching topic of firearms in Belgian society are addressed in individual chapters: a brief history of the new law on firearms (ch. 2), an outline of the legal control regime and its international context (ch. 3), an overview of the possession of firearms in Belgium (ch. 4), an overview of the Belgian firearms industry, its exports and economic significance (ch. 5), an overview of the various forms of use of firearms such as hunting, shooting and collecting (ch.6), a brief summary of the lethal use of firearms (ch.7) and an overview of the possession of illegal firearms (ch.8). This structure is outlined in the first chapter. Chapter 9 concludes with a summary of the various chapters and their main findings. Although the study has the intention to cover the issue of firearms in its entirety, its clear structure allows individual chapters to be read selectively, following one's particular interests (e.g. in the economic aspects or in the main elements of the legal regime).

Third, the study is scientific in the best sense: namely crystal-clear about the methods used, critical about the evidence available, and cautious about the conclusions drawn.

With a view to the scientific outlook of the study, there is only one minor point to criticize. Chapter 4 discusses estimates of the number of firearms in private possession in Belgium. This discussion heavily draws on survey data from the "International Crime Victims Survey". These data are used to compare Belgium with other European countries and to map trends in firearms possession over time. Given the unavailability of reliable official figures and the problems of estimating the number of illegal firearms, the use of these survey data seems warranted and useful. However, the comparison of data from the "International Crime Victims Survey" with data from the 2010 survey on firearms as commissioned by the Flemish Peace Institute seems problematic. Although the comparison makes *prima facie* sense as the question posed has been identically phrased, the difficulty remains that both surveys use different samples whose representativeness is impossible to judge. It would have been good to address the potential limits of comparison in this case along the same lines as the previous discussions about caveats in interpreting data. Such a discussion seems even more important as this comparison is the basis for one of the major findings, namely that the number of firearms in private possession has dropped dramatically. Although plausible reasons for such a drop exist (most prominently of course the new legal framework), the caution that has characterized other parts of the study should have been applied to this part as well.

Fourth and finally, the study yields very interesting findings: The representative survey finds that the principles of the new Belgian firearms law are widely supported in Belgian society - and that significant differences now exist between the three communities.

All in all, the study clearly achieves its ambitious goal of providing a better basis for discussion on a topic of high relevance to Belgian society: the possession, production, trade and use of firearms. The study succeeds in both gathering new data (most importantly in form of a representative survey) and in

critically reviewing existing data and arguments. Moreover, the study succeeds in providing an impartial evaluation of the new Belgian firearms legislation.

4.3.2 Youth and violence

This book, commissioned by the Flemish Peace Institute, summarises the main findings in the literature on 'Youth and Violence'. It surveys the available empirical information for Flanders and Belgium on the subject and it adds a new piece of empirical research on the experience of violence by youngsters themselves.

It calls in question the popular myth that youngsters resort to violence more than in past generations and that perpetrators start their criminal and violent career at an earlier age. It also tries to explore the perspective of young people themselves, the way they experience violence in their life world.

The first three chapters of the book present the theory on youth and violence, a definition of concepts, the main causal nexuses and explanatory mechanisms. From the outset it is made clear that youngsters can be both perpetrators and victims of violence. Apparently many adolescents, especially boys, go through a phase of undersocialisation around the age of 16-17. Some of them commit violent acts or yield to various forms of criminality. However, for most of them this is a passing period in life. According to the researchers this is nothing really abnormal to worry about.

In the fourth chapter, the authors present an overview of the empirical data on violence by youngsters. There is no evidence for increased youth criminality in recent times (although many young people have stories about violence in their neighborhood). The researchers strongly emphasize the lacunae in the data. It is hard to discern general trends, and international comparisons are also hard to make because of a lack of standardization in available data. It is probable that most violent events are not reported to police.

In the fifth chapter the researchers develop their own quantitative analysis of the relation between youth and violence by making use of data provided by a survey done by JOP (Jongerenonderzoeksplatform - *Youth Research Platform*). The quality of the relationship with the mother seems to be of crucial importance, more than general control over their children by parents. Variables related to the school environment do not really matter according to available data, but maybe the most relevant variables here simply are not used. Peer group variables, by contrast, are very important. Only a small percentage of youngsters – mostly boys - are prone to violence. Perpetrators are, more often than others, also the victims of violence.

Chapter 6 reports the results of 'focus groups' of youngsters discussing violence. Most interesting is the variety of opinions about the definition of violence. Most boys speak in the first instance about physical violence. Young girls emphasize the importance of psychic and verbal violence, the latter leading often to the former forms of violence. Some highlight structural violence as a reason (or a pretext?) for physical violence. They also discuss the importance of violent intentions, of power asymmetry, violence against persons and against objects... Most youngsters have a classical morality. They reject the use of violence, except for self-defence or for the defence of their nearest and dearest. Some youngsters acknowledge that violence, especially vandalism, can also deliver a 'kick'. The remedies for violence that young people cite are more or less the same as what one can find in scientific literature: more police in the streets, but also, tackling the underlying factors that generate violent behavior, namely poverty and social exclusion.

This book does not yield major new insights or remedies for violence in society. It also chooses not to focus especially on violence by perpetrators of North African origin. It uses the resources of science in order to demystify popular prejudices, and gains strength from the way it combines literature review,

analysis of existing data, and empirical work with focus groups for greater depth and authority. The result is a reliable source of information, not only on theoretical literature, but also on the place of violence in the life experience of the young.

4.4 Advice

4.4.1 Advice concerning the preliminary draft for a Flemish Arms Trade Act

This unusually long and detailed Advice Note, responding to a request to the Institute received via the Flemish Parliament, forms part of an ongoing consultation between the Flemish Government and Flemish Peace Institute on the preparation of a first-ever Flemish Arms Trade Act. The institutional interplay is of interest in itself as a model of how policy making and legislative work can be enriched by consultation with independent academic researchers and observers, building in turn on information about arms transactions released by the executive authorities.

