



**KOSMOPOLIS
INSTITUTE**

Humanist Institute for Global Ethics and World Citizenship

2010 Annual Report

Kosmopolis Institute
University of Humanistic Studies



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Foreword to the 2010 Annual Report

In 2010, the Kosmopolis Institute concentrated on (1) the production of research – and other knowledge products based on findings within the international KP network; and (2) international networking activities which aimed to disseminate and share these (interim) results. The Kosmopolis Institute also deepened their involvement in the UvH interdisciplinary research group on Citizenship in Intercultural Societies.

The Kosmopolis Institute focussed on strengthening the PKP network by encouraging and facilitating international comparative perspectives. One of the ways in which this was done, was through the Pluralism working paper series and the development of a Pluralism Tool Kit. Both initiatives not only aim to exchange knowledge between participating countries, but are also meant to stimulate exchanges between academics and CSO practice-based staff in the field of pluralism and development.

Following a 2009 decision by the UvH Executive Board, the Kosmopolis Institute continued to function in 2010 under direct authority of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Hans Alma. The work of Kosmopolis is connected to the UvH strategic goals with regard to conducting academic research and enriching public debate on ‘Worldviews in a changing society’ and the role of religious - and other worldviews in a rapidly changing global context. These shifting global realities present new questions and challenges in the realm of multicultural cooperation, conflict mediation, identity development and global citizenship, leadership and democracy, sustainable development, human rights and (global) social justice. In cooperation with Hivos, and through the Kosmopolis Institute, the UvH aims to develop itself as a knowledge centre on inter-world view - and intercultural dialogue, not only in the Netherlands, but also internationally. The work of Kosmopolis can be situated in the abovementioned strategic plans of the university. More specifically, Kosmopolis continues to connect the academic program on Humanistic Studies with practices of development cooperation of Hivos, which increase the university’s (inter)national visibility in academia, in the field of development cooperation and within the general public debate. We believe that the 2010 annual report shows that the Kosmopolis Institute has contributed to these goals in meaningful ways.

Much effort this year went into the integration of the work of the Kosmopolis Institute into the newly established UvH Graduate School (GS) for PhD research. One of the four course work weeks in the GS, a teaching program on ‘Humanization and Globalization’ was organized in collaboration with the Kosmopolis Institute. It also enabled the Kosmopolis Institute to introduce a number of international staff and students in the GS, thus opening new critical global perspectives into the PhD program.

Another achievement which perhaps also deserves a special mention, is the ‘international affiliate status’ which Kosmopolis gained with the Pluralism Project at Harvard University in the United States. This status was confirmed following a visit of the Kosmopolis directors to Harvard University in June 2010. The work of the Pluralism Program by Kosmopolis, Hivos and all other partner organizations, has now become accessible via the Harvard University website, which significantly increases our international visibility in the academic world and beyond.

We thank all of those involved in our work for their commitment. Particularly Ute Seela, Josine Stremmelaar, Loe Schout and other colleagues at Hivos and all the people who work in association with our partners in India, Indonesia and Uganda. For us at Kosmopolis, it remains very inspiring to work with Sitharamam Kakarala (CSCS), Zainal Abidin Bagir (CRCS) and Emily Drani/John de Coninck (CCFU).

We were very pleased that in 2010, Hivos continued to enable us to appoint Drs. Hilde van 't Klooster as researcher at Kosmopolis, where she contributed significantly to the Pluralism working papers and the development of the Pluralism tool kit. In addition, UvH master student Kevin Pijpers took up a graduate assistantship at Kosmopolis and contributed to research and the development of the Kosmopolis website.

The year 2010 marked the end of the first phase of the Pluralism Knowledge Program (2008-2010). We are very pleased to announce that Hivos has committed itself to an extension of the program from 2011- 2013. The Kosmopolis Institute expresses its grave concern with regard to the significant budget cuts in the field of international development cooperation by the Dutch government and sees the continued cooperation between Hivos and the UvH, via the Kosmopolis Institute, as an encouraging sign for the value both institutions attach to their collaborative work.

We hope you will read the 2010 annual report with interest. Comments, questions etc. may be directed at kosmopolis@uvh.nl

Yours sincerely,

Prof. dr. Henk Manschot (Director Kosmopolis Institute) and Dr. Caroline Suransky (Deputy Director Kosmopolis Institute)


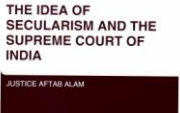


1. Research & other knowledge products



1.1 Pluralism Working Paper series

The *Pluralism Working Paper series* provides a vehicle for the dissemination of knowledge both within and outside the network of the Pluralism Knowledge Programme. The series is intended to stimulate discussion and critical comment on a broad range of issues addressed in the knowledge programme. In 2010 two new academic papers were published, a third paper was finalized in 2010 but is published in 2011.

	Paper no 5: “The Idea of Secularism and the Supreme Court of India”, by Justice Aftab Alam, a sitting honourable judge of the Supreme Court of India
	<p>One of the issues on which the Pluralism Programme and the Pluralism Working Papers intend to initiate critical dialogue concerns the role of secularism and the secular state in shaping democratic social relations. In the wake of the global phenomenon of religious revivalism, long-standing assumptions about the role of the state in secularising the social fabric have arisen. In many societies, the role of the higher courts as mediators of the democratic concerns of various religious communities has become critically important. Since they often enjoy considerable popular legitimacy, these higher courts are challenged to achieve complex balancing acts that help to enhance social cohesion amidst diversity. In this context, the Knowledge Program team decided that a study of the Supreme Court in India could be highly relevant since its long-standing and rich experience can illuminate many of the contemporary concerns on secularism elsewhere.</p> <p>The paper on “The Idea of Secularism and the Supreme Court of India”, is written by Justice Aftab Alam, a sitting honourable judge of the Supreme Court of India. The Supreme Court of India had to address, among others, issues of secularism from the very beginning of the independent constitution. Justice Alam’s perceptive and insightful paper lucidly presents this long history of judicial engagement regarding questions of secularism as they emerged over time in India.</p>

Paper no 6: “Human Rights, Pluralism and Civil Society – Reflecting on contemporary challenges in India”, by Professor Sitharamam Kakarala, coordinator of the Pluralism program in India

**HUMAN RIGHTS,
PLURALISM AND
CIVIL SOCIETY**

Reflecting on contemporary challenges in India

Sitharamam Kakarala

Paper no 6 presents an interesting review of the conceptual approaches and strategic actions of human rights - and secular action groups in complex plural societies. Kakarala’s analysis particularly refers to the context of communal violence and conflict issues in contemporary India. The paper wants to help reframe the debate on pluralism concerns in ways that allow us to go beyond communal violence and constitutional governance questions, and thus help us to rethink ways and means of strengthening the *pluricultural* societal fabric.

Kakarala insightfully identifies a number of key challenges to pluralism concerns from a civil society vantage point. He argues that present-day challenges emerged when existing - tried and tested - strategies of political protest by civil society organisations as well as efforts to address matters through constitutional and human rights mechanisms, seem to have become increasingly inadequate in a (global) context in which people’s engagement with social change is changing. The paper shows that the inadequacy problem is not confined to civil society practice. Similar struggles can be identified in the realm of social theory development. Concisely the paper explores recent theoretical challenges to the “too simplistic dichotomy between the universal and the particular in understanding the ideals of democracy, human rights” and other core concepts which are closely related to pluralism.

Paper no 7: “Exploring new sites of social transformation. Conversations with the founder members of the Patna Collective in India”, by Elise van Alphen, editor of the Journal for Humanistic Studies and PhD student at UvH, and Hilde van ‘t Klooster, researcher at The Kosmopolis Institute.

**EXPLORING NEW
SITES OF SOCIAL
TRANSFORMATION**

Conversations with the founder members of the Patna Collective in India

ELISE VAN ALPHEN
HILDE VAN 'T KLOOSTER

This paper offers critical insights into contemporary social transformation processes and ways in which Civil Society Organisations are currently challenged to rethink their engagement with sites of social change. The paper is based on conversations with Shahrukh Alam and Khalid Anis Ansari, who are the founding members of the Patna Collective. Their organisation is a research-activist collective, which is based in India, where they form part of the India Pluralism Program network. Their primary focus is to rethink the complex relationship between religion, faith and social action.

1.2 Tool kit on Civic Reason and Cultural Legitimacy for CSO’s

Within the framework of the *Pluralism Knowledge Programme* Hilde van ‘t Klooster and Caroline Suransky developed the first issue of the *Pluralism Tool Kit*, entitled *Civic Reason and Cultural Legitimacy. Exploring strategies of civil society for pluralism*. The Pluralism Tool Kit brings together academic and practice based knowledge. It aims to inspire and help CSOs to explore new ideas for creating or reforming strategies and activities which address issues of intolerance and coexistence in pluralist societies.

This particular tool kit on Civic Reason and Cultural Legitimacy presents case studies of strategies of Ugandan and Indonesian CSOs and it provides an introduction to Prof. Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na`im’s theory of ‘civic reason’ and ‘cultural legitimacy’. His theory is one possible approach to the dilemma of diversity and coexistence.

The tool kit is primarily developed for students and CSO staff in Uganda and Indonesia. It can be used to design a workshop in which participants are invited to explore the concept of Civic Reason and to reflect on CSO strategies for pluralism, and on the role of CSOs, citizens and the

state in dealing with diversity. Each case study describes a different strategy of an Ugandan or Indonesian CSO and provides two or three suggestions for discussion.

The tool kit is supported and developed in collaboration with Hivos, as well as in collaboration with Prof. Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na`im, the Cross-Cultural Foundation of Uganda (CCFU), Uganda NGO Forum, Uganda Governance Monitoring Platform (UGMP) and HURINET-U from Uganda, and with the Center for Religious and Cross-cultural Studies (CRCS), the Indonesian Legal Resource Center (ILRC), the Wahid Institute and the SETARA Institute from Indonesia.

1.3 Journal for Humanistics theme edition on integration and pluralism

In December 2009, the Citizenship in Intercultural Societies research group (see also section 2.11), including Kosmopolis staff, organized a public seminar with well-known Dutch sociologist Prof. Willem Schinkel. The seminar contributions were subsequently published as a thematic dossier in the Winter 2010 edition of the Journal for Humanistics (Vol. 11 nr. 43-44). Kosmopolis academic involvement included an introductory article written by Dr. Laurens ten Kate and Caroline Suransky (joint coordinators of the research project) entitled *'The society in brackets, a dialogue with Willem Schinkel on Citizenship, Interculturality and Social Hypochondrism'* (in Dutch). In addition, there was an article by Caroline Suransky, Hilde van 't Klooster and Kosmopolis intern of 2009, Sanne Rotmeijer, entitled: *'The cosmopolitan ethos of plural-performative thinking'* (in Dutch) (see list of Kosmopolis publications 2010)

1.4 Journal for Humanistics theme edition on Knowledge and Social Change



Following the international Knowledge and Change Dialogue, Josine Stremmelaar (Coordinator Hivos Knowledge Program Initiative) and Caroline Suransky selected and edited a number of conference contributions which appeared as a thematic dossier in the Winter 2010 edition of the Journal for Humanistics (Vol. 11 nr. 43-44). Following an introduction by the abovementioned dossier editors, there was an article by Michael Edwards (Future Positive, USA), who delivered the key note address at the Dialogue, and short pieces by Ria Brouwers (ISS), Remko Berkhout (Hivos Knowledge Program on Civil Society Building) and interviews with Shahrukh Alam (Patna Collective, India), Diego Muñoz Elsner (International Institute for Environment and Development, Bolivia) and Alan Fowler (Institute of Social Studies, The Netherlands).

1.5 Master thesis Kosmopolis intern Sanne Rotmeijer

In 2010 Kosmopolis intern Sanne Rotmeijer finalized her master thesis about Pluralism and Conflict. The thesis is entitled *'Standing in Complexity: Positions on diversity and conflict. Social differences and the emergence of conflict'*, and was supervised by Caroline Suransky and Gerty Lensvelt-Mulders. Fernando Suárez Müller was co-reader.

Abstract ‘Standing in Complexity: Positions on diversity and conflict. Social differences and the emergence of conflict. Master thesis Sanne Rotmeijer.

In today’s globalized world people are increasingly faced with social differences. Patterns of migration lead to vibrant pluralized societies, characterized by peaceful human encounters, but also, and often, by tense confrontations and violent conflicts. How do our social differences, based on culture, religion, and other social affiliations, relate to the emergence of conflicts? This being a rather underexposed subject in Humanistic research, the aim here was to explore the conflicts connected to social differences by examining a spectrum of important theoretical paradigms, nourishing contemporary conflict analyses, as well as assumptions that exist on the ground among NGO-practitioners who work in the conflict region of Jammu and Kashmir (India). The investigation of multi-leveled knowledge sources contributes to a more comprehensive understanding, but also offers insights into real practice where conflicts need to be dealt with.

Through an examination of the theoretical paradigms of (a) realism, (b) postcolonialism, and (c) human development, represented by the works of Huntington, Said, Nussbaum and Sen respectively, the relationship between social diversity and conflict appears to be one of complexities, where different aspects need to be highlighted. Huntington’s realism points out the importance of cultural differences for current unavoidable conflicts in a global political reality; top-down interventions are necessary to handle such insurgences. Postcolonialism, reflected in Said’s work, emphasizes the differential power systems constructing unequal relations and identities; cultural and political resistance against these systems should be supported. Nussbaum and Sen’s development approach highlights the individual multiplicity of diversity and the role of individual capabilities in conflicts; education and cultivating humanity should teach people how to deal with differences.