The note contains an impressive array of general and detailed comments on the Government's initial draft, motivated by four main generic concerns: consistency with various applicable and legally binding EU instruments; coherence and workability within the Belgian federal framework; clarity and practicability; and effective political control and democratic oversight of arms-related transactions. The specific points on which adjustments to the draft are suggested cover much the same range and include the need for a clearer demarcation between the treatment of civil firearms and military equipments; more precision on the types of goods/transactions to which the new liberalized 'general licences' for export may apply; more extensive reporting duties for firms (i.a. to help cover end-use concerns), and more extensive/specific reporting by the executive authorities to parliament. The advice also highlights some cases where a clearer attribution of competences and detailing of procedures will be needed within the executive branch.

It is clear that powerful and up-to-date technical expertise has been brought to bear in this Advice, allowing both the salient issues and some less obvious ones to be identified and expert advice to be offered on solutions. Despite its normative concerns, the note reflects a certain effort for balance; it tries to avoid encroaching too much on the legislator's own political discretion, or prejudicing sensitive points of competence sharing within the federal Belgian system. While very specific solutions are offered on the most technical points, on larger issues the report more typically lays out alternatives for the authorities and Parliament to consider. The arms industry's own interest in being handled under clear and predictable procedures is also duly noted (*vide* the arguments for a 'purer' application of the catch-all clause).

In presentational terms the document reflects a great effort for clarity of structure and argument. It spells out the fullest possible rationale for its judgements and suggestions, and provides a very transparent listing and recapitulation of all principal points.

The technical nature of the topic does not make for easy reading, but the standard of English is correct and clear. A final close edit might have caught a few minor inconsistencies of language and punctuation errors.

4.4.2 Advice concerning the annual report of the Flemish Government to the Flemish Parliament on the implementation of the Act of 5 August 1991 regarding the import, export and transit of arms, ammunition and equipment specifically intended for military use or for law enforcement and associated technology

This Advice Note is an annual product in which the Flemish Peace Institute provides Parliament with comments on the Flemish Government's report on its handling of arms imports, exports and transit

during the preceding year. As the FPI publishes its own annual report on the same topic based on data released seriatim by the authorities, the Advice Note as such can be relatively short, and typically repeats/highlights remarks made in the longer FPI publication.

On this occasion, the note picks out a mixture of recurring concerns and more actual themes. The former include the very high proportion of Flemish arms-related exports that have a recipient in other countries' arms industry, thus raising the question of who decides (and how) on the destination of the completed equipment; and the mystery of a steady decline in licences granted for transit of arms deliveries through Flanders. The outstanding current theme is that of arms deliveries from Europe and Flanders to countries in the Maghreb and Middle East, which are shown to have been sharply on the rise when the Flemish executive decided in February 2011 to freeze the granting of licences to locations involved in the 'Arab Spring' – raising obvious questions about how that freeze has taken effect.

The note also shows the FPI's customary concern for accountability and transparency, and encourages Parliament to press for further official data on actual movements of arms-related products in and out of Flanders as well as of licences granted. It underlines the need to update and extend official reporting procedures as the new licensing arrangements mandated by EU defence market directives start to take effect.

The note shows a confident, wide and deep expertise on issues of the arms trade in Flanders, the EU and more widely; an alertness to new developments; and a normative concern for maximum restraint, consistency and transparency in this field. If many of its themes are repeated from earlier FPI notes, this presumably reflects issues still unresolved and/or the chance to apply new evidence. The text is clearly written and structured and arrives at precise recommendations. There are no linguistic or editorial weaknesses.

4.4.3 Advice concerning the draft Decree tabled by Messrs Bart Caron and Filip Watteuw and Mme. Mieke Vogels regarding the import, export and transit of arms, ammunition and equipment specifically intended for military use or for law enforcement and associated technology

The background to this note is that while the Flemish Government has been preparing its own draft (on which FPI has also commented) of a Flemish parliamentary Decree to govern the exercise of Flanders' devolved competences for arms exports, imports and transit, a group of Flemish MPs have tabled another draft on which the Flemish Parliament has invited the Institute's advice. This lengthy note addresses the MPs' version on its own merits and finds much to commend, notably insofar as the draft aligns Flemish practice with the latest EU obligations, offers detailed guidance on administrative procedures, and calls for consultation on possible grey areas left by the division of competences within Belgium. The Institute however remarks on the need for clearer structuring of the text and calls attention to some general problems such as the occasional reference implying inclusion of dual-use items, which should actually be treated in another regulatory context.

Other technical comments are laid out on an article-by-article basis, and summarized at the start and end of the note. They include points that the Institute has stressed also in regard to the authorities' drafts and reports, such as the need for clearer definitions of firearms for civil use and of the distinction between them and military equipment, as well as a 'purer' conception of the catch-all clause. As the present draft Decree aims to be especially strict (over and above the present EU norm) in retaining national control of re-export and end-use, the Institute offers more detailed and cautionary comments than hitherto on how such efforts might best be targeted in practice. It warns of the need not to overload the relevant supervisory organs, nor to reintroduce case-by-case licensing for intra-EU exchanges by the back door: but recommends rather to focus attention on critical items and components, and to adapt the control procedures flexibly to the various types of export permission

now available. At the same time it warns that the most flexible ('general') form of licence now applicable to intra-EU exports should be limited to a defined set of less sensitive commodities.

This is a very detailed and thorough advice, which succeeds very well in presenting a comprehensive and understandable analysis of a very complex issue, and concludes with well-argued recommendations. It reflects both deep technical expertise and an effort for objectivity and balance.

5.1 Context

The Act: handbook for the Flemish Peace Institute

In the founding Act (7 May 2004) of the Flemish Peace Institute, the Flemish Parliament laid down four tasks for the new paraparliamentary institution: to conduct fundamental and topical peace research, to collect information sources and make them available to the general public, disseminate information, and advise the Parliament and Government.

Peace research, covering both fundamental scientific research and research that responds to current events, is the primary task of the Peace Institute. The research conducted is designed to contribute to the promotion of peaceful and equitable solutions to conflicts and to establishing the conditions for a lasting peace.

Another of the Peace Institute's tasks is to inform the Flemish Parliament, civil society, and also the general public about peace and the prevention of violence, and about the results of research conducted. It is also tasked with creating forums where experts, policy makers, and members of civil society can meet with each other and discuss questions concerning peace.