Chat interviews with practitioners in Jammu and Kashmir reflect this spectrum of paradigmatic viewpoints. The NGO-workers describe the multi-leveled conflict dimensions of Jammu and Kashmir, in which clashing differences do not only characterize the relationship between Pakistan and India, but also between the Indian national government and the Kashmiri people, and between local communities within Jammu and Kashmir. Living and working in a conflict situation, the position of the practitioners asks for an inclusive comprehension of multiple conflict processes. Any understanding, however, is connected to their very actions in the social and political context of Jammu and Kashmir. The practitioners show that theoretical assumptions, activities, and strategies are interconnected and always have political implications. The relationship between conflict and social diversity knows many different faces, and our knowledge of this relationship is contextualized in how researchers, practitioners, scholars, and other stakeholders stand in a complicated reality.

1.6 Overview publications Kosmopolis staff

Alphen, van Elise & Klooster, Hilde van ‘t (to be published in 2011). ‘Exploring new sites of social transformation. Conversations with the founder members of the Patna Collective in India’. *Pluralism Working Paper series no 7*.

Kate, ten, Laurens & Caroline Suransky (2010) *De samenleving tussen haakjes, - een dialoog met Willem Schinkel over burgerschap, interculturaliteit en sociale hypochondrie* (The Society in Brackets – a dialogue with Willem Schinkel on citizenship, interculturalism and social hypochondria) in: *Tijdschrift voor Humanistiek* (Journal for Humanistics) 11(43-44), 42-49.

Klooster, Hilde van ‘t & Caroline Suransky (to be published in 2011). *Civic Reason and Cultural Legitimacy. Exploring strategies of civil society for pluralism*. Pluralism Tool Kit.

Kunneman, Harry & Caroline Suransky, (to be published in 2011). *Cosmopolitanism and the Humanist Myopia* in: M. Rovisco, M. Nowicka (Eds.) *The Ashgate Companion to Cosmopolitanism*, London: Ashgate

Suransky, C, H. van 't Klooster & S. Rotmeijer (2010). Het kosmopolitische ethos van het pluraal-performatief denken. *Tijdschrift voor Humanistiek* 43-44 (11). p. 61-68.

Stremmelaar, Josine & Caroline Suransky (2010) *Kennis en Verandering* (Knowledge and Change) in: *Tijdschrift voor Humanistiek* (Journal for Humanistics) 11(43-44), 7-11

2. Knowledge activities and dissemination

2.1 Launch Pluralism Working Paper series

In February 2010, the Kosmopolis Institute and Hivos launched the Pluralism Working Paper series. The Kosmopolis Institute introduced the series in academic library networks. The Library of the University of Humanistic Studies and Utrecht University, Webster University and the National Library of The Netherlands added the Pluralism Working Paper series to their collection and archive. The Kosmopolis Institute also constructed web pages on the UvH website from which the papers can be retrieved. The launch of the series was promoted through a special newsletter which was distributed among staff and students of the UvH and partners of the Kosmopolis Institute

2.2 Public lecture at Humanist League on topics related to PKP

Kosmopolis was invited to give a public lecture in a seminar series organized by the Humanist League, chapter Utrecht/Amersfoort (HuMaNu) on Humanism and Globalisation. The lecture, given by Caroline Suransky, took place on the 15th of March 2010. It was attended by approximately 10 local Humanist League members and 15 UvH Bachelor and Master students. The seminar was interactive and addressed challenges to Humanist images of 'the other' in an era of globalization.

2.3 Seminar on WRR report on proposed changes in Dutch Development Cooperation

In recent years, development aid has become the subject of much discussion in the Netherlands. This urged the Scientific Council for Government Policy (WRR in Dutch) to examine what form development aid should take in an era of globalization. The WRR produced a report presenting recommendations for far-reaching changes to the organization of development policy. On the 27th of April 2010, the Kosmopolis Institute organized a seminar the main author of the report, Prof. Peter van Lieshout. At the seminar, van Lieshout introduced the main issues of the report and responded to inputs by Allert van den Ham, Hivos Director Program and Projects who linked the report to the Hivos Knowledge Program initiative and Prof Harry Kunneman (UvH) who challenged the implicit assumptions about 'professionalization' which underpin the views expressed in the report. The afternoon seminar was attended by 24 people, coming from the UvH, several other universities and staff members of various organizations for development cooperation in the Netherlands.

2.4 Presentation at the American Humanist Association Conference in San Jose (California)

Together with colleagues of the University of Humanistic Studies, Henk Manschot participated in the annual conference of the American Humanist Association in San Jose (California) from 2 - 5 June. On the 3rd of June, he presented a paper on “Connecting Human and Sustainable Development: A special role for Humanism?” The discussion following the presentation focused on two topics: (1) the ways in which new patterns of human-earth interdependence and interaction require Humanism to re-situate human life more explicitly within the larger, evolutionary developing web of life. And (2) the idea of a modern Humanistic cosmology, based on the notion that human beings need a narrative that expresses their existential and emotional connections with life on Earth in new ways.

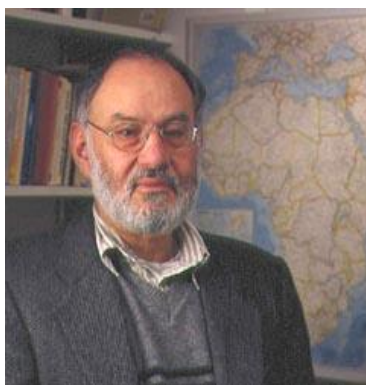
2.5 Field research and dialogue with partners in Uganda and Indonesia for CSO brochure on Civic Reason

For the development of the Pluralism Tool Kit on Civic Reason and Cultural Legitimacy, Hilde van 't Klooster conducted field research in Uganda (May 2010) and in Indonesia (August 2010). She consulted the Cross-cultural Foundation of Uganda, Uganda NGO Network (Uganda) and the Center for Religious and Cross-cultural Studies (Indonesia). She also interviewed staff members of several CSOs that agreed to participate in developing the tool kit. She documented their understanding of the changing social context in their country and reconstructed their narratives about new opportunities and challenges these CSOs face. A central question was: what kind of questions does the current situation in the country raise for your approach to social change and how do you perceive your role in contributing to social change? The field research formed the basis for the development of the case studies in the tool kit.

2.6. Field research “Pluralism and Conflict regions” in Kashmir

Due to increasing security risks in the region of Kashmir it was impossible to conduct this planned field research. The field research therefore was cancelled. Instead Sanne Rotmeijer collected data for her research through online research, using new social media to contact and interview practitioners in Kashmir region.

2.7 Interview with Prof. Talal Asad



On the 7th of June, at his office at the City University of New York, Henk Manschot and Caroline Suransky conducted an interview with Prof. Talal Asad. Asad is an internationally renowned post-colonial scholar who has made important theoretical contributions to the field of interdisciplinary studies in secularism. The interview was recorded and subsequently transcribed and will be the basis for a working paper in the Pluralism Paper Series as well as a source of information for the book project that the Kosmopolis Institute is undertaking with the UvH research project group on Citizenship in Intercultural Societies.

2.8 Support conference on public discontent and populism in The Netherlands

On the 8th of June, one day before the Dutch general election, Martien Schreurs, UvH lecturer member of the UvH project group 'Citizenship in an intercultural society', organized a conference on the rise of public discontent and populism in The Netherlands, entitled 'De onderbuik van Nederland: Baas in eigen buik?'. The Kosmopolis Institute supported this conference financially.

2.9 Organisation of and participation in PKP contribution at the Hivos International Dialogue on Knowledge and Social Change

From 29 September - 1 October 2010, an international conference, the International Dialogue Knowledge & Change took place in The Hague. The conference was organized to contribute to a debate on knowledge and change by sharing and discussing the emerging insights from experiences in all five Hivos thematic knowledge programs. Some 130 invited activists, NGO practitioners, representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development Cooperation and scholars from all continents came together. Conference participants reflected on theories and practices of development dilemmas, as well as methodologies of knowledge development. Guiding questions throughout the conference were: How do citizens engage with power? Which new change agents really matter? How does knowledge trigger social change?

Representatives of all regions within the Pluralism Knowledge program, and Kosmopolis staff, actively contributed as members of the organizing committee, gave presentations and organized workshops at the conference.

In the opening plenary session on 'Knowledge, Pluralism and Transformative Action', some of the central themes in the pluralism program were explored and linked to knowledge and social change. The Pluralism program started with a critical discussion on secularism and development and on local ecological wisdoms and global citizenship, followed by a topic which they shared with the Small Producer Agency

program, the theme of pluralizing the concept of development. Together, they discussed major conceptual shifts which they encounter around these themes (e.g. growing role of religion in development), mapped new and emerging actors in civil society (e.g. religious and ethnic identity movements) that present new challenges, and they shared insights into conceptualizing and managing difference (e.g. linkages and convergence between local resource problems and planetary concerns). In addition, together with the Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, Kosmopolis organized a workshop on methodologies of change in a session titled 'Affective Knowledge'. Kosmopolis staff chaired a number of sessions throughout the conference. The University of Humanistic Studies summer school students gave a workshop about their experiences in the Pluralism and Development course.

The conference was generally seen as informative and inspirational. It gave KP partners an opportunity for critical exchanges. The Kosmopolis staff valued the opportunity to establish new contacts. For more information, please go to www.hivos.net



2.9 Organisation of public lecture by Ram Kakarala at UvH “The Ambiguous Legacy of Secular Humanism. Dilemmas of Freedom in a Postcolonial Setting”

Human agency and the pursuit of freedom are central questions in Twentieth Century humanist philosophy. In this *Pluralisme Lezing 2010*, Prof. Kakarala discussed the potential of postcolonial critique to productively reframe the humanist goal of advancing agency and freedom. He first outlined the context of liberal humanism as a resource to critique colonialism and the creation of the modern national subject. Through a critique of nationalism and the Enlightenment project, he subsequently traced a genealogy of postcolonial critique that underscores the inadequacy - and at times contradictory - nature of the humanist project of freedom.

Professor Sitharamam Kakarala is senior fellow of the Centre for the Study of Culture and Society in Bangalore (India).

The *Pluralisme Lezing* is an annual lecture organized by the Kosmopolis Institute and Hivos as part of the Pluralism Knowledge Program.



2.10 Support for an international exchange project for youngsters from immigrant communities in Kanaleneiland, Utrecht and Grigny, Paris.

‘The Urban Con-Action’ is an exchange project initiated by ‘Doetank’, which took place in the second half of 2010 within the community of ‘Kanaleneiland’ in Utrecht. The project focusses on the ideas of young men from immigrant communities, about what is happening in their local neighborhoods and its broader meaning for social change. In the first part of the project, a group of men between the ages of 16 and 20 visited the ‘banlieue’ of Grigny near Paris, France. In a series of meetings, they exchanged ideas with their young counterparts in Paris, by comparing their respective situations in Kanaleneiland with Grigny. In the second half of the project, the youngsters discussed their experiences and formulated their ideas about their role in the local community. The exchange project forms part of the empirical research by UvH PhD candidate Femke Kaulingfreks who participates in the research group on Citizenship in Intercultural Societies. The Kosmopolis Institute follows Femke’s progress with interest because of its relevance for the Pluralism Knowledge Program. The Kosmopolis Institute initiated a link between Femke and the researchers of the Patna Collective in India, encouraging them to discuss international comparative perspectives in their research. The Kosmopolis Institute also financially supported the Kanaleneiland – Grigny exchange initiative.

2.11 An International Seminar on Liberalism and Religion organised by the International Democratic Initiative

Based on the paper on 'Rethinking the Secular' (pluralism working paper nr. 3) by Prof. Henk Manschot and Caroline Suransky, Kosmopolis was invited to contribute to one-day seminar on the 5th of November 2010 organised by the International Democratic Initiative (D66) in Amsterdam. Other speakers and workshop facilitators included D66 politicians Sophie in 't Veld and Louisewies van der Laan, Prof. Herman Philipse (University of Utrecht) and Prof. Theo de Wit (Tilburg University).



On the basis of the pluralism working paper, Caroline Suransky and Hilde van 't Klooster conducted a workshop on the changing relationship between religion and politics, entitled "The Myth of Secularization, are we as secular as we think?" In the workshop they argued that (1) the reality of diversity and the growing presence of religions in the public sphere worldwide; (2) the debate about the value of the western related modern concepts of the secular for non-western, postcolonial states; and (3) the

philosophical debate around the impossibility of one overarching universal framework seems to indicate that the modern framework of the relation between the secular and the religious should be rethought and redefined.

In an interesting dialogue with Dutch D66 liberals and representatives of liberal political parties and likeminded civil society organizations from across the Balkan (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia, Turkey, Montenegro, Kosovo) and Turkey, the Kosmopolis workshop drew out differences in interpretation of secularism in the various national contexts of the workshop participants and challenged the idea that liberalism provides a universally accepted framework for democracy.