Finally, the Peace Institute has been empowered to formulate general or specific advice, either on its own initiative or at the request of the Flemish Parliament. The Flemish Parliament Act explicitly identifies the Institute's advisory function to the Flemish Parliament regarding the annual report of the Flemish Government concerning arms trade, but Parliament can also call upon the expertise of the Peace Institute in other matters. The Peace Institute itself can at any time formulate advice on the basis of its research.

In its fourfold mission, the Peace Institute targets a broad audience. As a paraparliamentary institution, the Institute in the first instance serves the Flemish Parliament, providing support in the execution of its core duties. Among other tasks, the Peace Institute assists the Flemish Parliament in drawing up Acts of Parliament as well as in the effective monitoring and oversight of executive action flowing from the transfer in 2003 of competence for imports, exports, and transit of arms.

The Peace Institute also targets civil society and the general public. Through its Board of Directors, the Peace Institute keeps a finger on the pulse of the broader social environment in Flanders – employers, workers, academia, peace movements, and political parties.

Mission Statement

The Board of Directors has translated the mission of the Peace Institute into a Mission Statement that takes its starting point unmistakably in a Flemish context, yet aims to reach across regional boundaries. The Institute employs established methods of peace research but is not reluctant to experiment with new approaches. The text emphasizes the involvement of civil society and the general public in the Institute's activities. The Mission Statement is a concise but rich and balanced text that can serve as a guiding thread for the continued development of the Peace Institute.

“The Flemish Institute for Peace and the Prevention of Violence is an independent institute founded by the Flemish Parliament to advocate and promote a peace culture in Flanders, and which aims to contribute to building peace in Europe and the world.

The Flemish Peace Institute joins a long tradition of promoting peace in the areas of peace economy, social defence, arms control, control of the international arms trade, respect for human rights, and peaceful forms of conflict management.

The Flemish Peace Institute conducts and promotes peace research and makes publications, advisory notes and information available to the public and public authorities.

The Flemish Peace Institute is prepared to participate actively and effectively in peace initiatives, in consultation with civil society and the public authorities.

In the development of a Flemish peace culture, the Flemish Peace Institute pays due attention to a peace economy and peace education, as well as to new approaches for building peace, among others an ethical, gender-sensitive, or ecological approach.

The Flemish Peace Institute seeks to be an open house where all are welcome.”

5.2 The Board of Directors

Composition

The Board of Directors of the Peace Institute is composed of 19 voting members from various sectors of Flemish civil society. The members hold a 5-year mandate and are appointed by the Flemish Parliament. In order to guarantee an independent institute with a broad platform and the necessary expertise, the founding Act establishes a balanced representation: six members seated in their own name nominated by the parties in Flemish Parliament, three members on the recommendation of the Flemish Interuniversity Council, three members on the recommendation of a voluntary cooperative partnership of Dutch-language peace organizations, and four members on the recommendation of the Flanders Social and Economic Council. The Board of Directors thus constituted further co-opts three more members. In composing the Peace Institute's Board of Directors, the principle of balanced representation between men and women in advisory and administrative bodies is applied.

On 17 January 2011, the date of its first meeting in 2011, the Board of Directors was composed of the following members:

For the political parties:

Mr Freddy Sarens

Mrs Monica Van Kerrebroeck

Mr Jan Clement

Mr Axel Delvoie

Mr Raf Burm

Mrs Anna Maria Charlier

For VLIR (Flemish Inter-University Council):

Mr Jacobus Delwaide

Mr Philippe Nauwelaerts (Vice-chairman)

Mrs Anne Walraet

For the peace movements:

Mr Walter Baeten

Mr Philippe Haeyaert

Mrs Inez Louwagie

For SERV (Flanders Social and Economic Council):

Mr Jean Boulogne

Mrs Els Dirix

Mr Guy Putman
Mr Jan Renders

Co-opted:
Mrs Nelly Maes (Chair)
Mrs Brigitte Herremans
Mrs Olivia Rutazibwa

In 2011 Mrs Inez Louwagie, Mrs Anne Walraet and Mr Jan Renders resigned from the Board of Directors. Mrs Gita Deneckere and Messrs Patrick Develtere and Hans Lammerant were welcomed as new members.

Meetings

In 2011, the meetings of the Board of Directors of the Flemish Peace Institute took place on 17 January, 28 February, 4 April, 16 May, 31 May, 27 June, 12 September, 24 October and 5 December.

Daily Management

Decisions made by the Board of Directors are put into practice through the work of the Daily Management, which consists of the chairman, vice-chairman, and the Director of the Peace Institute. The members of the Daily Management are closely involved in the Institute's preparations for the meetings of the Board, its activities, and its personnel policy.

5.3 *The Scientific Council*

As scientific research constitutes one of the basic pillars sustaining the activities of the Peace Institute, the founding Act provided for a Scientific Council to give the Board of Directors and the Scientific Secretariat substantive support in their research activities. As an advisory body of international composition, the Scientific Council evaluates the quality of the Peace Institute's research activities and advises the Board of Directors as well as the Scientific Secretariat on important trends in research about peace and security. Given its expertise, it may also be consulted in the course of ongoing research.

The Scientific Council is composed of the Chair of the Board of Directors, eight national and international specialists selected from academic circles and NGOs, and the Director of the Peace Institute. The Board of Directors appoints the members of the Scientific Council for a term of 5 years. The Scientific Council meets twice a year. In 2011, the Council met on 11 March and 21 October.

In 2011, the Scientific Council was composed of the following members:

Alyson J.K. Bailes - Adjunct Professor of Political Science at the University of Iceland.

Prof. Dr. John Groom - Emeritus Professor of International Relations at the University of Kent.

Prof. Dr. Sven Biscop - Director of the Security & Global Governance Programme for Egmont – the Royal Institute for International Relations - and Coordinator of Higher Studies in Defence and Security.

Prof. Dr. Mark Duffield - Professor of Development Politics at the University of Bristol.

Prof. Dr. Elise Féron - Senior Lecturer in International Conflict Analysis at the University of Kent and the Brussels School of International Studies

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wagner - Senior Lecturer with the Department of Political Science at the Free University of Amsterdam (VU).

Prof. Dr. Elspeth Guild - Professor of European Migration Law at the University of Nijmegen and Guest Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Prof. Dr. Antoon Vandevelde - Professor with the Centre for Ethics, Social and Political Philosophy and Dean of the Higher Institute of Philosophy at the KU Leuven.

On 11 March 2011, Ms. Alyson J.K. Bailes was appointed unanimously as chairman of the Scientific Council by the members of the Council. She replaced Prof. John Groom who was chairman from 2006 to 2011.

5.4 *The Scientific Secretariat*

The Scientific Secretariat is the Peace Institute's operational centre. In the premises of the House of Flemish Representatives the researchers pursue their work, the documentation centre is further developed, and advisory notes are prepared.

In 2011, the Secretariat was composed of the following members:

Director

Tomas Baum

Researchers

Sara Depauw

Nils Duquet

Maarten Van Alstein

Marjolein Muys

Communications Officer

Wies De Graeve

Office Manager

Margarida Ferro

The Peace Institute offers internships to give students, local and from abroad, the opportunity to get acquainted with a professional work environment, the Flemish Parliament, and the academic tasks of the Institute. In 2011, under the guidance of Peace Institute staff, Liva Kuipers, Thijs Baum and Marc Soubry began working as interns with the Peace Institute. Alyson J.K. Bailes worked for four months as guest researcher at the Peace Institute in 2011.

5.5 *External relations*

5.5.1 *Network*

Academic networking

So that the Peace Institute can fulfil its research mandate, national and international contacts in academia are needed inter alia for the exchange of information, for developing networks and for conducting complementary research. In 2011, the already existing contacts were further developed and valuable new contacts were established with other institutes involved in peace research and international relations at a domestic and international level. The Institute achieved this by contributing to conferences, setting up collaborative activities or publications, and through personal contacts.

Employees of the Flemish Peace Institute made a contribution to the following academic events:

- On 1 April 2011, Director Tomas Baum gave a guest lecture, "De regulering van wapenhandel in een Europees kader" (The regulation of arms trade in a European context), at the University of Antwerp in the lecture series "Issues in international politics".
- The British International Studies Association (BISA) annual conference took place in Manchester from 24-29 April 2011. Researcher Sara Depauw presented a paper, "The political limits of de-securitization: security, arms trade and the EU's economic targets".
- The Politicologenetmaal (24-hours' Conference for Political Scientists) took place in Amsterdam on 9 and 10 June 2011. Director Tomas Baum and Wolfgang Wagner, member of the Scientific Council, led an English-language session on "Domestic politics and international security". Tomas Baum and Sara Depauw presented a paper, "'The EU defence market: balancing effectiveness with responsibility".
- The Stockholm Criminology Symposium took place between 13 and 15 June 2011. Researcher Nils Duquet presented a paper on 15 June, "Gun control, public opinion and mortality: The case of Belgium" in the session, "Policing micro crime places/Selected studies in crime and criminals".
- The Third Global International Studies Conference of the World International Studies Committee (WISC) took place in Porto from 17 to 20 August 2011. Director Tomas Baum delivered a lecture on 18 August, "Export controls and the European defence market: combining effectiveness with responsibility" in the section "Building the foreign and security policy of the EU", and a lecture on 20 August, "Mediating the local and the global: a Kantian plea for limiting powers of enforcement" in the section "New perspectives and issues in political theory".
- The Sixth General Conference of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) took place in Reykjavik from 25-27 August 2011. Director Tomas Baum delivered a lecture, "Mediating the local and the global: a Kantian plea for limiting powers of enforcement". Researcher Maarten Van Alstein presented a paper, "'Remembering the Great War: pacifist strands of commemorating the war".
- Director Tomas Baum delivered a lecture on arms trade in a European perspective at the University of Iceland (Institute of International Affairs - Centre for Small State Studies) on 25 November 2011.

As concerns contacts with similar institutions in Belgium and abroad, the following contacts in 2011 stand out: with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, SIPRI (translation of *SIPRI Yearbook*, seminar on 'nuclear governance'); with the Peace Research Institute Oslo, PRIO (seminar on small arms and light weapons); with the Egmont Institute (presentation of Egmont Paper on the WEU); and with the International Catalan Institute for Peace, ICIP (work visit with a delegation of members of the Flemish Parliament).

Policy-oriented networking

As a paraparliamentary research institution it is also crucial for the Peace Institute to develop a broad network within its political environment. It goes without saying that the Flemish Parliament and Flemish MPs are given priority. The Peace Institute provides support to Parliament, inter alia through the publication of advisory and background notes, the development of a documentation centre and the organization of conferences and seminars (see Chapter 3). The Peace Institute kept the parliamentary community informed of its activities with various articles in *Parlando*, the Flemish Parliament's in-house magazine, which saw its final year in 2011.

Together with its role in the Flemish Parliament, the Peace Institute has also forged contacts with Flemish policymakers in general, including the Strategic Goods Control Unit (Flemish Department of Foreign Affairs) for arms trade and production, the Education Administration as regards peace education, and the Project Secretariat 2014-2018 with regard to the commemoration of the Centenary of WWI.

The Peace Institute has also continued to expand its political network at international level, particularly in connection with the European dimension of its work. Contact was established with the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Security and Defence in the wake of the conference on "Arms export control and the emerging European defence market" held in the Flemish Parliament under the Belgian EU Presidency in 2010. On 11 April 2011, Director Tomas Baum was invited to contribute to a European Policy Centre workshop on the role of European External Action Service (EEAS) in arms export control ("The EEAS and non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament").

During a work visit to Barcelona in the context of European projects for conflict resolution at school, a working meeting was organized between members of the Catalan and Flemish Parliaments (see Chapter 3).

Contacts with civil society and stakeholders

Alongside the parliamentary and academic communities, civil society is also an important partner and stakeholder of the Peace Institute. After all, the Institute is more than a centre of expertise; it is also a Flemish political-social institution. Structurally, this partnership is anchored in the strong representation of civil society organizations on the Institute's Board of Directors.