2.12 Workshop for the Belgium initiative 'Waardige Samenleving' (WASA) (Decent Society) on Humanism and the Capability Approach

The Kosmopolis Institute was approached by a group of cooperating Humanist organizations in Flanders (Belgium) to conduct a workshop on the Human Development and Capability Approach (HDCA) and its possible value for the work of local and regional Humanist organizations. These organizations aim to participate in local governance with a focus on cultural policy development. The workshop took place on the 17th of November 2010 in Ghent. Specific request was to focus on the value of the HDCA for policy making. After an introduction of the basic principles of the HDCA, the participants engaged in a number of exercises which required them to make principled choices out of competing possibilities for local cultural programs. For more information, please consult www.waardigesamenleving.be

2.13 Cooperation between Kosmopolis and the UvH interdisciplinary research project on 'Citizenship in Intercultural Societies'

The UvH 'Citizenship in an Intercultural Society' research project brings together researchers from various academic disciplines. The research of the Kosmopolis Institute is partly integrated with this research project. The project investigates challenges that confront citizens in both local and global contexts from various academic vantage points, including philosophy, comparative religious studies, history, education, cultural studies and social and political theory. The research addresses citizenship in intercultural fields of tension, where old, pillarized forms of citizenship

(in the Netherlands), based on a social partition of cultural (e.g. religious) identities, is no longer adequate in today's society. The primary research focus is on what happens in Western societies, but, through the involvement of the *Kosmopolis* Institute, is also oriented towards global, comparative perspectives. Western and non-Western issues and perspectives are studied, with an explicit focus on the relationship between modern Western secular thought and practices, and those that are rooted in religious traditions, which often dominate in non-Western contexts. However, in the Western world too, *intercultural* issues have become an important part of *interreligious* and *inter-worldview* issues. The work of the 'Citizenship in Intercultural Societies' project and *Kosmopolis* aims to shed new light on the complex processes that take place in intercultural societies, where new forms of engagement determine how identities are articulated in diverse communities and societies. This research objective is in line with current debate and reflection in various Dutch humanist organizations and movements and addresses the tensions between concepts and practices of autonomy and community, secularism and religion, and about the evolving identity of humanism in the 21st century.

2.14 Overview international presentations, workshops and meetings by Kosmopolis staff

Hilde van 't Klooster (January 22). Presentation at film and dialogue evening about the Dutch debate on the effectiveness of international aid. *Wat dan*, Dare2Go, 's Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands.

Caroline Suransky (March 15) *Humanism and Globalization* Presentation in the HuMaNu lecture series, Humanist League chapter Utrecht/Amersfoort, Utrecht

Caroline Suransky and Isolde de Groot (April 12-15) Training Program: '*Enhancing the Capacity and Competence of Teachers in Values Based Education for Raising Awareness on Anti-corruption Issues*', Institute for Social Studies, The Hague

Caroline Suransky (April 27) Seminar 'Development Cooperation New Style': *Introductory address: Rethinking Development Cooperation; a dialogue on the WRR report 'Less pretention, more ambition'*. Utrecht, Kosmopolis Institute and Hivos.

Hilde van 't Klooster (May 28). Analysis support qualitative research. Research team Uganda Martyrs University and Mpigi NGO Forum, Nkozi, Uganda.

Henk Manschot (June 3) Paper presentation '*Connecting Human and Sustainable Development: A special role for Humanism?*' at the American Humanist Association Conference in San Jose, California, USA.

Henk Manschot and Caroline Suransky (June 7) Interview with Prof. Talal Asad on 'Rethinking Secularism' in preparation for Pluralism working paper series, City University of New York (CUNY), New York, USA

Henk Manschot and Caroline Suransky (June 8) Dialogue/meeting '*Pluralism – exploring the possibility of collaboration*' Staff of the Harvard Project on Pluralism, Prof. Diana Eck, Harvard University, Cambridge Mass. USA

Henk Manschot and Caroline Suransky (June 9) Dialogue/meeting: The Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale, Prof. Mary E. Tucker, Yale University, New Haven, USA

Caroline Suransky (July) Introductory address ‘*Promoting Pluralism*’ at public seminar Prof. Amina Wadud, Gajah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Henk Manschot, Caroline Suransky and Ram Kakarala (September 29) Opening plenary session: ‘*Knowledge, Pluralism and Transformative Action*’ at the International Dialogue on Knowledge and Social Change, Hivos, The Hague

Ram Kakarala and Caroline Suransky (September 30) Workshop: ‘*Affective Knowledge*’ at the International Dialogue on Knowledge and Social Change, Hivos, The Hague

Caroline Suransky (October 18) Radio interview ‘Capability Approach and the Decent Society’ HVW Radio, Belgium

Caroline Suransky and Hilde van ‘t Klooster (November 5). Workshop “The myth of secularization: are we as secular as we think?”. Workshop at the international Annual Liberal Values Conference, *Liberalism and Religion. To believe or not to believe. Questions in Europe*, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Organized by The International Democratic Initiative Foundation D66.

Caroline Suransky and Henk Manschot (November 17) Workshop ‘Human Development and the Capability Approach’ for the project “*Waardige Samenleving*” (Decent Society) organized by the collective Belgium (Flemish) Humanist organizations, Ghent, Belgium

3. Capacity building activities

3.1 International Summer school Pluralism and Development in Yogyakarta, Indonesia

The 7th edition of the international summer school on Pluralism and Development took place in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and was hosted by the Center for Religious – and Cross Cultural Studies of the Gadjah Mada University. Participants included graduate students and staff of affiliated CSO partners in Indonesia(6), India(4), Uganda(5) and master students from the UvH (5)¹.

A teaching venue and student accommodation was secured at the Wisma MM campus in Yogyakarta. The course was conducted between July 12th and August 6th 2010. Using the format that has been developed over the past few years, the program consisted of lectures, excursions, workshops, dialogue, guided small group work, an individual assignment and a group presentation. Participants were required to submit a pre-course assignment and concluded the course with a group presentation and a written paper. All participants succeeded in meeting the assessment criteria and were given an Kosmopolis/University of Humanistic Studies certificate. UvH master students included the course in their graduate study program and were awarded 7,5 EC (European University Credit Rating). A complete overview and copy of the 2010 course outline of the program may be obtained from the Kosmopolis secretariat.

¹ For an overview of the participants of the 2010 summer school, please see appendix.

Based on last year's evaluation, the core teaching staff had restructured the work in the small project groups and were more directly involved in mentoring the projects. In the first week of the program all four core staff members introduced a specific thematic and/or interdisciplinary perspective on pluralism and development. Subsequently, 4 project groups were formed, each linked to one of the themes. During the last two days of the summer school, all groups gave a presentation and facilitated a discussion on their topic.

One of the highlights of the summer school was a two day excursion to to the DIENG Plateau in Central Java and a dialogue on local politics and (sustainable) development with the mayor of the town Wonosobo.



An excursion to Dieng Plateau, Central Java.



Summer school students presenting their pluralism workshop designs to the group.



A session on 'designing a pluralism workshop' was conducted by the 2009 summer school participants Sherria Ayuandini (Program Director Association for Critical Thinking, Indonesia) and Kevin Pijpers (UvH master student and Kosmopolis research assistant).



In a concluding session of the summer school, participants and staff reflected on what they had learned in the program.

3.2 PhD course work programme in UvH Graduate School

In 2010, the UvH launched their Graduate School, offering a PhD program which combines course work and a Doctoral Thesis. The first year of the program includes four weeks of course work, each centred around a particular theme. The fourth course work week focused on the theme 'Humanization and Globalization', and was developed in collaboration with the Kosmopolis Institute. It took place from the 4th to the 7th of October 2010.

Four PhD candidates whose work is connected to the Pluralism Knowledge Program (see elsewhere in this annual report), took part in this week's course program. Participation of

Kosmopolis / Pluralism KP staff and students contributed to the international outlook of the Graduate School program. It gave the Dutch PhD candidates an opportunities to interact with PhD researchers whose work is contextualised in different social and political circumstances. For the international PhD candidates it meant more exposure to Humanistic Studies through direct interaction with fellow PhD students and a number of UvH academics.

Humanization and Globalization: theme of the 4th course work week in the UvH Graduate School 2010

The concept of human dignity is deeply rooted within Humanist traditions and is fundamental for the UvH's main principles. The university's core mission is to contribute to the development of a humane society and a meaningful existence for all human beings, through academic education and research. Our multi – and interdisciplinary teaching – and research programs have been organised around two leading principles: 'meaning making' and 'humanization'. In the previous Graduate School week, we focussed on 'meaning making' and this final week of the first year program is focussed on 'humanization', as the second core principle. Whereas 'meaning making' focuses predominantly on the personal and the uniquely individual ways in which people give meaning to their existence, in 'humanization', the focus is more on the social and political circumstances which human beings create in the form of institutions, communities and societies. Personal meaning making and the politics of humanization are intricately interconnected in our daily lives.

In the 21st century, an age of globalisation, people and the societies they live in, are more interconnected than ever before in human history. Through wide-scale migration and urbanisation, the use of ICT and global trade, societies across the world become more and more diverse in terms of e.g. culture, religion, language and ethnicity. This situation creates new possibilities, responsibilities, dilemmas and challenges. For researchers at the UvH, including PhD researchers, humanization in the context of globalisation raises many pertinent issues when they develop conceptual frameworks, formulate research questions and when they deal with the ethical and methodological dilemmas which arise in the process of doing research.

Prof. Sitharaman Kakarala (coordinator India PKP) and Dr. Zainal Bagir (coordinator Indonesia PKP) both taught in the program. Prof. Kakarala's master class was entitled 'Ambiguous Legacy: Secular Humanism and Dilemmas of Freedom in a Postcolonial Setting' and was aimed to:

“ address a central question in twentieth century humanist philosophy, namely the question of human agency and pursuit of freedom. The discussion will have two parts. We start with an outline of the context of liberal humanism as a resource of critiquing colonialism and the creation of the modern national subject. The other part traces a genealogy of postcolonial critique that underscores the inadequacy and at times contradictory nature of the humanist project of freedom, initially through a critique of nationalism but subsequently as a critique of the Enlightenment project itself. The discussion will conclude with a brief reflection on the potential of the postcolonial critique to a productive reframing of the humanist goal advancing agency and freedom.”

Dr. Bagir's master class focused on 'Religion in the public sphere'. His lecture followed a presentation by UvH staff member Dr. Abdelilah Ljamai on 'Humanism and Islam: Ethical and Methodological questions' and dealt with:

“...An inherent dimension of the problem of religious diversity is the presence of religions in the public sphere. Such a public presence may mean problems when religions compete with each other and with other civil society actors, especially when their conservative elements are emphasized. But it may also create opportunities of engaging religious communities in fostering human development for social justice. In this session we will discuss how religions play their roles, positively or negatively, in development, especially in the context

of a globalized world. This will be illustrated by examples from Indonesia, where researchers in the Promoting Pluralism Knowledge Program encounter the abovementioned issues in their research. “

A master class by Kosmopolis staff members Prof Henk Manschot and Caroline Suransky focused on:

“The Human Development – and Capability Approach (HDCA) is an approach to the pursuit of a humane life for all people. How does the HDCA speak to the concept of ‘humanization’, as one of the basic concepts in Humanistics? What are its underlying assumptions, its strengths as well as its gaps and silences?

The HDCA, initially developed by Amartya Sen and Martha Nussbaum, has been given an unusual degree of attention and influence in development thinking. The capability-approach invites us to look at the set of life options a human being has, and the actual things a s/he does and achieves. The rethinking of the concept of development is focused on the content of people’s lives and their conception of wellbeing, on – in the famous words of Sen -“what they have reason to value.” Sen’s work on human capability stresses empowerment as a process of developing individual capacities through education and skills development which can empower individuals to fight for a better quality of life. Sen sees poverty as an indication of an inability of people to meet their basic needs. Nussbaum’s normative work on human capabilities stresses the unique value of the individual human being and elaborates on the idea that the ten basic capabilities should be developed at a threshold level as the core stone of human development.

In this session we will also view and discuss the documentary *Changing Paths* by Jaqueline Bakker, Fatush Productions”.

3.3 Supervision of PhD research in the Graduate School of the UvH

The Kosmopolis Institute and the Pluralism Program brought four international PhD candidates to the newly founded UvH Graduate School in 2010. Their research is connected to the knowledge programs in India, Indonesia and Uganda and supervised by UvH staff in collaboration with academics in local academic institutions, as agreed in the MOU’s which were signed in 2009. Together with the other Graduate School proposals, the proposals of the Kosmopolis candidates were assessed and approved by the UvH Board of Promotions on the 15th of November 2010. One of the candidates, Ms. Elizabeth Thomas, who only started in June 2010 as a Pluralism PhD candidate, was requested to rework certain sections of the proposal and resubmit for final approval in March 2011.

PhD candidate	Country	UvH Supervisors	External Supervisor
1. Rahayu Mustaghfiroh	Indonesia	Prof. Gerty Lensvelt-Mulder Dr. Caroline Suransky	Dr. Zainal A. Bagir CRCS, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta
2. Jimmy Spire Ssentongo	Uganda	Prof. Gerty Lensvelt-Mulder Dr. Caroline Suransky	Prof. Peter Kayandago, Uganda Martyrs University
3. Khalid Anis Ansari	India	Prof. Harry Kunneman Dr. Caroline Suransky	Prof. Sitharamam Kakarala, CSCS, Bangalore
4. Elizabeth Thomas	India	Prof. Harry Kunneman Dr. Caroline Suransky	Prof. Sitharamam Kakarala, CSCS, Bangalore

Rahayu Mustaghfiroh

PhD project: Perceptions of women's rights in the context of the Compilation of Islamic Law

Accommodation in a multicultural society often involves certain group identities being vested with legal authority over their members. In Indonesia, as part of state accommodation to Muslim community, the government issued the 1991 Presidential Instruction of the Compilation of Islamic Law. As many theories on multiculturalism have acknowledged the conflict that can arise between multicultural accommodation and gender equality, the marriage aspect of the Compilation shows a similar problem. However, Indonesian Muslim women have diverse opinions when talking about women's rights issues in those marriage stipulations. The feminists group considers some stipulations in marriage section to violate women's rights; conservative group views what feminists have done as violating God's law and laypersons at grass-roots level have their own opinion on the stipulation which is different from feminists' and conservative's. This research will examine the dynamic of those groups in responding to the revision of marriage law stipulation in the Compilation of Islamic law. How those groups interpret women's rights in their specific situation and how they relate that issue with their citizenship rights are the main questions. This research is a case study research with anthropological approach. The methods used to gain data are documentary analysis, observation and in-depth interview.