The Peace Institute is also developing additional informal contacts with Flemish civil society. Contacts with this network are used mainly for the dissemination of research results. Events organized by the Peace Institute in 2011 regularly included broad representation from organizations engaged in issues of peace and other matters of social import. However, this flow of information is not just one-way: the Peace Institute looks for a two-way flow and interaction of information and experience. In 2011, contacts were also established with international civil society organizations.

- From 26 to 28 May 2011, the Belgian Gun Collectors Association (BVVW) organized the "FESAC International Arms Collectors Congress Brussels" in the Army Museum in Brussels. On 26 May, researcher Maarten van Alstein gave an explanatory lecture there on the Peace Institute's book "Firearms: trafficking, possession and use".

- On 23 September 2011, the Commissariat for Children's Rights organized a study day, "Violence reported and counted", about the approach to violence against children and youth. Based on the book on "Youth and violence" that the Peace Institute published in May, Director Tomas Baum offered a reflection about violence among children at this study day.

- On 26 September, in the framework of Flemish Peace Week, the Peace Institute of the City and Province of Antwerp organized the debate, "Do not shoot development to pieces: achieving an international treaty on arms trade". Director Tomas Baum provided the introduction for this debate.

- On 23 November 2011, Director Tomas Baum spoke about peace activities in Belgium and the Netherlands over the past decade during an Academic Session held to mark the 25th anniversary of the Aalst Peace House.

- On November 11 2011, Director Tomas Baum gave the laudatory speech for the award of the City of Ypres Peace Prize 2011 to Dr. Denis Mukwege. Dr. Mukwege acts on the behalf of women in East DRC who have been victims of sexual violence.

In 2010, research results published by the Peace Institute also received considerable attention in publications by civil society organizations, notably with reference to peace education, remembrance, and the arms trade. Furthermore, the Peace Institute keeps close track of peace activities in Flanders, and Institute personnel were regularly present in the field.

The business world is another important actor involved in the Peace Institute's operations. Contacts need to be kept open particularly in the context of arms trade and arms production.

In 2011, during preparation of the advisory notes on the draft and proposal for a Flemish Parliament Act concerning arms trade, several meetings were held inter alia with the working group "Arms trade and arms production" which supports the activities of the Board of Directors. Representatives from relevant civil society organizations and the business world were represented in this working group. The work group "Peace and society" also consulted with a broad range of civil society organizations, inter alia on peace education, youth and violence and war commemoration.

5.5.2 *Events*

- On 10 February 2011, the Peace Institute, together with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), organized a seminar about recent developments concerning 'nuclear governance' in the Van Eyck Room of the Flemish Parliament.

- On March 2011, the Peace Institute presented the results of its research into firearms in the 'Pillar Hall' of Flemish Parliament; researchers Nils Duquet and Maarten Van Alstein presented their book "Firearms: trafficking, possession and use".

- Every year, the Institute publishes an annual report on Flemish foreign arms trade. The 2011 version was presented on 30 March to members of Parliament and press in the Rik Wouters Room of the Flemish Parliament.

- On 26 May 2011, the book "Youth and violence: offenderhood and victimhood measured and experienced" was presented by the authors and the Peace Institute in the Van Eyck Room of the Flemish Parliament.

- On 16 June the Peace Institute presented, together with Egmont - The Royal Institute for International Relations - Egmont Paper no. 46: "Death of an Institution: The End for Western European Union, a Future for European Defence?" by Alyson J.K. Bailes and Graham Messervy-Whiting in the Rik Wouters Room of the Flemish Parliament.

- On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the start of the Peace Institute in 2006, the start of Flemish Peace Week, the International Day of Peace and the publication of the Dutch-language summary of the SIPRI Yearbook 2001, on 22 September 2011 the Peace Institute organized the celebratory colloquium "Military expenditures under debate" in the 'Shell' of the Flemish Parliament.

- The Peace Institute, Bradford University and the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) together organized a seminar on small arms and light weapons, fragile states and development. The seminar took place in the Rik Wouters Room of the Flemish Parliament on 11 October 2011.

- The report, "The Great War Remembered: Commemoration and Peace in Flanders Fields" was presented in the 'Pillar Hall' of the Flemish Parliament on 8 November 2011 by author Maarten Van Alstein.

- To commemorate the end of the First World War, the Flemish Peace Institute, the In Flanders Fields Museum and Ypres, the City of Peace, organized a Remembrance Day Lecture on the eve of the 93rd anniversary of the Armistice. Following Mayor Tadatoshi Akiba of Hiroshima in 2008, war correspondent Robert Fisk in 2009 and author Erwin Mortier in 2010, this year former UN diplomat and Algerian politician Lakhdar Brahimi accepted an invitation to portray his vision of war and peace in commemoration of the First World War. The musical interlude of the Remembrance Day lecture was performed by Jozef De Beenhouwer.

5.5.3 *Communication*

Strategic communication

Effective external communication is the step that completes the Institute's research, advisory and documentation work. In order to enhance its effectiveness, and as a complement to the Institute's strategic plan, the best way to link the Institute's mission, vision and strategy with external (strategic) communications was addressed in a strategic communications plan for 2010-2011.

In 2011, this communication plan guided the Peace Institute's external communication, serving both to support the established strategic plan and to project the Institute's identity. In 2011, the entire action plan from this strategic communication plan was completed. An evaluation of the two-year plan helped form the basis for a new strategic communication plan 2012-2013, which was approved in early 2012 by the Board of Directors of the Peace Institute.

House style

For the design of its house style, the Peace Institute works with Gramma nv. Gramma is a network partner of the Total Identity Group and specializes in strategic searches in the areas of identity, image, and positioning, and the resulting visual and communicative implications. Gramma is responsible for a portion of the lay-out of the Peace Institute publications.

Website

The website of the Peace Institute is the central vehicle for information and communication: thus all of the Institute's products clearly display the website address. The updating and further development of the site are a constant focus of attention. Transparency and restrained simplicity are primary elements in both structure and design. A complete renovation of the website was completed in February 2011.

www.vlaamsvredesinstituut.eu

www.flemishpeaceinstitute.eu

Digital Newsletter

In 2011, electronic newsletters were regularly sent to subscribers. By subscribing to the newsletter, interested parties can keep abreast of the activities or new publications by the Peace Institute.