Jimmy Spire Ssentongo

PhD Project: Ethnicity and Socio-Economic Exclusion in Uganda: Perceptions, Indicators and Spaces for Pluralism with Specific Reference to Cosmopolitan Kampala

The purpose of the research is to explore the relationship between ethnicity and exclusion (socio-economic, cultural and political) in Uganda through the case of Kampala, a cosmopolitan city accommodating people from most of the ethnic groups in Uganda (Mwakikagile 2009). According to Mwakikagile (2009), the Baganda constitute the largest ethnic group in Kampala, followed by the Banyankole. Other large ethnic groups in the city include the Basoga, the Bakiga, Batoro, Bafumbira, Banyoro, Iteso, Acholi, Alur, Bagisu and some other small groups. In the exploration, key focus will be put on the perceptions of the people on: the above relationship through their own experiences and feelings; the indicators of ethnically motivated exclusion; and the possibilities for pluralism amidst the ethnic diversity/heterogeneity. The possibilities for pluralism will mainly be ascertained through critical identification and analysis of good practices.

Khalid Anis Ansari

PhD Project: Rethinking the relationship between democracy, pluralism, and identity as manifested in the emergent thematic of 'Caste and Islam' in the Indian context

The broad *context* of this proposed study is the crisis of the project of modernity itself, especially the liberal conception of abstract citizenship and how it is being interrogated by various identity movements that have spawned in various jurisdictions in the last few decades. In fact, the mutual and uneasy contamination of the liberal and democratic traditions, and the tension inherent in the articulation of the democratic project of our times, which is liberal democracy, has surfaced in myriad ways and it seems urgent that they are addressed adequately. This has also provided a context for the contest between pluralization and fundamentalization on a global scale. One of the central themes that this proposed study will reflect on is the crisis of 'democracy' itself, and indulge in tracing and recovering the trajectories and traditions of thought/practices where it could be probably relocated so that a meaningful 'rethink' is enabled. Moreover, it would also navigate between the various imaginations of social action and transformation available to us, especially in the context of social movements, and reflect on the limitations and possibilities of the question of 'translation' itself. Moreover, these opening concerns will be explored from the vantage point of the *site* of the *Pasmada Movement*, which is a social movement of lower caste Indian Muslims.

3.4 An anti-corruption training program for Indonesian educators



The Kosmopolis Institute was approached by Prof. Mohamed Salih from the Institute for Social Studies (ISS) in the Hague to help facilitate a “Training Program on Enhancing the Capacity and Competence of Teachers in Values Based Education for Raising Awareness on Anti-corruption Issues”. The program was conducted between 6 – 23 April 2010 and attended by a group of 20 Indonesian Education officials and teachers. Kosmopolis developed part of the program and taught a number of sessions with a focus on value based education, one of them with UvH PhD candidate Isolde de Groot whose doctoral research is on Youth, Democracy and Education.

Indonesian Educators in a participatory learning session at the ISS.

4. Network building activities

4.1 Film- and dialogue evening with youth group

In January Hilde van ‘t Klooster was invited by Wat Dan to organize a film- and dialogue evening about poverty and international aid, following the Dutch public debate on the effectiveness of international aid. Wat Dan is a group of young people who reflect on issues of global justice and their personal sources of inspiration for their engagement in activities to pursue global justice. This group is supported by Dare2Go, a NGO that aims to inspire youth to commit themselves to a more humane global society.

4.2 Information booth at the Dies celebration of the UvH

On the 29th of January the University for Humanistics celebrated its 21st anniversary. The Kosmopolis Institute installed an interactive information booth to inform guests and students about the projects, activities and expertise of The Kosmopolis Institute.

4.3 Information evening International Summer School 2010 - Yogyakarta

In January 2010 five students of the University of Humanistic Studies, alumni of the International Summer School 2009 held in India, Bangalore, organized an information evening to share their experiences and background information of the International Summer School on Pluralism and Development to inform and inspire potential candidates.

4.4 Dialogue at the California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS) in San Francisco.

At the end of May, Henk Manschot visited the *California Institute of Integral Studies* (CIIS) in San Francisco and established contact with Prof. Dean Kelly and Prof. Robert Mc Dermott from the Department of Philosophy, Cosmology and Consciousness. The Centre offers interdisciplinary master and PhD programs in Asian and Comparative Studies, Cultural Anthropology and Social Transformation and in Philosophy and Cosmology. After having discussed and compared the objectives and programs of Kosmopolis and CIIS, we explored the possibility of further collaboration, in particular on topics of interdisciplinary approaches of sustainable development and the role of culture and world views in this field.

4.5 The Kosmopolis Institute gains International affiliate status with the Pluralism Project at Harvard University, USA



During their visit in the United States in June 2010, Henk Manschot and Caroline Suransky met for a dialogue with the Director (Prof. Diana Eck), staff and the international research interns of the Harvard Program on Pluralism at Harvard University, Cambridge Mass. USA. They presented the work of the Hivos KP on pluralism and exchanged insights and experiences of their respective programs. Prof. Diana Eck encouraged the Kosmopolis Institute to seek institutional affiliate status with the Harvard Program. In September 2010, the Kosmopolis Institute applied and was granted such status. The Pluralism Knowledge program is now part of an international pluralism network, sharing online resources on background information on religious distribution, geographic data, and political systems in countries around the world. For more information, please consult the Harvard website: <http://pluralism.org/affiliates/kosmopolis>



4.5 Dialogue with the ‘Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale’

On the 9th of June, Henk Manschot and Caroline Suransky discussed the link between pluralism, humanism and ecology with Prof. Mary E. Tucker and Prof. John Grim, coordinators of the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale in New Haven. The Forum is the largest international multi-religious project of its kind and engages in exploring religious worldviews, texts, and ethics in order to broaden understanding of the complex nature of current environmental concerns.



The work of the Forum is based on the idea that religions (and other worldviews) need to be in dialogue with other disciplines (e.g., science, ethics, economics, education, public policy, gender) in seeking comprehensive solutions to both global and local environmental problems. Building on Henk Manschot’s previous work on Humanism and Ecology, we explored the possibility of further cooperation between the Forum at Yale and the Kosmopolis Institute in the context of future work on pluralism, cultural diversity and sustainable development.

4.6 Web site development

During the past year, Kevin Pijpers, Program- and Network Assistant of Kosmopolis Institute, worked extensively on the website of The Kosmopolis Institute. Our aims were to make the website more accessible to visitors and to keep it up to date concerning news items, our agenda, publications, research and conference options, the description and explanation of the knowledge program and our foreign partners. Since the UvH will launch an entirely new website early 2011, another goal was to critically review the structure of the website, so it can be more easily transferred to the new website. In May 2011 the new site will be online, so feel free to take a look at <http://kosmopolis.uvh.nl>.

5. Management

5.1 Interregional meeting

Two interregional meetings took place in 2010. The first one took place in August in Yogyakarta. In this meeting the second international meeting as well as the International Conference on Knowledge and Change were prepared. The second international meeting took place on September 28 in The Hague. During this second interregional meeting many members of all regional teams were present. They updated each other on the progress of their research and activities since the last interregional meeting. This resulted in interesting discussions, in which new links and commonalities were discovered between the different studies across the regional programmes.

5.2. Steering committee meeting

The steering committee meeting also took place on the 28th of September in The Hague. In this meeting, the members of the steering committee evaluated phase one of the Promoting Pluralism Knowledge Programme and prepared the next phase of the programme (2011 – 2014). The following questions were discussed:

- Can you describe some of the successes and difficulties that you have experienced in the pluralism programme? Are we achieving our objectives?
- What factors have affected/are affecting – positively and negatively - the implementation of the knowledge programme?
- We could for instance reflect on issues such as academic and societal relevance, visibility, methodology, ownership, roles/structure, communication, funding.
- Given all the work you have undertaken since you started participating in the program, what would be the objectives you'd like to set for the next stage of the program in the period 2011-2013 (3 years)
- In terms of the content and the focus of the program in your country, what are the topics and/or regions you want to emphasize in the next phase? Are there new and/or alternative areas of interest you would like to add?
- Do you have other suggestions for improving the quality of the Pluralism KP?

5.3 Development of a proposal for the Pluralism Knowledge Program phase two (2011-2013)

Following the interregional meetings and the steering committee meeting after the International Knowledge Program dialogue in The Hague, PKP coordinators Ute Seela (Hivos) and Caroline Suranksy (Kosmopolis) initiated an interactive approach for the development of the PKP proposal in the second phase of the program in 2011-2013. Based on comments of the regional coordinators and their own observations, and together with Henk Manschot, they wrote a draft overall framework for the new proposal. This framework was shared with the PKP coordinating institutions in India, Indonesia and Uganda who gave their feedback and used the draft framework as a basis for their own regional program proposals for phase 2. The development of the new proposal will be finalized by March 2011 and will result in new contracts between Hivos and the Kosmopolis Institute, CSCS in India, CRCS in Indonesia and CCFU in Uganda.

Appendices

Appendix A Summer school participants 2010

Summer School 2010, Yogyakarta, Indonesia,	
NETHERLANDS	
Participant	Organization
Simons, Martijn (m) 11-11-1985, Arnhem	University for Humanistic Studies, master student Critical Organisation and Intervention Studies.
Soe-Agnie, Ramaya (f) 18-05-1981 in Amsterdam	University for Humanistic Studies, master student Education and Humanistic Existential Counselling. (Case) Investigator with the Child Protection Board, Utrecht.
Zafar, Samira (f) Ghazni, Afghanistan, 29 June 1981	University for Humanistic Studies, master student Critical Organisation and Intervention Studies.
Mijland, Bart (m) 8 October 1982, Oirschot	University for Humanistic Studies, master student Critical Organisation and Intervention Studies.
Schaink, Roline (f) January 13, 1988, Heerenveen	University for Humanistic Studies, master student Worldviews and Research.
INDONESIA	
Participant	Organization
Suitela Vanny Suli, 22 October 1979(f)	I have worked as a civil service at Indonesia Moluccas Christian University in Ambon. My present function is a lecturer.
Tri Utama Lingga (m) Majalengka, April 26,1983	I am Coordinator of the Media Division at PKBI DIY (Indonesian Planned Parenthood Association).
Zakiah (f) Magelang, 06 May 1976	I work for Religious research and development Ministry of Religious Affairs Republic of Indonesia in Semarang Central Java, I am a research staff.
Zaenal Abidin Eko Putro (m) July 8, 1975 in Nganjuk, East Java Province	I work for the Centre of Asian Studies (CENAS), in Jakarta, INDONESIA
Sihombing Uli Parulian (m) September 11 th 1971 Tasikmalaya West Java Indonesia	Executive Director of the Indonesian Legal Resource Center (ILRC)
Enik Maslahah (f) Gresik, October 29,1971	Women Resource Center MITRA WACANA, YOGYAKARTA, INDONESIA. Critical Education Division.

UGANDA	
Participant	Organization
Jjuuko, Adrian (m) 4 TH OCTOBER 1984, MASAKA, UGANDA	I AM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS AND PROMOTION FORUM-UGANDA (HRAPF)
Mugisha, Jacqueline Arinaitwe (f) 16/02/1971KigyeyoKabale	Currently working with DEMgroup-democracy monitoring group
Wabule, Alice (f) 17 th DECEMBER 1972	I am a lecturer at the institute of Ethics and Development studies, Uganda Martyrs University. I also work as Programme Director for Uganda Ethics Network Outreach (UENO), a non- government organization that mobilizes and sensitizes grassroots communities on issues of ethics governance and human rights
Senfuka Samuel (m) 26 th June 1977, Kansanga, Kampala-Uganda	I work with the Council for Economic Empowerment for Women of Africa-Uganda chapter (CEEWA-Uganda) as a Programme Officer responsible planning, managing and implementing a Women and Entrepreneurship Development Programme and a Women ICT project financially supported by Hivos.
Jamara Sam (m) 1st November, 1975 Akokoro , Apac District in Northern Uganda	I am programme Coordinator of NGO Link Forum Apac, based in Northern Uganda
INDIA	
Participant	Organization
Jeyaseelan John Jacob (m) 16.03.1980, Rajapalayam, Tamilnadu	Project Fellow in UGC sponsored major research on Religious Liminality and Socio Cultural Mutuality Teaching in a Bible College from September 2005; subjects such as Christian History, Christian Missions, Religions of Asia, Indian Christian Theology and- Education
Aspatwar Bipin (m) 26 th July 1984	Assistant Director, Public Interest Legal Support and Research Centre (PILSARC). I am heading the Refugee Law Unit, which drafted the revised version Model Law on Refugee Protection in India. Our organisation also engages in public interest litigation and works closely with groups working on issues relating to development induced displacement, heritage laws, tribal rights, local self-government, communalism, freedom of speech and expression among others.
Masali. Anupama D (f) 16 th November, 1985, Gadag, Karnataka State	Currently interning at Center for the Study for Culture and Society(CSCS), Bangalore on the broad theme of "Pluralisms, Representations and the Public Spheres", January- June, 2010
Ahmed,Mohd Shakil (m) 01/02/1974,LILONG Bazar Thoubal, Manipur, India	I am currently engaged as a lecturer in sociology at Moreh Government Higher Secondary School (Manipur)