Web 2.0

The Peace Institute has had its own Facebook profile at www.facebook.com/vlaamsvredesinstituut since April 2011.

Since March 2011 the Peace Institute has had its own YouTube channel for sharing docu-clips and other videos.

5.5.4 *The Peace Institute in the press*

Press releases

18/01/2011 "Europese wapenhandel op recordpeil" (European arms trade at record pace)

15/03/2011 "Vuurwapens in België: de balans vijf jaar na de invoering van de wapenwet" (Firearms in Belgium: the balance five years after adoption of the Weapons Act)

30/03/2011 "2010 was een recordjaar voor wapenexport naar het Midden-Oosten en de Maghreb" (2010 was a record year for arms exports to the Middle East and North Africa)

03/05/2011 "Vredesinstituut reageert op speculaties over zijn toekomst" (The Peace Institute reacts to speculation about its future)

26/05/2011 "Jongeren als daders en slachtoffers van geweld in Vlaanderen" (Young offenders and victims of violence in Flanders)

25/10/2011 "Vlaams Vredesinstituut vandaag aan het woord in het Vlaams Parlement" (Flemish Peace Institute takes the podium in the Flemish Parliament)

13/12/2011 "Wapens van Vlaamse makelij worden wereldwijd ingezet" (Weapons made in Flanders used around the world)

Audiovisual media coverage

21/02/2011 "Wapenleveringen aan het Midden-Oosten" (Arms transfers to the Middle East)
Radio 1: Today

22/02/2011 "Les armes Belges circulent" (Belgian arms in circulation)
RTBF: News

22/02/2011 "Vlaamse wapens in Bahrein" (Flemish arms in Bahrain)
Q-Music/JOEfm (radio): News

22/02/2011 "Vlaamse wapenhandel" (Flemish arms trade)
Studio Brussel (radio): Zet 'm op Bram

15/03/2011 "Vuurwapens in België" (Firearms in Belgium)
VRT Radio: Het Nieuws (The News)
Eén: Het Journaal 13u (The 1 p.m. news)
Actua TV: Nieuwslus (News)

15/03/2011 "Vlaamse pantsers in Bahrein" (Flemish tanks in Bahrain)
Eén: Het Journaal 19u (The 7 p.m. news)

17/03/2011 "Vuurwapens in huis" (Firearms in the home)
Radio 1: Peeters & Pichal

30/03/2011 "Jaarrapport wapenhandel" (Annual report on arms trade)
VRT Radio: Het Nieuws (The News)
Q-Music/JOEfm: News
Eén: Het Journaal (The News)
VTM: Het Nieuws (The News)
Canvas: Ter Zake (Current issues)
Actua TV: Nieuwslus (News)

03/05/2011 "Impact nieuwe wapenwet" (Impact of new Weapons Act)
ATV (Antwerp TV)

06/08/2011 "Hiroshima en kernwapens" (Hiroshima and nuclear weapons)
Radio Centraal

13/12/2011 "Eindgebruik van Vlaams militair materieel" (End-use of Flemish military equipment)
VRT Radio: Het Nieuws (The News)

13/12/2011 "Vlaamse wapenhandel en vuurwapens in België" (Flemish arms trade and firearms in Belgium)
Radio 1: Today

14/12/2011 "Vuurwapens in België" (Firearms in Belgium)
Studio Brussel (radio): Zet 'm op Bram
VT4: Flanders Today

Written press

18/01/2011 "Vlaamse wapenexport opnieuw sterk gestegen" – De Morgen (Flemish arms exports sharply increase once again)

5/02/2011 "Directeur Tomas Baum over het Vlaams Vredesinstituut" - Mo.be (Director Tomas Baum on the Flemish Peace Institute)

22/02/2011 "Vlaamse wapens in Bahrein" - De Morgen (Flemish arms in Bahrain)

22/02/2011 'Waar zijn Waalse wapens?' – De Standaard (Where are the Walloon weapons?)

22/02/2012 "Vlaanderen exporteerde wapentuig naar Bahrein" – De Redactie (Flanders exported arms to Bahrain)

23/02/2011 "Vlaamse wapenexport schiet omhoog" – De Morgen (Flemish arms exports on the rise)

23/02/2011 "De Crem bezoekt wapenbeurs Abu Dhabi" – De Standaard (De Crem visits Abu Dhabi Arms Fair)

23/02/2011 "De Crem op wapenbeurs in Abu Dhabi" – Het Nieuwsblad (De Crem at Abu Dhabi Arms Fair)

26/02/2011 "Ook Vlaanderen is wapenhandelaar" – De Standaard (Flanders is also an arms dealer)

26/02/2011 "(Less) Lethal weapons" – De Tijd

14/03/2011 "In Focus: interview met Tomas Baum – wapenhandel, herdenking, werking" – Metro (In Focus: interview with Tomas Baum - arms trade, commemoration, action)

16/03/2011 "Helft minder dodelijke schietincidenten" – De Standaard (Fatal shooting incidents down 50%)

16/03/2011 "Vlaamse pantsers rijden Bahrein binnen" – De Standaard (Flemish tanks enter Bahrain)

16/03/2011 "Wapenwet werpt vruchten af" – Metro (Weapons Act paying dividends)

16/03/2011 "Vuurwapens in België" – Belang van Limburg (Firearms in Belgium)

16/03/2011 "Vuurwapens in België" – Gazet van Antwerpen (Firearms in Belgium)

16/03/2011 "Een op de twintig gezinnen heeft vuurwapen" – De Morgen (One in twenty families has a firearm)

16/03/2011 "Saoedi's rukken Bahrein binnen met Vlaamse pantsers" – De Morgen (Saudis enter Bahrain with Flemish tanks)

16/03/2011 "Wapenwet wordt aanvaard" – Knack (Weapons Act approved)

17/03/2011 "Saoedi-Arabisch pantserorder leverde Vlaams bedrijf 65 miljoen euro op" – De Morgen (Saudi-Arabian tank order worth 65 million euro to Flemish company)

31/03/2011 "Midden-Oosten tuk op Vlaamse wapens" – De Standaard (Middle East keen on Flemish arms)

31/03/2011 "Vlaamse wapenexport verdubbelt in vijf jaar" – Het Nieuwsblad (Flemish arms exports double over five years)

31/03/2011 "Wapenexport verdubbeld in vijf jaar" – Metro (Flemish arms exports double over five years)

31/03/2011 "Jaarrapport wapenhandel" – Belang van Limburg (Annual report on arms trade)

31/03/2011 "Vorig jaar was recordjaar voor wapenexport naar het Midden-Oosten en de Maghreblanden" – De Morgen (Last year was a record year for arms exports to the Middle East and North Africa)

01/04/2011 "L'atout très discret de d'Yves Leterme" – Le Vif (Yves Leterme's discreet trump)

01/04/2011 "Les exportations d'armes par la Flandre ont doublé en cinq ans" – Metro (FR) (Flemish arms exports double over five years)

12/04/2011 "Hoe raakt u in België aan een legaal vuurwapen" – De Morgen (How to obtain a legal firearm in Belgium)

12/04/2011 "Illegale wapens talrijker dan ooit" – Gazet van Antwerpen (More illegal weapons than ever)

12/04/2011 "Verboden wapenbezit blijft stijgen" – Belang van Limburg (Forbidden possession of guns continues to rise)

03/05/2011 "Opheffing dreigt voor Vredesinstituut en Kinderrechtencommissariaat" – De Morgen (Peace Institute and Commissariat for Children's Rights threatened with dissolution)

04/05/2011 "Kinderrechtencommissaris dreigt te verdwijnen" – Metro (Commissioner for Children's Rights in danger of disappearing)

04/05/2011 "Politeike rel over Kinderrechtencommissariaat" – De Standaard (Political storm about Commissariat for Children's Rights)

04/05/2011 "Wergroep bekijkt Vredesinstituut" – Belang van Limburg (Working group examines Peace Institute)

04/05/2011 "Peumans ontkent rel met nota commissariaat" – Het Laatste Nieuws (Peumans denies clash with commissariat note)

27/05/2011 "Jeugdcriminaliteit stijgt niet" – Belang van Limburg (Youth criminality not on the rise)

27/05/2011 "Bijna één op vijf tienerjongens gewelddadig" – De Morgen (Nearly one in five teen youths are violent)

27/05/2011 "Een op twintig jongeren pleegt wel eens geweld" – Metro (One in twenty young people have committed act of violence)

01/07/2011 "Vuurwapens in België" – Internationale Spectator (Firearms in Belgium)

13/07/2011 "Vlaanderen krijgt in 2014 kans vredesboodschap uit te dragen" – Tertio (Flanders receives opportunity to convey message of peace in 2014)

08/08/2011 "Vredesactivisten herdenken atoombommen op Japan" – Het Laatste Nieuws (Peace activists commemorate atom bombs on Japan)

08/08/2011 "Dodan Hiroshima en Nagasaki herdacht met lichtjes" – Het Nieuwsblad (Hiroshima and Nagasaki dead commemorated with lights)

03/09/2011 "Sportschutters in Vlaanderen" – De Morgen (Marksmen in Flanders)

25/10/2011 "Kinderrechtencommissariaat en Vredesinstituut moeten besparen" – De Morgen (Commissariat for Children's rights and Peace Institute must face cutbacks)

25/10/2011 "Minder geld voor Vlaams Vredesinstituut" – De Standaard (Fewer funds for Flemish Peace Institute)

25/10/2011 "Vlaanderen snoeit in kinderrechten en Vredesinstituut" – Gazet van Antwerpen (Flanders cuts budget for children's rights and Peace Institute)

25/10/2011 "Paraparlamentaire instellingen afgebouwd" – Belang van Limburg (Paraparlimentary institutions facing cutbacks)

02/11/2011 "Diplomaat Lakhdar Brahimi geeft lezing" – Het Laatste Nieuws (Diplomat Lakhdar Brahimi delivers lecture)

09/11/2011 "Luckas Van Der Taelen wil In Flanders Fields verplichten voor scholieren" – Het Nieuwsblad (Luckas Van Der Taelen wants to make In Flanders Fields obligatory for schoolchildren)

09/11/2011 "Honderd jaar Grote Oorlog" – Knack (The Great War Centenary)

14/12/2011 "Vredesinstituut wil meer duidelijkheid over eindbestemming wapens" – De Morgen (Peace Institute wants greater clarity about final destination of arms)

14/12/2011 "Vlaamse wapens toch in conflictgebieden" – De Standaard (Flemish arms in conflict areas)

14/12/2011 "Wat Van Themsche deed, kan niet meer" – De Tijd (What Van Themsche did cannot happen again)

14/12/2011 "Vlaamse wapens in Libië en Afghanistan" – De Tijd (Flemish arms in Libya and Afghanistan)

14/12/2011 "Vlaamse wapens gebruikt in conflictgebieden" – Het Nieuwsblad (Flemish arms used in conflict areas)

14/12/2011 "Eindbestemming 3 op 4 Vlaamse wapens onbekend" – Het Laatste Nieuws (Final destination of 3 out of 4 Flemish weapons unknown)

14/12/2011 "Hou meer rekening met eindgebruik wapens" – Metro (Greater awareness of end-use of arms needed)

14/12/2011 "Zwarte markt voor wapens is 'gigantisch'" – NRC Handelsblad (Black market for arms is 'gigantic')

15/12/2011 "Verboden wapens waar niemand vat op heeft" – De Morgen (Forbidden arms no one has control over)

15/12/2011 "Illegale wapenhandel groeit fors" – De Standaard (Illegal arms trade grows sharply)

15/12/2011 "Een Nagant-revolver mag in België nog" – Het Financieel Dagblad (A Nagant revolver still allowed in Belgium)

20/12/2011 "Er zijn te veel wapens vrij verkrijgbaar" – De Morgen (There are too many guns available)

21/12/2011 "Vlaamse wapens zijn overal" - Wablieft (Flemish arms are everywhere)

5.5.5 *Publications in external forums*

- Van Alstein, M. (2011), "Een oefening in herinneringsarcheologie. De herdenking en memorialisering van de slag van Verdun", Streven, 78, 413-425. (An exercise in commemoration archaeology: Commemoration and remembrance of the battle of Verdun)
- Duquet, N. (2011), "Swamped with weapons: The proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons in the Niger Delta", In: Obi, C. & Rustad, S.A. (eds.), Oil and Insurgency in the Niger Delta. London: Zed Books.
- Van Alstein, M. (2011), "1945-1949: Nederland en België en de nieuwe wereldorde", in: R. Coolsaet and D. Hellema (eds.), Nederlands – Belgische betrekkingen van 1945 tot heden, Amsterdam: Boom. (1945-1949: Netherlands and Belgium and the new world order)
- Van Alstein, M. (2011), "From Enigma to Enemy: Paul-Henri Spaak, the Belgian Diplomatic Elite, and the Soviet Union, 1944-1945", in Journal of Cold War Studies, 13(3), p. 126-148.

6 **Financial Report**

In cooperation with the services of the General Secretariat of the Flemish Parliament, the Flemish Peace Institute operates an autonomous budgetary and financial accounting system in SAP. This means that, besides the separate budget, a separate annual account is also prepared. The Flemish Parliament assigns an annual operating allocation to the Institute and, on the recommendation of the Board of Directors, approves its budget and accounts. The Peace Institute adheres to the rules of accountancy as imposed on it by the Budgetary and Accountancy Regulations for institutions associated with the Flemish Parliament. The Institute's accounts are audited by the Audit Office.

For a financial report of the Peace Institute's 2011 working year, we refer to "Flemish Peace Institute accounts for financial year 2011" which was submitted to the Flemish Parliament.

7.1 Publications in Dutch

Reports

Vlaamse buitenlandse wapenhandel 2010

Author: Nils Duquet

Publication: Brussels, 30 March 2011

ISBN 9789078864417, 78 p.

Juridisch kader voor de controle op handel in dual-use producten in Vlaanderen

Author: Sara Depauw

Publication: Brussels, 25 May 2011

ISBN 9789078864448, 40 p.

Vlaamse buitenlandse handel in producten voor tweëërlei gebruik 2010

Author: Nils Duquet

Publication: Brussels, 31 May 2011

ISBN 9789078864424, 56 p.

De Europese defensiemarkt: een kwestie van efficiëntie en verantwoordelijkheid

Author(s): Alyson JK Bailes & Sara Depauw (Eds.)

Publication: Brussels, 15 September 2011

ISBN 9789078864455, 92 p.

SIPRI Yearbook 2011 - Samenvatting in het Nederlands

Author(s): SIPRI

Publication: Brussels, 22 September 2011

Honderd jaar Eerste Wereldoorlog in het teken van vrede

Author: Maarten Van Alstein

Brussels, 8 November 2011

ISBN 9789078864462, 83 p.

Van Vlaamse makelij: het eindgebruik van Vlaams militair materieel

Author: Nils Duquet

Publication: Brussels, 13 December 2011

ISBN 9789078864479, 156 p.

Books

Vuurwapens: handel, bezit en gebruik

Authors: Nils Duquet & Maarten Van Alstein

Publication: Leuven, 15 March 2011 (Acco Publishers)

ISBN 9789033484919, 243 p.

Jongeren en geweld

Authors: Evi Verdonck, Diederik Cops, Stefaan Pleysier and Johan Put

Publication: Leuven, 26 May 2011 (Acco Publishers)

ISBN 9789033484896, 246 p.

Advisory notes

Advies bij het jaarlijks verslag van de Vlaamse regering over de wapenhandel in 2010

Publication: Brussels, 16 May 2011

Advies bij het voorontwerp voor een Vlaams wapenhandeldecreet

Publication: Brussels, 3 June 2011

Advies bij het voorstel van decreet inzake wapenhandel van Bart Caron, Filip Watteeuw en Mieke Vogels

Publication: Brussels, 5 July 2011

Annual report

Jaarverslag 2010

Publication: Brussels, 17 June 2011

ISBN 9789078864431, 96p.

Lectures

Vuurwapens: handel, bezit en gebruik

by Tomas Baum, Maarten Van Alstein and Nils Duquet

Publication: Brussels, 15 March 2011

'UBUNTU: ik ben omdat jij bent'

by Prof. Ludo Abicht

Publication: Brussels, 23 March 2011

Elfnovemberlezing

by Lakhdar Brahimi

Publication: Ypres, 10 November 2011

Laudatio voor Dr. Denis Mukwege

by Tomas Baum

Publication: Ypres, 11 November 2011

7.2 Publications translated into English

Reports

Flemish foreign Arms Trade 2010

Author: Nils Duquet

Publication: Brussels, 30 March 2011

ISBN 9789078864417, 78 p.

The legal framework for the control on trade in dual-use items in Flanders

Author: Sara Depauw

Publication: Brussels, 25 May 2011

ISBN 9789078864448, 40 p.

Flemish foreign trade in dual-use items 2010

Author: Nils Duquet

Publication: Brussels, 31 May 2011

ISBN 9789078864424, 56 p.

The EU defence market: balancing effectiveness with responsibility

Author(s): Alyson JK Bailes & Sara Depauw (Eds.)

Publication: Brussels, 15 September 2011

ISBN 9789078864455, 92 p.

The Great War Remembered: Commemoration and Peace in Flanders Fields

Author: Maarten Van Alstein

Brussels, 8 November 2011

ISBN 9789078864462, 83 p.

Advisory notes

Advice concerning the annual report of the Flemish Government about the Flemish foreign arms trade in 2010

Publication: Brussels, 16 May 2011

Advice concerning the preliminary draft for a Flemish Arms Trade Act

Publication: Brussels, 3 June 2011

Annual report

2010 Annual Report

Publication: Brussels, 17 June 2011

ISBN 9789078864431, 96p.

Lectures

11 November Lecture

by Lakhdar Brahimi

Publication: Ypres, 10 November 2011
